

(p) *Certificate as evidence.*

The issuance of a certificate of registration by the Inspector shall be evidence that the person named therein is entitled to engage in business as a general contractor or sub-contractor while the certificate remains unrevoked or unexpired.

(q) *Prerequisites to obtaining building, etc., permit.*

(1) *Any person upon making application to the building inspector or such other authority of any incorporated city or town, or county in this State, charged with the duty of issuing building or other permits for the construction of any building, highway, sewer, grading or any improvement or structure where the cost thereof is to be \$20,000 or more, shall, before he be entitled to the issuance of such permit, provide satisfactory proof to such Inspector or authority that he is duly registered under the provisions of this subtitle to carry out or superintend the same and that he had paid the taxes or license required by the laws of this State, or other political subdivision thereof, then in force so as to be qualified to bid upon or contract for the work for which the permit has been applied.*

(2) *It shall be unlawful for such building inspector or any other authority to issue or allow the issuance of such building permit unless the applicant has furnished evidence that he is either exempt from the provisions of this subtitle or is duly registered under this subtitle to carry out or superintend the work for which such permit has been applied, and further that the applicant has paid the license then in force so as to be qualified to bid upon or contract work covered by the permit, such building inspector or other such authority, violating the terms of this Section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.*

(r) *Invitations to bid and specifications must refer to law.*

All architects and engineers preparing plans and specifications for work to be contracted in Maryland shall include in their invitation to the bidder and in their specifications a reference to the subtitle so as to convey to the invited bidder, whether he be a resident or non-resident of this State and whether a certificate of registration has been issued to him or not, the information that it will be necessary for him to show evidence of a certificate of registration before his bid is considered.

(s) *Non-resident bidders must appoint statutory agent for service of process.*

Before any non-resident person or any foreign corporation, shall bid on any work in this State, such non-resident person or any foreign corporation shall by written power of attorney, appoint the Comptroller and his successor in the office, the agent of such non-resident person or foreign corporation upon whom all lawful process against or notice to such non-resident person or any foreign corporation may be served and who shall be authorized to enter an appearance in behalf of such non-resident person or any foreign corporation.