# Become A Certified Professional Builder



The purpose of the Certified Professional Builder Program is to establish criteria for home builders to assist in consumer awareness and professionalism through education, professional development, and customer satisfaction.

#### Why should I become a Mississippi Certified Professional Builder?

Becoming a Mississippi Certified Professional Builder provides an opportunity for builders to pursue professional development through education and customer satisfaction. By agreeing to become a Certified Professional Builder you will agree to meet standards beyond the licensing requirements of the Mississippi State board of Contractors. Through the certification process, a Certified Builder will stay current on housing trends, and the home buyer receives the benefits offered through the program. You will also be listed as a Certified Professional Builder on the home builder website providing your contact information to interested consumers who are shopping for a new home.

#### What is required to become a Certified Professional Builder?

Criteria for the certified professional builder:

- Must be licensed by the MS State Board of Contractors.
- Must have built no less than ten homes.
- Main occupation must be home building or industry-related, subject to approval by the CPB committee.
- Must offer binding arbitration with new homes.
- Must maintain appropriate insurance coverage including builders risk, general liability, and workers' compensation.
- Must be a member of the local or state association.
- Must apply for recertification annually.
- Must adhere to the National Association of Home Builders Code of Ethics.
- Must attend four hours of continuing education each year for recertification.

- Must adhere to the guidelines adopted by the Mississippi Housing Institute in the Homeowners Handbook to ensure customer satisfaction and the integrity of the Program.
- Letter of reference must accompany the application from two home buyers, one banker and two business associates.

## What is the cost?

There is an annual registration fee of \$150.00. This will include the cost of orientation which is mandatory for the Certified Professional Builder Program. Four hours of continuing education will be required each year for recertification. Seminar fees for the education classes may be charged to the builder.

### How can I become a Certified Professional Builder?

Contact Matt Hopkins at the Mississippi Housing Institute at 601-969-3447 or 800-898-4226 or by email at <u>mhopkins@hbam.com.</u>

You can also contact the Greater Hattiesburg Home Builder Association by calling 601-450-3380 or by email at info@hattiesburgbuilders.org.