

E News



Summer 2010

June 30 is Deadline to Apply for Surveyor's License with a Two-Year Degree

Applicants with a Board-approved two-year degree and required survey coursework have until June 30, 2010, to apply to take the Professional Surveying exam. **Applicants must have satisfied the education and experience requirements and must have submitted a complete Surveyor application to the S.C. Board by June 30, 2010, to be eligible to take the Fundamentals of Surveying and/or the Principles and Practice of Surveying exam.** If an applicant meets education and experience requirements and is approved by the Board, he/she may take the Fundamentals of Surveying Exam and the Professional Surveyor exam **after** June 30, 2010, and may continue to take the exam according to previously set rules regarding frequency of exams taken (e.g., the applicant might need to do further study after two or more failing grades). All requirements must have been completed by June 30, 2010. **Under no circumstances will the Board be able to accept applications filed after the deadline from individuals who hold a two-year degree.**

To have a "complete application," you must include the application form, application fee, transcript(s), work experience verification forms, five personal reference forms, and three plats that meet current Surveying standards and have the PLS supervisor's statement on each of them. (See box at bottom of application)

Applicants do not have to have pass the Fundamentals of Surveying exam to file an application to take the Surveyor exam. However, such applicants must meet experience and education requirements and submit a complete application by June 30, 2010.

Education Requirements will change for Surveyor Licensure

After July 1, 2010, surveyors applying for licensure by examination in South Carolina will be required to have a four-year degree to meet the education requirement. Statute 40-22-225(C) states that the minimum qualifications for licensure as a Tier A Professional Surveyor, after July 1, 2010, will be "graduation from a school or college of four or more years with a Board-approved degree, an ABET commission accredited curriculum in a related field, or a substantially equivalent program, including completed discipline-specific courses of not less than 12 semester hours or the equivalent in

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For information on Board members' terms, boardmembers.llronline.com/bdmem

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[Wanda Cooke](#), Engineer applications, Portfolio applications, reinstatements of Professional Engineers and Surveyors licenses

INTERNET ADDRESS

www.llr.state.sc.us/POL/Engineers/

BOARD OFFICE HOURS

8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. Monday – Friday

2010 BOARD MEETINGS

All meetings will be held at LLR, 110 Centerview Drive, Columbia, S.C.
 July 20, 2010 – 9:30 a.m.
 October 19, 2010 – 9:30 a.m.

quarter hours satisfactory to the Board in each of the disciplines described in Section 40-22-20(24) for which the applicant is requesting licensure....”

This education requirement has been “in the works” for years, but the implementation date was set for 2010 to allow ample time for individuals to complete a two-year degree and obtain required surveying courses for licensure by June 30, 2010, if they did not wish to obtain the four-year degree.

Some applicants will take the Fundamentals of Surveying exam in April 2010 and will not know if they passed until June. In this situation, applicants should submit the Surveyor application and all documentation by June 30, 2010, even if the FS scores have not been distributed. If the applicant passes the FS exam, he/she will be considered for eligibility to take the Professional Surveyor exam in October 2010, or later, if the completed application for licensure as a Professional Surveyor is filed with the Board office no later than 5 p.m. on June 30, 2010. If the applicant fails the FS exam, he/she will be allowed to continue taking the exam if the full Surveyor application has been received by the deadline (and subsequently approved by the Board).

The requirements for certification as a surveyor-in-training and for licensure as a Professional Surveyor are in Section 40-22-225 of the statutes. www.scstatehouse.gov/sess117_2007-2008/bills/3722.htm
www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/engineers/PDF_Files/FinalRegs.pdf See Regulation 49-201 for more information on licensure requirements.

Four-year Surveyor Degrees Offered in South Carolina

With the implementation of the four-year degree requirement for licensure as a Surveyor, it is good news that three universities are actively working toward adoption of curricula that meet the education requirement. The Citadel’s civil engineering curriculum includes surveyor coursework and has been approved by the Board for licensure purposes. Clemson University’s curriculum (in the Forestry Department) also has been accepted by the Board for licensure purposes. South Carolina State University has proposed curricula to the Board that will meet four-year education requirements for licensure as a surveyor, and the Board has officially approved the degrees for licensure purposes. (This approval should not be confused with ABET accreditation, as that designation is determined by the EAC Commission of ABET.) It is, however, an assurance to individuals who wish to undertake the coursework that the curriculum is acceptable to the Board for licensure purposes. Please contact the engineering department at The Citadel, South Carolina State University and the Forestry Department at Clemson University for additional information.



