State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists

FAQ'S

November 2006

August 2004

ABRIDGED VIEW OF THE LAW AND EXAMINATION QUALIFICATIONS

ENGINEERING

Qualifications for the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination:

The Old Law (Section 14 of Act 367)	The Current Law (Section 4.2 of Act 367)
Received degree before June 30, 1994, or began experience before February 19, 1991.	**Received degree or plan to after June 30, 1994, or who began experience after Feb. 19, 1991.**
a) **NO DEGREE**: Experience was started before Feb. 19, 1991 - needs 4 years of qualifying experience under supervision of PE or similarly qualified individual (Refer to Rules & Regulations).	**a)** **NO DEGREE**: Qualifying experience started after Feb. 19, 1991 - needs 8 years of progressive experience in engineering work equivalent to that attained through graduation from an approved engineering curriculum.
b) **WITH DEGREE:** ABET accredited 4 year B.S. degree in engineering or Engineering/Technology granted prior to June 30, 1994.	**b)** **WITH DEGREE:** ABET accredited B.S. degree in engineering or Engineering/Technology granted after June 30, 1994.
	c) **STUDENT:** An engineering student who has completed 2 years or more of an approved program in engineering may sit for the exam, but cannot receive the EIT certificate until proof of graduation is provided.

Qualifications for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination:

The Old Law (Section 14 of Act 367)	The Current Law (Section 4.2 of Act 367)
Received degree before June 30, 1994, or began experience before February 19, 1991.	**Received degree or plan to after June 30, 1994, or who began experience after Feb. 19, 1991.**
a) **WITH DEGREE**: Must have EIT certificate and 4 years of progressive experience or teaching experience in an approved engineering curriculum (under the supervision of a PE or similarly qualified individual). Refer to Rules & Regulations. Amplified record must show at least 4 years of qualifying experience.	a) **WITH DEGREE**: Must have EIT certificate and 4 or more years of progressive experience in engineering work earned **after** the issuance of the EIT certificate and under the supervision of a PE. or similarly qualified individual (Refer to Rules & Regulations).
b) **NO DEGREE**: Must have passed the Fundamentals of Engineering examination prior to applying for the PE examination. Must have 8 years of qualifying experience under the supervision of a PE (beginning prior to Feb. 19, 1991) or similarly qualified individual. Refer to Rules & Regulations. Amplified record of experience must show at least 12 years of qualifying experience (4 of which qualified one to sit for the Fundamentals of Engineering examination).	b) **WITH DEGREE**: Must have EIT certificate and 4 or more years of progressive teaching experience earned **after** the issuance of the EIT certificate in an approved curriculum, and under the supervision of a PE or similarly qualified individual (Refer to Rules & Regulations).
	c) **NO DEGREE:** Must have EIT certificate and the candidate's amplified record of experience must show at least 12 years of experience (8 of which qualified one to sit for the FE exam) and an additional 4 years gained **after** the issuance of the EIT certificate, under the supervision of a PE or similarly qualified individual (Refer to Rules & Regulations).
	NOTE: POST-BACCALAUREATE DEGREES (eff. 01.25.04): The Board may grant 1 year of experience credit for each post-baccalaureate degree earned by applicants for licensure, not to exceed 2 years, provided that: 1) the MS/PhD degree is from an institution with an engineering program approved by the Board (must be an ABET-accredited or equivalent [as determined by ECEI] baccalaureate degree in the same discipline); 2) the MS/PhD degree is in the same discipline as an earned undergraduate degree; and 3) the academic time is not concurrent with earned experience. ***Also, be aware that:*** The MS/PhD degrees must have been granted AFTER the issuance of an EIT certificate – the same requirement as the experience.

