Hiring a basement waterproofing company? Ask these questions first.

No company in this guide publishes a fixed price on its own website. Every dollar figure in the guide is a range, an estimate, or a discount found on a company's own site, labeled as such. A real price comes only after a visit and a written quote. Take this list with you when you request quotes.

1. **[ ] What is your Home Improvement Contractor (HIC) registration number, and can I verify it with the Connecticut Department of Consumer Protection?**
   Only 2 of the 20 companies in this guide publish a number on their own site. If they do not publish one, ask for it and verify it yourself.
2. **[ ] What exactly is included: interior or exterior system, drainage length, sump pump or pumps and battery backup, crawlspace work, crack repair, and warranty terms?**
   Ask for the exact scope in writing before comparing prices: two quotes only compare if they cover the same work.
3. **[ ] Where is the water coming from, and does the proposed system address that source?**
   Ask them to explain the water source - cove joint, cracks, window wells - and why the proposed system addresses it.
4. **[ ] Who does the work - your own crew or subcontractors - what is the timeline, and what equipment stays installed?**
   Ask who comes into your home, how long it takes, what stays installed (drainage, pump, backup, dehumidifier) and how it is maintained.
5. **[ ] What does the warranty cover, for how long, does it transfer to a new owner, and what maintenance does the system need?**
   A warranty is only worth what it covers. Ask what it covers, for how long, whether it transfers, and what maintenance it requires.
6. **[ ] Is the price a firm written quote for this exact scope, and what would change it?**
   No company in this guide publishes a fixed price on its own site. A real price only comes after a visit and a written quote.