

# **Application Process**

#### Plan Submission and Review

Most construction work requires a permit from the Department of Buildings. Before a permit can be obtained, typically **plans** are filed on the owner's behalf by a New York State licensed Professional Engineer (PE) or Registered Architect (RA), often referred to as a Registered Design Professional (RDP). These **plans are reviewed** by a Department Plan Examiner to determine compliance with construction codes and zoning for the purpose of ensuring safety and that the proposed use and occupancy is permissible.

Alternatively, plans for certain scopes of work can be submitted by the RDP through the Department's **Professional Certification Program**, also known as Pro-Cert, where plans are not reviewed by DOB and the RDP certifies that the proposed construction work complies with all applicable laws, codes, and regulations. The Department conducts audits of professionally certified applications to ensure compliance.

Larger scopes of work such as the construction of a new building and the expansion or demolition of an existing building require the hiring of a Department-licensed safety professional and the submission of a **Site Safety Plan** to the Department for its review and approval.

There are some **types of work that do not require an RDP to submit plans** for approval. This generally includes electrical work, which must be performed by a Department-licensed electrician, and Limited Alteration Applications (LAA), which includes minor plumbing work that is filed by a Department-licensed plumber, fire suppression contractor, or fuel burner installer.

### **Application Process**

#### Permit Issuance

Once the plans are approved, the contractor must **request a permit** to perform the work. The contractor must file a permit application to obtain a permit. Currently permits can be obtained within two business days of the request. Electrical and Limited Alteration Application (LAA) permits are issued at the time the permit application is submitted to the Department.

Construction work requiring a permit must be performed with a permit. Failure to obtain a permit will result in the issuance of a Work Without a Permit Violation and a Stop Work Order, which require resolution and carry significant financial penalties. Violations for Work Without a Permit are issued to the property owner.

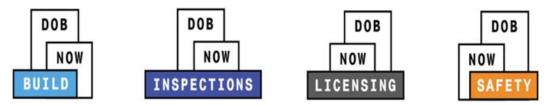
#### Inspections

Once the work is completed, the contractor requests a Development Inspection from the Department in DOB NOW: Inspections or depending on the type of work, an RDP can perform and certify the final inspection. These inspections are performed to ensure the work was performed safely and in keeping with the approved plans. Once an inspection passes or is certified by an RDP, the job status will be complete (signed off), or the owner or the RDP can request a Letter of Completion or can apply for a new or amended Certificate of Occupancy. Additionally, for certain projects involving structural, fire-protection, plumbing, or mechanical work, there are inspections that need to be performed by a Department-approved Special Inspector.

#### DOB NOW Modules

**DOB NOW** is the Department's self-service online tool that allows owners, design professionals, licensees, and filing representatives to submit applications, make payments, schedule appointments, check the status of an application or inspection, pull permits, and make renewals. Most permits are obtained through **DOB NOW**: *Build*.

During the transition of all permit applications to the DOB NOW system, permit renewals for jobs in the Buildings Information System (BIS) and some applications remain in the eFiling system.



**DOB NOW:** *Build* upon completion will include job filings, permits, corrections, Post Approval Amendments, Supersedes, Withdrawals, After Hour Variances, Certificates of Occupancy, and Letters of Completion.

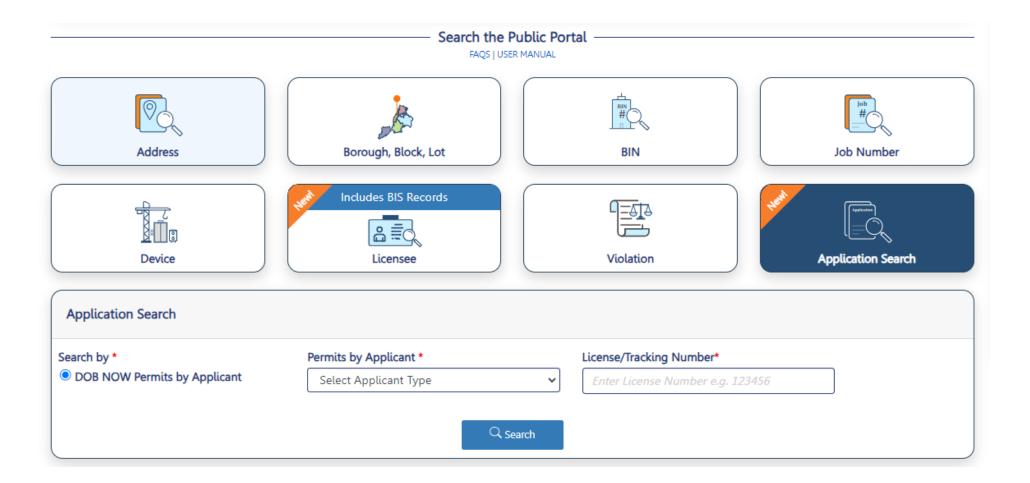
**DOB NOW:** *Inspections* handles both enforcement and development/build inspections through online scheduling, tracking, and notifications.