August 2004

ABRIDGED VIEW OF THE LAW AND EXAMINATION QUALIFICATIONS

LAND SURVEYING

Qualifications for the Land Surveying Examinations:

The Old Law (Section 14 of Act 367)

Received degree before June 30, 1994, or began experience before February 19, 1991.

a) **NO DEGREE**: Experience started prior to Feb. 19, 1991 - need 10 years of qualifying experience with at least 5 of those years spent in responsible charge of primary land surveying functions.

b) **WITH B.S. DEGREE**: Must have an approved B.S. civil engineering degree with at least 10 credit hours of surveying and must have had 4 or more years' progressive experience in land surveying under supervision of PLS.

c) **WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREE**: Must have graduated from an approved two-year course in surveying and related areas of engineering design and must have had 4 or more years' progressive experience in land surveying under supervision of PLS.

Qualifications for the Fundamentals / Principles and Practice of Surveying Examination:

The New Law (Section 4.3 of Act 367)

Received degree after June 30, 1994, or who began experience after Feb. 19, 1991.

Qualifications for Fundamentals Exam	Qualifications for Principles & Practice Exam
a) **WITH DEGREE:** Graduation from an approved civil engineering curriculum of at least 4 years, including no less than 10 credit hours instruction in surveying.	a) **WITH DEGREE**: Must be certified as a Surveyor-In-Training (SIT) and have 4 or more years of progressive experience in land surveying work, earned **after** the issuance of the SIT certificate and under the supervision of a PLS or similarly qualified individual. (See Rules & Regulations)
b) **WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREE**: Graduation from an associate degree program in an approved surveying technology curriculum.	b) **WITH DEGREE**: Must be certified as a SIT and have 4 or more years of progressive teaching experience in an approved curriculum earned **after** the issuance of the SIT certificate and under the supervision of PLS or similarly qualified individual. (See Rules & Regulations)
c) **NO DEGREE**: Needs 6 or more years of qualifying experience in surveying deemed equivalent to graduation from an approved curriculum in land surveying or civil engineering. Must show diversification of field and office experience, with at least 25% of experience in each.	c) **NO DEGREE**: Must be certified as a Surveyor-In-Training (SIT) and must show at least 4 or more years of progressive experience in land surveying work earned **after** the issuance of the SIT certificate and under the supervision of a PLS or similarly qualified individual. (See Rules & Regulations)
STUDENT: A currently enrolled surveying student who has completed two or more years of an ABET-accredited BS program in surveying may sit for the exam, but cannot receive the SIT certificate until official **transcripts** are provided. (eff. Jan. 24, 2003)	

1. MUST I GET APPROVAL FROM THE BOARD FOR A CORPORATE NAME OR FICTITIOUS NAME IF I USE ANY FORM OF ENGINEER, SURVEYING OR GEOLOGY IN MY COMPANY NAME?

Yes. You must request a Corporate/Fictitious Name Request form from the Board office prior to submitting your request to the Corporation Bureau. The form may be downloaded from the Board website or call the Board office at 717-783-7049 for an application. Once your application is received in the Board office, please allow approximately 10-14 days for a response.

2. I HAVE A FOREIGN UNDERGRADUATE DEGREE. DO YOU WANT MY TRANSCRIPTS?

The Board does not review transcripts. The Center for Professional Engineering Education Services (CPEES) is responsible for the evaluation of foreign credential evaluations. You must contact CPEES at 1-800-464-7650 or go to www.cpees.org .

3. HOW IS "RESPONSIBLE CHARGE" DEFINED

Is defined in Section 2 (i) of the Act as:

> a position that requires initiative, skill and independent judgment, and implies such degree of competence and accountability gained by technical education and experience of a grade and character as is sufficient to qualify an individual to personally and independently engage in and be entrusted with the work involved in the practice of engineering or land surveying. This term does not include positions which require performance or subprofessional work such as auxiliary survey personnel (unless acting as chief of party) and drafting personnel.

4. IN ORDER TO BE A PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST IN PENNSYLVANIA, MUST I PASS THE ASBOG EXAMINATION?

It is the requirement of the Board that the only acceptable geology examination for licensure in Pennsylvania is the examination administered by ASBOG. Therefore, anyone applying for licensure from another state must have taken and passed the ASBOG examination. Applications for the examination may be obtained by going to www.pcshq.com or calling PCS at 1-877-887-9727.