Renewal Deadline is June 30, 2010, for Individuals



If you have not already renewed your license as a Professional Engineer or Surveyor, but you plan to continue practicing in South Carolina, please renew by June 30, 2010. Online renewals are easy, available 24 hours a day and the fee may be paid by credit card or electronic check. You may renew without paying a late fee until July 31, 2010, but late fees apply from August 1 until September 30, 2010. After that date, you must reinstate the license.

To renew, please go online to <https://renewals.llronline.com>. For assistance or questions, contact Sally Green at greens@llr.sc.gov.

Theresa Hodge Elected Secretary/Treasurer of Southern Zone



Board member Theresa Hodge, P.E., was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Southern Zone in March 2010. The Southern Zone is comprised of 17 licensing boards for engineers and surveyors. She will begin her term in August 2010.

Hodge holds a bachelor of science in engineering from the University of South Carolina and has 29 years of engineering consulting and design experience. She is currently Director of Utilities at Civil Engineering Consulting Services, Inc., in Columbia, S.C., where she established Subsurface Utility Engineering in 2006 under ASCE standards. She has served as design engineer for many award-winning projects, the most recent of which was the 2010 ACEC of S.C. Engineering Excellence Award (small projects). She was the recipient of the Girl Scouts Board of Directors Distinguished Community Service Award, and has served on the Board of Directors for Trinity Child Development Center, and as a member of the Electrical Engineering

Advisory Board at The Citadel. She was named Young Engineer of the Year by the SCSPE and later was again named Engineer of the Year. She has served in all offices of the SCSPE, volunteered with Mathcounts, and has served nationally on the NCEES's Uniform Procedures and Legislative Guidelines Committee.

Hodge has served on the South Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors since her appointment in March 2008 by Governor Mark Sanford. She has been an active participant in zone and national meetings.

Congratulations to Theresa Hodge on her election to serve the Southern Zone as Secretary/Treasurer!

Board Chairman Report



The South Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors continues to address many important issues. The four-year degree requirement for licensure of surveyors will go into effect July 1, 2010. Clemson University, The Citadel and the University of South Carolina will offer a four-year curriculum that has been approved by the Board for licensure purposes. It is still possible for an applicant to obtain an acceptable four-year curriculum at any qualified institution and supplement the curriculum with the required survey courses from other institutions.

Ten dollars from every renewal fee from Professional Engineers, Surveyors and Certificates of Authorizations for firms goes into an educational fund for educational programs and research into professional issues. Since January 1, 2010, the Board has received and approved applications from professional societies for a total of \$27,000 for speakers and speaker expenses at these professional societies meetings.

The Board is working to facilitate a collaborative program between the University of South Carolina and South Carolina State University to identify course work at USC that SCSU engineering technology students can take to achieve a "substantially equivalent" degree to an EAC/ABET degree. Upon successful completion of this program, SCSU students would be eligible to take the professional engineering exam and achieve full licensure as a Professional Engineer in South Carolina.

The Board continues to use the Portfolio Review program to license engineering technology graduates successfully. Since this program was started in the fall of 2007, the Board has licensed 36 individuals as Professional Engineers. This program will continue until July 1, 2020, the date the Category B Professional Engineer category will no longer exist in South Carolina.

House Bill 4546 was introduced in the South Carolina Legislature to reorganize a number of boards including the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors, and make these boards semi-independent. A similar bill was introduced in the Senate by Senator Phillip Shoopman, P.E. Neither bill was approved by the Legislature.

A committee has been formed to write a new South Carolina state specific survey exam. It is anticipated that the re-write of this exam will take approximately two years to complete.

South Carolina continues to be a leader nationally with the NCEES. In addition to my serving as treasurer of the NCEES and as a member of the Board of Directors, I am pleased that Theresa Hodge, P.E., was recently elected as secretary-treasurer of the Southern Zone of the NCEES. In addition, we have South Carolina Board members serving on important committees and task forces on the national level.

It is my pleasure to serve you as Chairman of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors. Please feel free to contact me at any time should you have questions concerning licensure, regulations, investigations and discipline or any other issues coming in front of the Board.