**DOB NOW:** *Licensing* allows Licensees to apply for and renew licenses as well upload insurance and other pertinent documents.

**DOB NOW:** Safety upon completion will handle all compliance filings (facades, boilers, elevators, etc.) that have to be submitted on an annual or other regular basis.

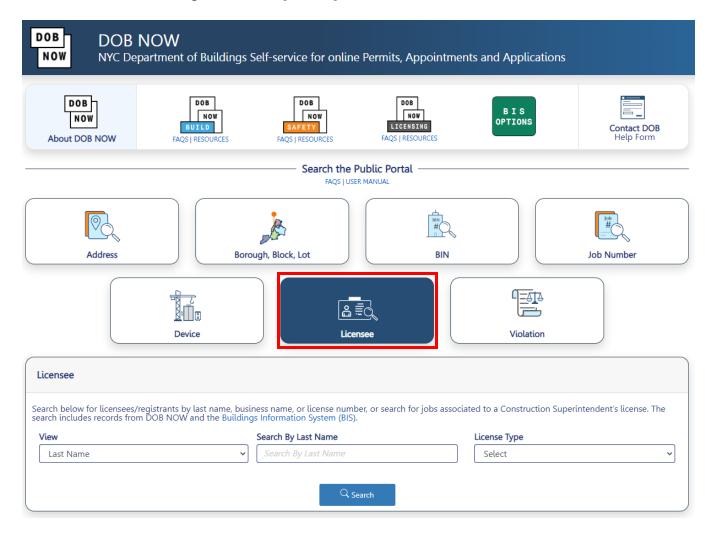
# July 2023 – Public Portal Permit Search

#### **Search for DOB NOW permits by applicant**



### June 2023 – Public Portal Licensee Search

DOB NOW Public Portal Licensee Search Expanded to Include All Records from Buildings Information System (BIS)



# DOB NOW: Build – Job Types

- New Building
- Alteration CO New Building with Existing Elements to Remain
- Alteration CO
- Alteration

- Full Demolition
- Limited Alteration
- No Work <u>Place of Assembly</u> and Temporary Place of Assembly

# Initial Job Filing Alteration Full Demolition Limited Alteration New Building No Work

# DOB NOW: Build - Filing Types

**Initial Filings (I1)** – The first or initial job filing created for a construction project.

**Subsequent (S)** - A Subsequent filing is an additional filing under the same Job Filing number that allows the user to add separate work types within the project's scope of work.

**Post Approval Amendments (PAA)** - A Post Approval Amendment or PAA is for making changes to a filing after it has been approved.

Job Filings	Sequence Number
Initial	I1
Post Approval Amendment	The letters used for PAA filings are P, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J, K, L P1 → P9 (A1 → L9)
Subsequent	The letters used for Subsequent filings are S, Z, Y, X, W, V, U, T, R, Q, O, N, M S1 → S9 (Z1 → M9)

# DOB NOW: Build – Work Types

Select Work Type(s):*		Job Type: Alteration	
Antenna	Boiler Equipment	Construction Fence	
Curb Cut	Earthwork	Electrical	
Elevators	Foundation	General Construction	
Mechanical Systems	Plumbing	Protection and Mechanical Methods	
Sidewalk Shed	Sign	Sprinklers	
Standpipe	Structural	Support of Excavation	
Supported Scaffold			

### DOB NOW: Build – Job Numbers

DOB NOW job numbers begin with a letter; BIS job numbers begin with a number.

