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California engineer board

The latest spring edition of the Board Bulletin is now available. Additionally, NCEES is seeking licensed control systems engineers to participate in a professional activities and knowledge study (PAKS) for the PE Control Systems exam. The survey aims to update the content of the PE exam and requires a cross-section of licensed professionals practicing control systems engineering. If you are a licensed professional engineer, your input would be valuable, taking about 30-40 minutes to complete. Click here to access the online survey: The survey will be open until May 22, 2025. Furthermore, please note that there is a 4-6 month waiting period for Civil Professional Engineer (PE) applications in Technical Review. This applies to all Civil PE applicants, including Comity and Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Exam Waiver applicants. Starting July 1, 2024, expedited licensure application processing will be available for service members enrolled in the U.S. Department of Defense SkillBridge Program. Eligible service members must provide documentation of enrollment to avoid application delays. For questions or assistance regarding licensing requirements, please contact the Board at (916) 999-3600. The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (BPELSG) licenses and regulates engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists in California. This guide provides information on how to look up the current status of licensed professionals via DCA Search. General Information: The following instructions summarize the requirements for licensure as a Professional Engineer, but they are not intended to apply to every situation. The applicant is responsible for complying with the current requirements of the Professional Engineers Act and the Board Rules and Regulations. The three categories of Professional Engineer licensure in California are Practice Act, Title Act, and Title Authority. The Practice Acts cover Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering, requiring only a licensed person to practice these fields. Title Acts apply to Agricultural, Chemical, Control Systems, Fire Protection, Industrial, Metallurgical, Nuclear, Petroleum, and Traffic Engineering, with licensed individuals allowed to use their title in these branches. Title Authorities exist for Structural and Geotechnical Civil Engineering sub-branches, indicating advanced proficiency. Applicants meeting the requirements, including passing exams, will receive a license. Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists (BPELSG) - Licensing Process The BPELSG is responsible for licensing various professions in California. These include: - Engineer-in-Training (EIT) - Land Surveyor-in-Training (LSIT) - Geologist-in-Training (GIT) - Professional Engineers in several disciplines, including Agricultural, Chemical, Civil, and more - Geotechnical Engineers - Structural Engineers - Professional Land Surveyors - Professional Geologists and Geophysicists Application Process Applicants can use the BPELSG Connect application portal for various purposes. For those applying for EIT/LSIT/GIT, Professional Engineer, Geotechnical Engineer, or Structural Engineer, they need to submit their applications through this portal. Fingerprinting Requirements For applicants using Live Scan in California or traveling to California, they must get the form on the Fingerprint Tab of the BPELSG Connect application. Those using a paper application (Certified Engineering Geologist, Certified Hydrogeologist, and Professional Geophysicist) must email BPELSG for the form. Examination Schedule The examination schedule is available through the BPELSG Connect portal. Applicants can also find information on frequently asked questions (FAQs) related to fingerprinting and examinations. Mission and Vision Statements The mission of BPELSG is to protect public safety and property by promoting standards for competence and integrity through licensing and regulation. The vision statement aims for a California that leads the nation in protecting public and environment with competent and ethical professional services. PAKS Survey for Structural Engineers NCEES requires licensed structural engineers to participate in the Professional Activities and Knowledge Study (PAKS) survey, which will be used to update specifications for the PE Structural exam. The survey is open until March 10, 2025, and can be completed in approximately 50-60 minutes. We are pleased to announce that AB 3253 has made significant changes to various acts affecting California professionals. The updated laws include: * An extension of the Board's sunset date until January 1, 2029. * Businesses offering engineering and surveying services must provide documentary evidence demonstrating compliance with specific business codes. * Written contracts for professional services require disclosure of current professional liability insurance policies, even if not held. The Board is also exploring the development of a Certified Hydrogeologist (CHG) Exam, which will assess California-licensed professionals' ability to evaluate unique hydrogeologic conditions. A survey can be accessed through this link: The Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (BPELSG) has specific requirements for licensure in California, including education and certification. The organization offers various exams, such as the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam or the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam. To become a licensed professional engineer (PE), one must meet the qualifying experience requirements and pass the required exam(s). There are three categories of PE licensure: practice act, title act, and title authority. The practice acts include Civil, Electrical, and Mechanical Engineering, while the title acts cover various branches of engineering, including Agricultural, Chemical, Control Systems, Fire Protection, Industrial, Metallurgical, Nuclear, Petroleum, and Traffic Engineering. Title authorities exist for sub-branches of Civil Engineering: Structural Engineering and Geotechnical Engineering. Once certified, PE license holders will receive their wall certificate via mail in 6-8 weeks. To monitor the status of application review and address any deficiencies, applicants can log into their account after submitting their application through BPELSG Connect. It is essential to allow a minimum of 60 days for the Board to process applications. Passing exam results do not expire, so there is no deadline or timeframe for applying; however, one must meet qualifying experience requirements before filing an application. Applicants licensed in another state or country can obtain California licensure by meeting the same requirements as other applicants, including passing required exams and submitting a complete application. If a NCEES exam was passed in another state, it is valid in California, and exam verification(s) and license verification(s) must be submitted through the MyNCEES account. ##### To begin the licensure process, you must submit an application along with the required documentation and fee to receive a determination of your eligibility. The relevant laws and regulations can be viewed online, along with a flowchart to help determine if you qualify for licensure. Regarding transcripts, universities or colleges that provide electronic copies must send them directly to BPELSG via email, while paper copies must be mailed to the Board. Unsealed transcripts are not accepted, but foreign transcripts that aren't in English don't need to be sealed - instead, applicants should submit the originals along with a notarized translation. It's recommended to request transcripts from relevant institutions at least two weeks before submitting your application to ensure timely receipt by the Board. If you're claiming education credit, you'll need to submit original transcripts and a notarized English translation if necessary. Transcripts will be uploaded to your application once received by the Board. For degree programs, check the ABET website to see if your program is accredited - this can help determine if it's considered an approved engineering curriculum. When submitting work experience, the required number of references varies depending on your license type: * Professional Engineer (PE): A minimum of four references * Professional Land Surveyor (PLS): A minimum of four references * Geotechnical Engineer: A minimum of four references * Structural Engineer: A minimum of three references Comity applicants have the option to submit a NCEES Record, but it's not required. The Board will ask for additional information if necessary. If you submitted your application through BPELSG Connect, you can track its status and address any deficiencies by logging into your account. If you submitted a paper application, allow at least 60 days before contacting the Board for an update. To confirm that your exam results are visible on your MyNCEES account, log in and verify the information. If they're not showing up, use your MyNCEES account to request verification(s) from the state board(s) where you passed the exam(s). **Note:** Don't submit your licensure application until you're ready for the state-specific exam(s), as postponements are only granted in emergencies and can result in forfeiting your exam fees. For contact information, visit the Board's website Contact Us page. When providing work experience details in Part A of the Work Experience Engagement/Reference, make sure to include specific examples of civil engineering tasks and decisions you made, along with the engineering judgement used. Vague or general descriptions won't be accepted. It's your responsibility as an applicant to provide sufficient information for the registrar to determine if you meet licensure requirements. On Part B of the Work Experience Engagement/Reference, the reference must indicate their role in relation to your engineering work during the engagement. If they don't confirm being in charge, the months claimed won't be accepted, and additional documentation may be required. It's crucial for professional references to accurately respond to each question to avoid deficiencies and delays. Keep in mind that not all tasks on a construction site require a licensed Civil Engineer. According to Professional Engineers Act section 6730, only civil engineering tasks requiring licensure must be performed by a licensed Civil Engineer. Tasks