Policy Changes

Record Drawings

The South Carolina Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors does not consider “record drawings” or “the representation of what was believed to be constructed,” to be engineering or surveying work so as to require that they be sealed by an engineer. However, the Board realizes an engineer or surveyor may be required by state or local rules to seal such drawings for work not performed under the engineer’s or surveyor’s direct supervision and control. In such cases, an appropriate explanation should be included on sealed record drawings, incorporating, as applicable, the following factors:

- The record drawing is a compiled representation of the constructed project.
- The sources and the basis of information used in the preparation of the record drawing should be listed.
- The record drawing is believed to be correct to the best of the professional’s knowledge.
- The accuracy of the information cannot be guaranteed.

Acceptance of Non-NCEES Examinations for Comity Licensure

The current Regulation 49-203 regarding requirements for comity licensure is:

A. Professional Engineer.

(1) An application will be considered for licensure by comity from an applicant who is appropriately licensed in another jurisdiction.

(2) Any applicant holding a valid license to practice engineering issued by a proper authority of a jurisdiction or possession of the United States, based on requirements not less than those specified by the applicable licensure act in effect in the State of South Carolina at the time such other license was issued, may, upon receipt of the proper documents and payment of the fee established by the Board, be considered for licensure in the appropriate category designation without further written examination.

The Board occasionally receives an application for comity licensure from an individual who was originally licensed in another state by passing a state-administered Professional Engineer exam, rather than the exam created by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. South Carolina began administering the NCEES exams in December 1966, but many states adopted the national examination at a later date. Many of these applicants for comity licensure have been in practice for 30 years or more. Therefore, the Board adopted the following policy in March 2010:

The Board will consider the application for comity licensure from an applicant who is appropriately and currently licensed in another jurisdiction. If the applicant was licensed after 1966 by passing a state-created and administered examination rather than the NCEES exam, the Board will accept a statement from the original Board that the state examination was considered by the Board at that time to be the equivalent of the NCEES exam. The statement must be in writing and signed by an official representative of the Board with the Board

seal affixed. The South Carolina Board will review the application and *may* accept the non-NCEES examination if it is determined that the applicant meets all other requirements for licensure in South Carolina.

17 Newly Licensed Engineers and Land Surveyors Recognized at Ceremony

The Board of Registration for Engineers and Surveyors and the South Carolina Society of Professional Engineers continue to sponsor licensing ceremonies twice annually for individuals who passed the PE and LS examinations. The most recent ceremony was held on January 28, 2010, in the State House, where 17 newly licensed engineers and surveyors received their wall certificate presented by Board members (with much picture-taking by relatives and friends).

The Board offers congratulations to everyone who passed the October 2009 exams and encourages them to become involved in the profession as a way of giving back and mentoring others. The ceremony and reception that follows are proud moments for parents, spouses, friends and others who helped along the way, and it is a fitting tribute to the newest Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors who worked so hard to achieve the goal of becoming licensed. Congratulations to all new licensees!

The Portfolio Process: Alternate Licensure Procedure for Professional Engineers

In June 2007, the South Carolina legislature approved a process for licensure of individuals who hold an engineering technology degree. The “portfolio process” is open until June 30, 2020. As of May 1, 2010, the Board has licensed 31 individuals, and approximately 43 more have been approved to begin the portfolio process.

The portfolio process allows technology graduates to demonstrate their experience through submittal of a portfolio of three projects. Portfolios are reviewed by committees comprised of engineers and professors in that specific discipline; upon acceptance of the portfolio, the applicant is invited for an interview. The committee makes a recommendation to the Board regarding licensure, and the Board then votes on the application.

The Board needs more reviewers for the Portfolio committees!! If you are a licensed Professional Engineer interested in serving on a committee, please contact Wanda Peake at cookew@llr.sc.gov. Licensure is required of the practitioners, but professors are not required to be licensed. Professional development credit is given for the time spent in meetings.

If you know someone who holds a technology degree and who meets the requirements, please let them know about the Portfolio Process. Information is available on this website or they may contact Administrator Jan Simpson at Simpsonj@llr.sc.gov.

News from NCEES

ANSI Recognizes NCEES Model Law Surveyor Standard

The American National Standards Institute recently approved the Model Law Surveyor (MLS) standard developed by NCEES.

This standard outlines the requirements for attaining licensure as a professional surveyor. Its criteria are divided into education, professional experience and examinations. The standard is used by NCEES as a guideline for its member licensing boards, which grant licensure to engineers and surveyors in all 50 states and several U.S. territories.

Prior to being approved by the ANSI Board of Standards Review, the MLS standard was published on the NCEES home page and in ANSI’s Standards Review and was open to public comment.