#### **Job Number**

9 Characters

#### M00000001

Borough (M,B,X,Q,S) + 8 Digits

M = Manhattan, B = Brooklyn , X = Bronx, Q = Queens, S = Staten Island

#### **Permit Number**

13 Characters

M00000001 - I1 - PL

Job Number + Filing Number + Permit Type

AN = Antenna, CC = Curb Cut

# DOB NOW: Build – Filing Status, Standard Plan Exam



Pending CPE/ACPE Assignment

Pending PE Assignment Plan Examiner Review

CPE/ACPE Review

Approved

Permit Issued/Permit Entire

CO Issued

Pre-filing - Filing is with the Applicant and has not been submitted

Pending CPE/ACPE Assignment - Filing submitted and awaiting CPE/ACPE to acquire and assign to PE

Pending PE Assignment - CPE/ACPE in the process of assigning the filing to a PE for review

**Plan Examiner Review** – In review and can be Approved or objected (require resubmission with corrections)

CPE/ACPE Review - PE's decision is being reviewed by the CPE/ACPE

Approved - Job filing has been approved and can move to the next stage

Permit Issued/Permit Entire - At least one permit was issued/All required permits were issued

CO Issued - Certificate of Occupancy issued (For NB and ALT-CO filings)

The progress of the filing is illustrated by a circle shaded in blue. A **white check mark** will appear in the circle once the stage has been completed by DOB. A **red exclamation point** will appear to indicate that the filing is waiting for action by the applicant. Once the filing is complete, white check marks will appear in all the circles on the status bar.

# DOB NOW: Build - Filing Status, Professionally Certified



Pre-filing – Filing is with the Applicant and has not been submitted

Pending Prof Cert QA Assignment - Filing submitted and awaiting supervisor to acquire and assign to QA staff

**Prof Cert QA Review** - In review and can be Approved or QA Failed (require resubmission with corrections)

**Pending CO PE Assignment** (All NB and ALT-CO Prof Cert filings must go through a Plan Examiner for Zoning Review, including Schedule of Occupancy.)

CO Plan Examiner Review (Resolve Plan Examiner objections, if relevant)

Approved – Job filing has been approved and can move to the next stage

Permit Issued/Permit Entire - At least one permit was issued/All required permits were issued

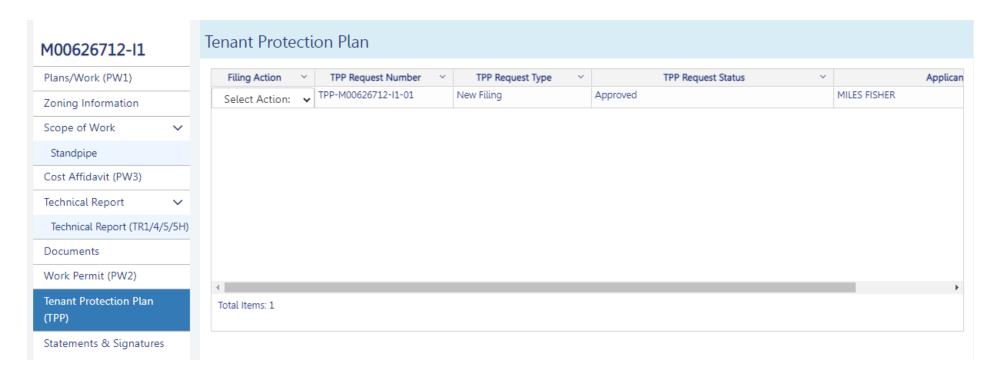
**CO Issued** – Certificate of Occupancy issued (For NB and ALT-CO filings)

**DOB NOW Job Statuses** 

#### DOB NOW: Build – Tenant Protection Plan

If the owner section of the application indicates that there are occupied dwelling units in the building, then a Tenant Protection Plan is required. The TPP must be approved before a permit application can be submitted. A registered design professional (Registered Architect or Professional Engineer) submits a TPP and the Owner provides an attestation.

The contractor (permit applicant) is responsible for retaining the registered design professional who requests the TPP. For one- or two- family homes, the applicant of record of the job filing (PW1) can request the TPP.



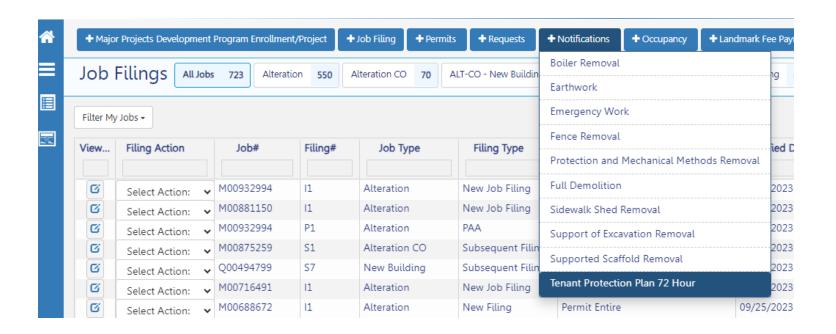
### DOB NOW: Build – Tenant Protection Plan

After the permit is approved, the Occupant Notice can be printed from the DOB NOW public portal (not logging in) and searching by address, BIN or job number. From the BUILD: Job Filings section, double click on the job number, select Work Permit and then Print Occupant Notice.