5. MUST I FIRST OBTAIN AN EMBOSSING SEAL BEFORE PURCHASING A RUBBER STAMP SEAL?

Regulations require that a registrant may use a rubber stamp or computer image, which is a facsimile of the seal, if the registrant first obtains a (embossing) seal in accordance with §37.58.

6. WHERE DO I SEND A REQUEST FOR VERIFICATION OF LICENSE AND/OR EXAMINATION SCORES AND IS THERE A FEE?

Send all requests to the Board office at: Engineer Board
P. O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

The fee is **$15** for verification of a license or certificate ONLY. The fee for verification of examination scores is **$25**. When requesting a verification of a license/certificate AND examination results, you must include a fee of **$40**. Fees are made payable to "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania". Please allow approximately 3 weeks for processing.

7. WHERE DO I GET AN APPLICATION TO SIT FOR THE ENGINEERING AND LAND SURVEYING EXAMINATIONS?

Call Engineering Examination Services (EES) at 1-877-364-3926 or go to www.pcshq.com

8. WHERE DO I GET AN APPLICATION TO SIT FOR THE GEOLOGY (ASBOG) EXAMINATIONS?

Call Professional Credential Services (PCS) at 1-877-887-9727 or go to www.pcshq.com

9. REVIEWING AND SEALING PLANS PREPARED BY PARTNERS OR OTHERS IN FIRM.

Section 37.59 of the Board's regulations would permit one to seal documents so long as one either prepared them or were in responsible charge.

10. EXAMINATION RESULTS – Engineering and Land Surveying

Engineering examination results are mailed to candidates by Engineering Examination Services out of Nashville, TN within 10 days of receipt of the results from the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), the owner and scorer of the engineering and land surveying examinations.

The same examination contractor mails **Land Surveying examination results** to candidates within a week of receipt of the results from NCEES and PSLS – the owner and scorer of the State Principles and Practice examination.

NOTE: You are NOT permitted to practice as a professional engineer or professional land surveyor until you have received your license from the Board. Allow approximately 90 days from receipt of your result letter for processing of a license.

EIT / SIT

Candidates who have passed the **Fundamentals of Engineering examination** OR the **Fundamentals of Land Surveying examination** will receive their examination results, BUT if the candidate was a student when application was made, candidates will NOT receive the appropriate Engineer-in-Training certificate / Surveyor-in-Training certificate until a final transcript is received by Engineering Examination Services (EES) in Nashville, TN.

Therefore, those **EIT/SIT** candidates who eventually receive the appropriate degree must request a final transcript from their college/university be forwarded directly from the Registrar's Office to Engineering Examination Services (EES) at:

EES
P. O. Box 198689
Nashville, TN 37219

You may verify receipt of transcripts with EES by calling 1-877-364-3926. Once EES has received the transcript, the completed application file will be forwarded to the Board office for issuance of the appropriate certificate.

***NOTE**: The registrar's office does not automatically forward the transcripts to EES upon receipt of the degree. YOU must contact the Registrar's Office of your college/university.*

11. EXAMINATION RESULTS – Geology

Geology examination results are mailed to candidates by Professional Credential Services out of Nashville, TN within 10 days of receipt of the results from the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG), the owner and scorer of the geology examinations.

NOTE: You are NOT permitted to practice as a professional geologist until you have received your license from the Board. Allow approximately 90 days from receipt of your result letter for processing of a license.

12. INACTIVE STATUS & YOUR RENEWAL APPLICATION – Engineer, Land Surveyor or Geologist

Placing your license on "Inactive Status" indicates that you will not be practicing your profession in the Commonwealth while on "inactive" status, nor will you have to pay the renewal fee at this time if placed on "inactive" status. If you wish to reactivate at any time in the future, you may do so by contacting the Board office and pay only the renewal fee required at that time.

Please note that you will not receive any mailings from this Board while on "Inactive" status and a licensed professional engineer, land surveyor or geologist may not hold himself out as a professional engineer, land surveyor or geologist unless he has a current biennial registration.