like construction supervision or project scheduling can be handled by individuals without a license. Lastly, traffic engineering is a title act, meaning it doesn't require licensure. While Civil Engineers often perform related tasks as part of their work, these tasks don't necessarily need to be done by a licensed Civil Engineer. Due to California's discipline-specific licensing system, civil engineering and traffic engineering have no overlap in their requirements. According to the Professional Engineers Act section 6731, civil engineering is defined as, while traffic engineering is defined in Board Rules section 404(qq). A: The review time for applications is approximately 5-6 months from submission or longer if there are deficiencies. Applications are reviewed in the order they were sent and those with resolved issues will not be prioritized over new submissions. You can check your application status on BPELSG Connect, which updates automatically. Once eligible to take exams, you'll need to pay for and schedule them through BPELSG Connect. For more information, refer to Applying for Licensure as a Civil Engineer. A: To reschedule an exam, contact Prometric at (916) 999-3644 or BOEXAM@dca.ca.gov directly. If you cancel or miss the exam, you'll forfeit your fee and must wait until the next quarter to reapply. However, if you want to take the exam in a later quarter, you can request a postponement through the Board for unforeseen circumstances. Supporting documentation is required for this process. If your postponement is not approved, you'll still forfeit your fee and have to wait for the next available quarter. To submit an Exam Request in BPELSG Connect, go to this website. Once you have made your application eligible for exams, you can pay for and schedule them on this page. The exams are available in two quarters following the quarter when the requests are submitted and fees are paid. You cannot take the same quarter that you submit your request and pay your fee in that quarter. Check out the chart below to learn more about obtaining a license as a civil engineer. Once you've made your payment and chosen a quarter, your eligibility will only be valid for that quarter. To verify licensure or passage of examinations, professional geologists and geophysicists must submit the Verification of Licensure or Passage of Examinations form to the Board. Allow 2-3 weeks for processing. Obtain a list of licensees through DCA Public Information - Licensee Lists. For applications, visit this website or contact (916) 999-3635. Email addresses are provided by discipline: * Civil: BPELSG.Evaluator1@dca.ca.gov (A-K), BPELSG.Evaluator5@dca.ca.gov (L-Z) * Electrical and Mechanical: BPELSG.Evaluator2@dca.ca.gov * Traffic, Structural, Geotechnical: BPELSG.Evaluator3@dca.ca.gov * Geology, Land Surveyor: BPELSG.Evaluator4@dca.ca.gov * Engineer-in-Training (EIT) and Land Surveyor-in-Training (LSIT): BPELSG.EIT.LSIT@dca.ca.gov Submit electronic transcripts to BPELSG.Transcripts@dca.ca.gov. For exam development, administration, test centers, and results, contact (916) 999-3644 or BOEXAM@dca.ca.gov. Address changes must be reported within thirty days according to Title 16, California Code of Regulations sections 412 and 3009. Follow the instructions on the Online Address Change Form. For current license renewals or those expired less than five years, contact (916) 999-3612 or BPELSG.Renewal.Information@dca.ca.gov. If your license is expired more than five years, reach out to (916) 999-3635 or the discipline-specific email address. For fingerprinting FAQs and further questions, call or email (916) 999-3625 or BPELSG.Fingerprint.Questions@dca.ca.gov. The Outreach program provides presentations, campus visits, and educational materials through Brooke Phayer at (916) 999-3609 or Brooke.Phayer@dca.ca.gov. For enforcement and complaint information, contact (916) 999-3593 or BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov. File a complaint through this website. To inquire about your application status or examination results, email Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov. For Certification or Licensure Qualifications and Applications-related questions, use the email addresses provided on this page. Businesses and agencies seeking Organization Records, Disassociation Notices, or Notice of Departmental Designation forms can contact (916) 999-3584 or BPELSG.Organization.Records@dca.ca.gov. These forms are available online. For Laws and Regulations inquiries about the Professional Engineers Act, Professional Land Surveyors' Act, Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and associated regulations, reach out to the Board's Enforcement Unit at (916) 999-3593 or BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov. The laws and regulations can be accessed online. Concerns about staff professionals should be directed to: Joshua Goodwin, P.G., C.E.G. - (916) 999-3638 or Joshua.Goodwin@dca.ca.gov; Natalie King, P.E. - (916) 999-3637 or Natalie.King@dca.ca.gov; or Dallas Sweeney, P.L.S. - (916) 999-3639 or Dallas.Sweeney@dca.ca.gov. Webmaster questions can be sent to BPELSG.Webmaster@dca.ca.gov; however, please note that this email address should not be used for inquiries about the topics mentioned above.