



## AUCTIONEERS AT A GLANCE

**Statutes:** Chapter 1802, Occupations Code

**Rules:** Title 16 T.A.C. Chapter 67

**Inspections?** No

**Number of Licensees:** 2,121 (FY 25)

**Webpage:** [www.tdlr.texas.gov/auc](http://www.tdlr.texas.gov/auc)

### Overview:

A license is required to conduct auctions by live bid in Texas. Internet auctions are exempt from the law, unless there is a live bid component. Certain types of auctions, including livestock auctions, are exempt from regulation.

A licensed auctioneer is entrusted by both sellers and buyers of property to sell property at a fair auction. An auctioneer must have a signed, written contract with the client, complete with a detailed inventory of property to be auctioned or sold, before any auction or sale occurs. Both the auctioneer and the client must also sign any amendments to the itemized inventory. The auctioneer may not use false bidders at a sale.

The auctioneer must place any sale proceeds in a separate trust account and remit the proceeds to the seller within 15 days of the auction, or as directed in a contract.

### Licensing

#### Auctioneer

An individual is eligible for an auctioneer's license if they are at least 18 years of age and a citizen of the United States or a legal alien. An applicant must either:

- pass a written examination demonstrating knowledge of the auction business and of Texas laws relating to the auction business; or
- show proof of employment as an associate auctioneer for at least two years and participation in at least 10 auctions during that employment.

In addition, an applicant must:

- hold a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate; and
- have completed at least 80 hours of classroom instruction at an auction school with a curriculum approved by TDLR.

#### Associate Auctioneer

An individual is eligible for an associate auctioneer license if they are:

- a citizen of the United States or a legal alien; and

- working under the direct supervision of a TDLR-licensed auctioneer.

### Education & Recovery Fund

The Texas Auctioneer Education and Recovery Fund is managed by TDLR to provide compensation to individuals who are harmed by the actions of a licensed auctioneer who has breached a contract with a

consumer. TDLR reviews the balance of the Auctioneer Education and Recovery Fund each year to determine if additional fees are needed to maintain the fund's minimum balance of \$350,000.

If the balance in the fund on August 31 is less than \$350,000, each auctioneer license holder is required by law to pay an additional \$50 fee at their next license renewal (or a pro rata share of the amount necessary to obtain a balance in the fund of \$350,000). If the additional \$50 fee is assessed, it is automatically added to the license renewal fee.

The **Auctioneer Advisory Board** has 7 members serving 6-year terms, which includes:

- four members who are licensed auctioneers;
- one member who represents an auction school; and
- two public members.



License	Fee
Auctioneer License application	\$50
Auctioneer License renewal	\$50
Associate Auctioneer License application	\$25
Associate Auctioneer License renewal	\$25
Initial Recovery Fund Fee	\$50
Curriculum Review	\$250