

# SOUTH CAROLINA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS

## INFORMATION SHEET FOR LICENSURE AS A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER

**Important: Please read carefully the following information prior to filing an application with the Board.**

**South Carolina requires verification of education and experience before approving an applicant to take the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination.**

### EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

#### **A. Applicants must meet one of the following threshold engineering education requirements:**

- a. Four-year engineering degree accredited by EAC/ABET.
- b. Bachelors degree program and completion of an engineering curriculum found to be **substantially equivalent** (see below) to an engineering curriculum accredited by EAC/ABET;
- c. Bachelors degree program, completion of an engineering curriculum that meets the NCEES Engineering Education standard;
- d. Master of Engineering or Master of Science in Engineering accredited by EAC/ABET (will be accepted as the basic degree requirement).
- e. Four-year engineering degree accredited by Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB)
- f. Four-year engineering degree from an accredited program listed in the ABET published "Washington Accord" document for countries other than Canada and the United States. The degree must have been obtained after accreditation.
- g. Master of Engineering or Master of Science in Engineering in a program accredited by EAC/ABET at either the baccalaureate or masters level. Reg. 49-200(A)
- h. If an individual received a degree within a two-year window prior to an institution's ABET accreditation, then the degree will be treated as an ABET-accredited degree.

**Substantially Equivalent education:** Foreign degrees and other engineering degrees not accredited by EAC/ABET, CEAB or a program recognized by ABET in the "Washington Accord" listings may, upon evaluation, be considered as "substantially equivalent education." An engineering technology degree is not "substantially equivalent" to an EAC/ABET accredited engineering program degree.

The following education must be evaluated:

- a. Four-year engineering degree from a **NON**-EAC/ABET accredited program from a college or university in the United States and its jurisdictions.
- b. Four-year engineering degree from an institution in a foreign country.
- c. Master of Engineering or Master of Science in Engineering degree **not** accredited by EAC/ABET, with a non-approved undergraduate degree (such as mathematics, biology, engineering technology, etc.) from an institution in the United States or its jurisdictions.
- d. Advanced degrees from foreign institutions.

Education Evaluations may be conducted by NCEES ([www.ncees.org](http://www.ncees.org)) or the SC Board Consultant. The education evaluation requires an additional fee and the process may take two to three weeks.

**EAC/ABET, CEAB, and Programs Recognized in the ABET “Washington Accord” Listings.** The SC Board accepts education from institutions accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission (EAC) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET), or accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB), or from an accredited program recognized in the ABET “Washington Accord” listings. **Proof of “Washington Accord” degree accreditation must be furnished by the applicant.** For accredited programs, see <https://www.ieagrements.org/accords/washington/>

**Transcripts must accompany application in an envelope sealed and stamped by the Registrar of each institution or must be sent directly to the SC Board office.**

## **EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS**

At the time an application is filed, an applicant must have four (4) years of qualifying engineering experience **after the date of graduation from the qualifying degree**. Experience cannot be anticipated; co-op experience while in school **will not** be accepted.

In counting years of experience, the Board *may* allow one year of credit for satisfactory completion of a Master’s degree in engineering or maximum credit of two years for satisfactory completion of the doctorate level degree in engineering [Section 40-22-220(C)]. If the Masters or Doctoral degree is needed to reach education equivalency, the degree may not be used also for work experience.

## **EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS**

The Board, at its discretion, *may* waive the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination for an applicant (1) with fifteen (15) years or more of acceptable experience after the date of approved degree, or (2) who has been licensed in another jurisdiction not less than 12 years, or (3) who has earned a doctorate degree in engineering in which the undergraduate degree in the same field of study is accredited by ABET. [Reg. 49-200(C)] Written waiver request should be submitted with application.

Applicants for the PE exam must have taken and passed the FE exam unless waived by the Board.