STEEL CURATOR

Louisiana permit & load checklist

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Use this checklist to gather everything your Louisiana building official, engineer, and manufacturer will ask for before your steel building can be permitted, fabricated, and erected.

LOUISIANA DESIGN CRITERIA

GROUND SNOW LOAD
0 psf

DESIGN WIND SPEED
120–150 mph (coastal parishes)

SEISMIC DESIGN CATEGORY
Category A–B

LOCAL CONDITIONS
Hurricane wind plus soft soils mean both frame and foundation get upgraded.

LA PERMITTING NOTES
Parish permitting varies; coastal parishes require elevation certificates and wind-borne debris protection.

DELIVERY & FREIGHT
Gulf freight is short but hurricane season can compress erection scheduling.

SITE & PROPERTY

- [ ] Confirm parcel number, legal description, and recorded property lines.
- [ ] Verify zoning district, allowed use, and maximum building height / lot coverage.
- [ ] Check front, side, and rear setbacks plus any easements or right-of-way.
- [ ] Confirm flood zone designation and whether an elevation certificate is required.
- [ ] Document site access for a 70-foot delivery truck and crane staging area.
- [ ] Note grade change across the pad and any required cut, fill, or retaining work.
- [ ] Locate utilities: power service size, water, septic or sewer, and gas.
- [ ] Call 811 for underground utility locates before any excavation.

ENGINEERING & LOADS

- [ ] Confirm the locally adopted building code edition and amendments in your Louisiana jurisdiction.
- [ ] Verify ground snow load for your parcel — statewide typical: 0 psf — including drift and unbalanced snow.
- [ ] Verify design wind speed and exposure category — statewide typical: 120–150 mph (coastal parishes).
- [ ] Confirm seismic design category and site soil class — statewide typical: Category A–B.
- [ ] Order a geotechnical report or confirm the presumptive soil bearing value.
- [ ] Confirm frost depth and required footing depth for the foundation design.
- [ ] Specify collateral loads: lighting, sprinklers, mechanical, ceiling, or crane.
- [ ] Request sealed drawings and calculations from an engineer licensed in Louisiana.

PERMITTING PACKAGE

- [ ] Completed building permit application and owner authorization.
- [ ] Site plan showing setbacks, drainage, parking, and access.
- [ ] Foundation plan with anchor bolt layout and reaction table.
- [ ] Stamped structural drawings and design calculations for the metal building.
- [ ] Energy code compliance documentation for conditioned space.
- [ ] Stormwater / land-disturbance permit if new impervious area triggers review.
- [ ] Driveway, culvert, or road-access approval where required.
- [ ] Septic or sewer connection approval and well permit if applicable.
- [ ] Fire marshal review for occupancy, exits, and sprinkler requirements.
- [ ] HOA or architectural committee approval if the property is in a covenanted subdivision.

BUILDING SPECIFICATION

- [ ] Final dimensions: width, length, eave height, and roof pitch.
- [ ] Frame type: clear span or modular, and bay spacing.
- [ ] Panel profile, gauge, and paint system with warranty term.
- [ ] Door schedule: overhead, roll-up, sliding, and walk doors with sizes.
- [ ] Window and skylight quantity, size, and locations.
- [ ] Insulation system and R-values for roof and walls.
- [ ] Gutters, downspouts, wainscot, and trim colors.
- [ ] Lean-tos, canopies, porches, and future expansion end wall.

COMMON LOUISIANA BUILDING EXAMPLES

- [ ] Commercial Building — 60×120×20. Houma marine service shop engineered for 150 mph with a 20-foot slider.
- [ ] Farm Building — 50×100×16. Lafayette cane-equipment barn with an open bay and galvanized frame.

QUESTIONS TO ASK BEFORE YOU SIGN

- [ ] Is the quoted price a kit only, kit plus erection, or complete turnkey?
- [ ] Are freight, unloading, and crane time included?
- [ ] Who is responsible for the permit submittal and any revision cycles?
- [ ] What is the anchor bolt and foundation scope, and who pours the slab?
- [ ] What is the fabrication lead time and price-hold period on the steel?
- [ ] What is the payment schedule, and what happens if the permit is delayed?

Preliminary estimate. Subject to site verification, engineering review, local building-code requirements, final material pricing, and foundation review.

Values shown are typical statewide ranges for Louisiana and are not a substitute for a code review of your specific parcel. Confirm every item with your local building department and the engineer of record.

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