### DOB NOW: Build – TPP Notification

Any stakeholder on the filing (applicant, owner, filing representative or permit applicant) can notify DOB 72 hours before starting work on a building with a TPP. Submit the notification in DOB NOW after the permit is issued. From the dashboard, select **+Notifications** and then **Tenant Protection Plan 72 Hour**. To change the work start date, cancel the prior notification by going to the Tenant Protection Plan 72 Hour Notifications dashboard and selecting the trash can icon from the Action column.



# DOB NOW: Build - Site Safety Plan

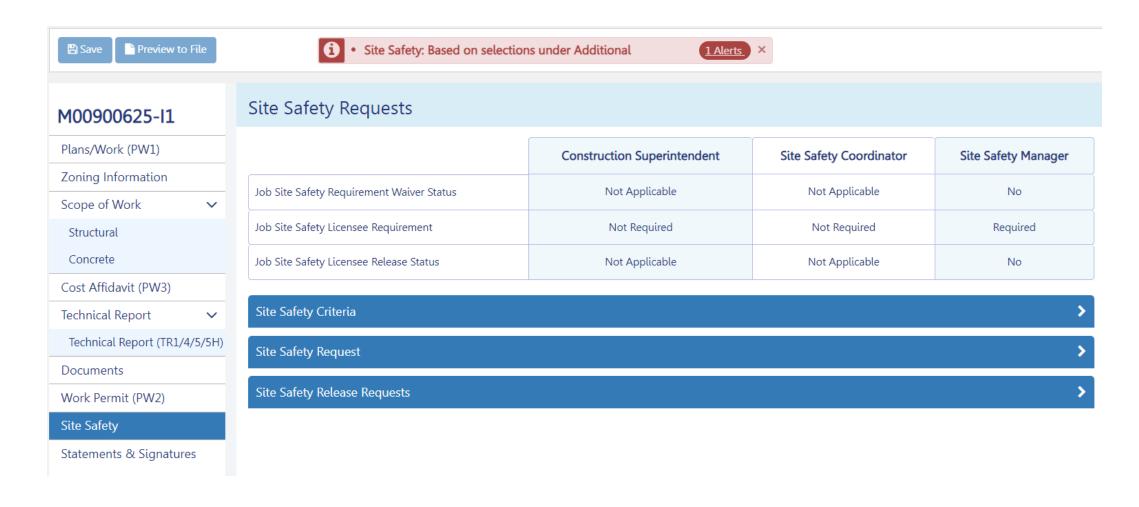
A site safety plan is submitted based on the site safety criteria provided in the filing including the building height, stories, footprint, and additional considerations for alteration and demolition.

SCOPE OF WORK ON A MAJOR BUILDING		CS, SSM, SSC REQUIREMENTS
New Building		CS and SSM or SSC
Vertical or Horizontal Enlargements		CS and SSM or SSC
Full Demolition		CS and SSM or SSC
Partial Demolition Limited to Interior Components	without mechanical demolition equipment other than handheld tools and involving more than 50% of the gross floor area of the building, or the removal of one or more floors	cs
	with mechanical demolition equipment other than handheld tools and not involving more than 50% of the gross floor area of the building, or the removal of one or more floors	SSM or SSC
	with mechanical demolition equipment other than handheld tools and involving more than 50% of the gross floor area of the building, or the removal of one or more floors	CS <b>and</b> SSM or SSC
Partial Exterior Demolition	<b>not</b> involving more than 50% of the gross floor area of the building, or the removal of one or more floors	SSM or SSC
(other than enlargements or façade work)	involving more than 50% of the gross floor area of the building, or the removal of one or more floors	CS and SSM or SSC
Alteration Work (other than a work type listed above)	involving more than 50% of the gross floor area of the building, or requiring special inspection for underpinning or protection of the sides of excavations	CS
Façade Work more than 14 Stories or 200ft in Height		SSM

For a full description of site safety requirements, review **Building Code Chapter 33** and **Article 110 of Title 28 of the NYC Administrative Code**.

# DOB NOW: Build - Site Safety Plan

The Site Safety tab on a job filing provides information about the site safety licensee requirement, the criteria that indicated this requirement, site safety plan or waiver requests and requests to release the site safety requirement.



### DOB NOW: Build – Permits

Once the filing, Tenant Protection Plan and Site Safety Plan (if applicable) are approved, a General Contractor or licensee submits a permit application. Once submitted, a permit undergoes a Quality Assurance review that takes two or less business days.