“We’re looking forward to promoting this standard to encourage uniform licensing standards and, ultimately, better protect the public,” said Jerry Carter, NCEES executive director.

NCEES has been a standards development organization of ANSI, the U.S. representative to the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), since 2007. Its standard for Model Law Engineer was approved by ANSI earlier this year. Its standard for Model Law Structural Engineer is currently under public review.

The full text of the MLS standard can be downloaded at www.ncees.org/asd.php.

Exam Changes Effective with the October 2010 Administration

Beginning with the October 2010 exam administration, the Agricultural Engineering Principles and Practice (PE) exam, the Structural I and II exams, the Mechanical Engineering Principles and Practice (PE) exam, the Civil Engineering Principles and Practice (PE) exam, and the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam will have the following changes:

Agricultural Engineering PE Examination

- The Agricultural Engineering PE exam will have revised specifications. The new specifications are posted online at www.ncees.org.
- An updated study guide will be available from the American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers in summer of 2010.

Structural I and II Examinations

- The new 16-hour Structural examination will be offered starting with the April 2011 administration. Therefore, the current Structural I and Structural II examinations will be offered for the last time with the October 2010 administration.

Mechanical Engineering PE Examination

- The PM exam book for the Mechanical PE exam will be split into three individual module booklets. Candidates taking this exam will have to choose their PM modules when registering with NCEES. *On exam day, Mechanical PE candidates will receive only the PM modules they registered for and will not be allowed to change.*

Civil Engineering PE Examination

- The PM exam book for the Civil PE exam will be split into five individual module booklets. Candidates taking this exam will have to choose their PM modules when registering with NCEES. *On exam day, Civil PE candidates will receive only the PM modules they registered for and will not be allowed to change.*

Fundamentals of Engineering Examination

- The PM exam book for the FE exam will be split into seven individual module booklets. Candidates taking this exam will have to choose their PM modules when registering with NCEES. *On exam day, FE candidates will receive only the PM modules they registered for and will not be allowed to change.*

Examinee Management System

- The NCEES Examinee Management System will be implemented, effective with the October 2010 administration. This will necessitate each examinee logging into an NCEES website, obtaining a unique ID number and registering for the exam.
- Candidates will select the exam they are taking and their PM modules (in the case of Civil PE, Mechanical PE and FE) when they register.

- Examinees will be able to register in the system for the October 2010 administration starting on July 5, 2010.

Civil Engineering PE Examination—Transportation PM Module

- The Civil Engineering PE exam has a slight change. Its Transportation PM module specification has been revised to clarify Section V – Other Topics. The fundamental topic has not changed but has been revised to more clearly define the topics that are covered. The revised portion of the specification is posted online at www.ncees.org.

FE Examination—Other/General PM Module

- The name of the FE exam – Other/General PM module has been changed to the FE exam – Other Disciplines PM module. The specification has not changed. The only change is that the module was renamed to more accurately describe the candidates for whom the module is intended.

All Employers Must Comply with S.C. Immigration Act by July 1, 2010

The “South Carolina Illegal Immigration Reform Act” that was signed into law by Governor Mark Sanford on June 4, 2008 will soon be applicable to all businesses in South Carolina regardless of the number of employees.

Compliance with this law began July 1, 2009, for private employers who employ 100 or more employees. For private employers who employ less than 100 employees, the compliance date is July 1, 2010.

The law requires all employers to verify the legal status of new employees and prohibits employment of any worker who is not legally in this country and authorized to work. The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation’s Office of Immigrant Worker Compliance is charged with investigating complaints and conducting random audits of private employers to assure compliance. Failure to comply can result in severe monetary penalties and revocation of an employer’s right to operate their business.

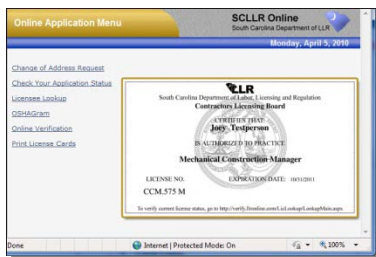
During the first year, LLR investigators found that most large employers (more than 100 workers) were in compliance with the law. When violations were found they generally were because

- employers who were using E-Verify to verify their employees, did not do so within the five-day timeframe required by the law.
- employers who were using driver’s licenses to verify employees, did so using a driver’s license from a state not on the approved list.

For more information on the law, visit www.llronline.com/immigration/.



