

# Well Drilling Bid Comparison Worksheet

Tulare County / Visalia, CA. Get 2 or 3 written bids, then fill in one column per bid.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Property / APN: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

| Item                                                                                                   | Bid A | Bid B | Bid C |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Driller / company name</b><br>Name on the contract should match the CSLB license and the truck      |       |       |       |
| <b>CSLB C-57 license no.</b><br>Look it up yourself on <a href="http://cslb.ca.gov">cslb.ca.gov</a>    |       |       |       |
| <b>License active, C-57 listed?</b><br>Not expired or suspended; check bond, workers' comp, complaints |       |       |       |
| <b>Who applies for the county permit? Who pays?</b><br>Ask for the answer in the contract              |       |       |       |
| <b>Estimated depth (ft) and why</b><br>Which nearby wells is it based on?                              |       |       |       |
| <b>Price per foot (drilling + casing)</b><br>Also ask the per-foot rate for extra depth                |       |       |       |
| <b>Casing type and diameter</b><br>e.g. PVC or steel; larger for higher flow                           |       |       |       |
| <b>Annular seal length (ft)</b><br>Longer seals may be needed near septic or animal pens               |       |       |       |
| <b>Pump system included?</b><br>Pump, wire, drop pipe, installation; size and type                     |       |       |       |
| <b>Pressure tank and controls included?</b><br>Tank size, switch or controller                         |       |       |       |

Page 1 of 3. Continue the grid on page 2.

Bid grid, continued

| Item                                                                                            | Bid A | Bid B | Bid C |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|
| <b>Electrical, trenching, plumbing to house</b><br>Often priced separately; get it in writing   |       |       |       |
| <b>Water test and disinfection included?</b><br>Which tests, and who pays the lab               |       |       |       |
| <b>If dry or low-yield: what happens?</b><br>Cost of going deeper; any charge if no water found |       |       |       |
| <b>Old well destruction</b><br>Who does it and who pays                                         |       |       |       |
| <b>Start date / how long it takes</b>                                                           |       |       |       |
| <b>Payment schedule</b><br>Tied to work completed, not large upfront cash                       |       |       |       |
| <b>Will file well completion report?</b><br>Due to DWR within 60 days; ask for a copy           |       |       |       |
| <b>Warranty (parts and labor)</b>                                                               |       |       |       |
| <b>Total price (all items)</b><br>Compare totals only after the lines above match               |       |       |       |

**Compare like with like.** A low total can hide a shorter seal, thinner casing, no pump or a missing permit. Fill in every line for every bid before you compare totals. All prices in this area vary by depth, casing, driller and time: use our planning ranges ([visaliawelldrilling.com/well-drilling-cost-tulare-county/](https://visaliawelldrilling.com/well-drilling-cost-tulare-county/)) only to judge whether a bid looks wildly high or low.

Notes on each bid

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## Questions to ask every company

- ☐ What is your C-57 license number? (Then check it yourself.)
- ☐ What depth do you expect, and which nearby wells is that based on?
- ☐ Do I need a county permit, and who applies?
- ☐ What casing, seal and pump are you proposing, and why?
- ☐ What happens if you do not find water, or find too little?
- ☐ When can you start, and how long will the job take?
- ☐ Will you file the well completion report and give me a copy?
- ☐ What is the payment schedule?
- ☐ Can I see your insurance certificate and talk to recent customers?
- ☐ Is there a setback issue at my site (septic leach line, animal enclosure)?
- ☐ Does any groundwater agency review, fee or reporting apply to my parcel?

## Before you sign

- ☐ Scope, price, per-foot rate for extra depth, payment schedule and start/finish dates are all in writing.
- ☐ Permits, testing, cleanup and warranty terms are written into the contract.
- ☐ The license name matches the contract, and you checked it on [cslb.ca.gov](http://cslb.ca.gov).
- ☐ If something is unclear, an attorney can read the contract. CSLB takes complaints against licensed contractors.

## Notes

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We are a referral service, not a driller. We connect you with independent local well drillers and pump contractors and do not endorse any company. Free quotes: [visaliawelldrilling.com](http://visaliawelldrilling.com)

## Red flags: walk away

- ☐ No C-57 license, or a number that does not check out on CSLB.
- ☐ Cash-only or large upfront payments.
- ☐ No written quote or contract.
- ☐ A guarantee of water or flow.
- ☐ Pressure to skip the permit, or "we do not need to file anything".
- ☐ Unsolicited door-knocking after news of dry wells.
- ☐ Prices far above or below the others (a very low bid may mean a shorter seal, thinner casing or an unlicensed crew).
- ☐ Refusal to share license, insurance or references.

**Verify with the county.** Permit fees, forms and processing times change. Tulare County Permit Center, Visalia: (559) 624-7000. Well construction is under Chapter 13 of the Tulare County Ordinance Code.