### March 2023 – Supersede and Withdrawal Requests

- New Withdrawal and Supersede functionality
  - Withdrawal Site Safety Personnel, Progress/Special Inspector, Progress/Special Inspection, Demolition Subcontractor, Concrete Subcontractor, Concrete Safety Manager
  - Supersede Progress/Special Inspector



#### Withdrawal and Supersede Guide

Updated March 6, 2023

Use the list below to determine how to withdraw or supersede a stakeholder or withdraw a DOB NOW: Build application.

https://www.nyc.gov/assets/buildings/pdf/dob now supersede withdrawal sn.pdf

# May 2022 – System Enhancements (2)

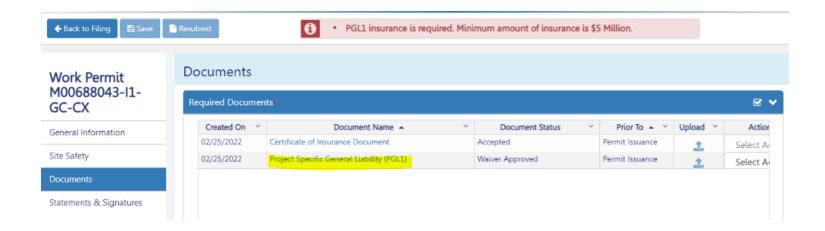
#### Work Permit data fields added in the Public Portal

• Applicant/Contractor and Permit Expiration Date were added as fields when viewing permits in the Public Portal



# February 2022 – System Enhancements (4)

- Project Specific General Liability (PGL1) has been moved to the Work Permit (PW2) Required Documents section.
- The document is required each time a permit is renewed.



# DOB NOW: BIS Options

#### The following transactions can be submitted in BIS Options:

- New License Applications
- Renewal License Applications
- License Insurance Updates







### DOB NOW: BIS Options

#### Visit <a href="https://www.nyc.gov/doblicensing">www.nyc.gov/doblicensing</a> for step-by step guides:

- New License Application User Guide
- <u>Licensing Renewal Application User Guide</u>
- <u>License Insurance Updates Guide</u>



### Pre-Submitted Questions

- 1. Will all BIS related information (specifically complaints and violations) be moved over to DOB NOW?

  Data from BIS will eventually be migrated into DOB NOW. The goal is to retire BIS by the end of 2025.
- 2. My office recently had two TPPs where there were some issues related to "Means and methods" which is a vague concept that causes compliance issues. Can DOB issue an Industry Notice relative to TPPs as they did for site safety plans with specifics about what is required/expected over and above the code?

  We are looking into issuing an Industry Notice.
- 3. Site Safety requirement review of an approved application is done during the QA/QC period (24 hr. period). DOB is not always correct in determining if a project requires a SS Program/SSM. There is an avenue to reconsider a project that has been deemed a Site Safety project via a waiver. On the flipside, how do we have DOB reconsider a project a Site Safety Project if the opposite occurs, when they deem it as not required and we feel that it is?

  DOB NOW triggers site safety based on the selections in the job filing. We are reviewing these selections to see if additional requirements are needed. Please let us know if you have a specific filing with this issue.

### Pre-Submitted Questions

4. One Item I have been trying to get DOB to repair for 2 years is the number of steps, documents it takes to apply for a Construction Superintendent license. 12 forms that ask redundant questions. Takes about 50 hours of intense work — Not an ideal situation for a construction man/woman trying to work and get a license. It appears someone is purposely leaving this process in place. My question is why? One example: On 5 separate forms they ask for SS, address, DOB, phone, employment. 80% of the rejections from DOB are due to clerical errors of SS, address, Date of Birth, phone and employment-point is if you ask the same question 5 times sooner or later you will get a different text or 2 from 40–60-year-old construction workers.

The process for applying for a Construction Superintendent license is being built into DOB NOW within the next 9-12 months. This will eliminate most forms since the data will be entered into the application rather than uploaded as separate documents.

5. Permits for trailers, BC 33.03.16.

Other questions?

### New Releases

- Determinations and Appeals October 30, 2023
- Solar, Green Roofs and Electrical Energy Storage Equipment October 30, 2023
- Suspended Scaffolds November 2023

#### Resources

#### nyc.gov/dobhelp

Online help form to submit questions about DOB NOW and BIS transactions.

#### nyc.gov/dobnowtraining

FAQs and Resources for current and past DOB NOW releases.

#### nyc.gov/buildingsnews

Sign up for Buildings News, an e-newsletter sent out regularly to provide updates about all things DOB.