Wallet Cards are Available for LLR Licensees



The S.C. Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (LLR) has heard from many licensees that they would like a wallet card identifying them as licensed in their chosen occupation or profession, and we listened.

Licensees now have the capability through LLR’s Website to download and print a wallet card as a courtesy. The cards can be printed from your printer at your convenience, and you will need Adobe Reader installed on your PC to view and print the card. For best results, use card stock instead of copy paper to

print a more durable card.

Instructions to Print Your Wallet Card

- Go to <https://verify.llronline.com>.
- Click on the “Print License Card” link on the left of the screen.
- Login with your username and password or last five digits of SSN and last name/company name.
- Click Login.
- A list of all active licenses will appear on screen.
- Click the PDF icon to the right for the license you want to print.
- The wallet card will open in a new Adobe Reader window.
- Print the wallet card.
- Logout.

Disciplinary Actions Available on Website



Final [disciplinary actions](#) taken by the Board since publication of the last newsletter may be viewed on the Board’s website. While the Board staff makes every effort to include all final actions, some may have inadvertently been omitted. Documents on the website are in PDF format and may be printed if you need a copy. If you need a copy of an action not posted on the Web site (any action taken prior to 7/1/2004), contact [Melissa Jones](#). Questions about the investigative process should be directed to Steve Freshley at Freshleys@llr.sc.gov

Investigation and Enforcement Procedures

If you wish to file a complaint against a licensed Professional Engineer or Surveyor, download the complaint form and mail it to the attention of Steve Freshley, Dept. of LLR, Office of Investigations and Enforcement, PO Box 11329, Columbia, SC 29211.

[Download a complaint form](#) (pdf)

Statistics for the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors

License Type	# In-State	# Licensed Via the Portfolio Process	Total # of Licensees
Duals (Engineer & Surveyor)	137	0	176
Engineer	4957	35	14,291
Associate Engineer	10	0	15
Land Surveyor – A	568	0	895
Land Surveyor – B	26	0	34
Geodetic Surveyor	1	0	16
Geographic Information System Surveyor	20	0	52
Photogrammetric Surveyor	3	0	126
Certificate Of Authorization	939	0	2685

Emeritus – Engineer	39	0	68
Emeritus – Surveyor	1	0	6
Retired – Engineer	545	0	1182
Retired – Surveyor	43	0	79

2010 INDIVIDUAL RENEWALS	NUMBER
Renewals processed via online	4900
# that have not yet renewed	10573
# that have not yet renewed with SC address	4028

Date of This Report: **May 14, 2010**

Reminder of Regulations Approved In 2009



As previously reported, revised Regulations were approved that deleted outdated language and language already in the statutes, clarified sections, removed the word “Land” from the name of the Board, and completely updated the Standards Manual for Surveyors. The changes also brought the Regulations in line with statutes approved by the General Assembly in 2007.

It is every licensee’s responsibility to be knowledgeable of these changes. Click here for the “new” Regulations: www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/engineers/PDF_Files/FinalRegs.pdf

For the Standards Manual as a stand-alone document, click here:

www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/engineers/PDF_Files/STANDARDS%20OF%20PRACTICE%20MANUAL.pdf

Notice of Online Service Change



There has been an improvement in our service to you! When you use the online service to change your address, it will now be automatically changed in the Board’s database. Before, you had to submit the request and an e-mail would be generated for staff to make the change in the database. Now, our staff will receive an e-mail that contact information has been changed.

We hope this change is more convenient and efficient for you.

It is very important that you notify the Board office if your address changes to ensure receipt of important mailings (such as renewals information). Please remember it is your responsibility to keep our records current. You may still e-mail a completed Address Update Form directly to engls@llr.sc.gov or access the new online services. You may also send the changes by Fax to 803-896-4427 or mail them to us. We cannot take address changes over the phone.

If you wish to be added to the distribution list for e-newsletters and other communications, e-mail your name (and registration number if applicable) to ENGLS@llr.sc.gov.

REMINDER: Want to know if someone is currently licensed in South Carolina? Check the Licensee Lookup. (Only licenses in ACTIVE, RETIRED and EMERITUS status will be on Licensee Lookup.) If that person is not listed, he/she is probably not licensed. Words of caution: 1) the Licensee Lookup provides business contact information only, and 2) make sure you have the correct spelling of the names. If you are unsure of the spelling, use as few letters as possible. If in doubt about someone’s license, contact the Board office.