

## Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation

Responsive. Innovative. Transparent. Efficient.



### Division of Professional Regulation: *Design Unit*

The Design Unit of the Division of Professional Regulation is responsible for maintaining the public health, safety, and welfare and to be subject to regulation and control in the public interest. Each Profession is governed by its respective Act that merits the confidence of the public, and that only qualified persons shall be authorized to engage in the practice of that profession in the State of Illinois.

#### The Design Unit oversees the Licensing and Registration for:

- ◆ Architecture
- ◆ Professional Land Surveying
- ◆ Professional Engineering
- ◆ Structural Engineering
- ◆ Professional Design Firm

#### *Did you know?*

Illinois licenses Professional Engineers and Structural Engineers separately. There is no overlap of licensure. Each profession has separate and distinct requirements for education, examination and experience.

A Professional Engineer in Illinois cannot offer or perform any Structural Engineering services and a Structural Engineer can only offer Structural Engineering services.

#### WHAT'S INSIDE:

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- Point of Interest
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- Board Meeting Dates
- Continuing Education Links



# CHANGE

## Website and Program Changes with NCEES.

The National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) has unveiled a revitalized website and included several changes that are set to be implemented this year.

Changes include: The Principles and Practice of Surveying exam goes to computer-based testing (CBT), MyNCEES gets an overhaul, Member Board Portal NCEES E3 system is updated, exam and licensure certifications are changed, NCEES Records modified and credential evaluations are more easily transferred between jurisdictions.

Registration and scheduling opened in June 2016 for the new CBT PS exam. The first testing opportunity for the CBT exam will be available in October 2016. The CBT PS exam will allow for year-round testing at approved Pearson VUE test centers.

This gives examinees the freedom to pick the exam time, date, and location.

For more information, visit: <http://ncees.org/exams/ps-exam/>

MyNCEES, which was used by Member Board Administrators previously; will going forward, be utilized by applicants (customers) only. This will be the location for you to register for examinations, request exam/licensure certification, start an NCEES Record, request an NCEES Credential Evaluation of your foreign education as well as a new Continuing Education program.

The NCEES Records are being revamped and the cover-sheets are set to be more "user friendly" in the layout and placement of summary information for the licensee.

Credential Evaluations will be more mobile and easier to submit to multiple jurisdictions. We are told the fee is set to be reduced, however, the specifics are not known at this time.

New for NCEES - the Continuing Professional Competency (CPC) tracking program. The CPC is a tool for licensed Professional Engineers, Structural Engineers and Land Surveyors to track and maintain their continuing education courses.

Please note, while the NCEES CPC standard (15 PDH's per calendar year) is an option for licensees in other jurisdictions, it may not be acceptable for Illinois requirements as Illinois renewals are not done on calendar year renewals.

Illinois is optimistic about the changes that have occurred and looks forward to utilizing the programs and tools to be more efficient and streamlined in the examination and licensure process for Professional Engineers, Structural Engineers and Land Surveyors.

More thorough specifics and information can be obtained directly from the NCEES website, [www.ncees.org](http://www.ncees.org)

## POINT OF INTEREST

### National Membership Fees

The Department has been notified by NCARB and NCEES that they have each accepted payments through the vendor support initiative Program.

As a result of these notifications, the Department is pleased to share that there will be **no** interruption of services, examinations, score reports, certifications, etc. for either NCARB or NCEES.

## FILE A COMPLAINT ONLINE

Help us protect the public.

Complaints against any individual or entity regulated by the **Division of Professional Regulation** may be filed by contacting the Complaint Intake Unit.

To file a complaint, please use:

[Online Complaint Form](#)

Have Questions?

Call the Complaint Intake Unit at **312.814.6910**.



## Design Profession Trivia



Q: Which profession was licensed first in Illinois?

***Professional or Structural Engineer?***

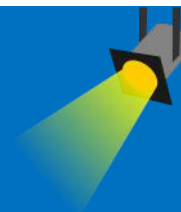
**A: Structural Engineer.**

Structural Engineering was one of the first professions originally licensed by the Department beginning in **1917**. Structural engineers engage in the designing or supervising of the construction, enlargement or alteration of structures, or any part thereof, for others, to be constructed by persons other than himself/herself.

## DESIGN BOARD SPOTLIGHT:

### *Professional Engineering*

Above all, we are professional...



**P**rofessional Engineers became regulated between 1945 and 1946 in Illinois.

The Board is appointed by the Secretary and is composed of ten members, consisting of one public member and nine professional engineers licensed under the Act. Each licensed member must have at least 12 years of experience in the practice of Professional Engineering (PE).

The Board is charged with reviewing education and experience qualifications of applicants and advising the Secretary on matters related to professional competence and conduct. The Board is advisory (not regulatory) to the Department, however their service is invaluable to the Health, Safety and Welfare of the citizens of Illinois.

To be licensed as a Professional Engineer in Illinois, you must meet the licensure requirements set forth in the Illinois Professional Engineering Practice Act and Administrative Rules.

Illinois is not a discipline specific state. Once an applicant is licensed as a Professional Engineer in Illinois, he/she is authorized by the Department to perform any type of engineering that they believe they have the knowledge, competency and ability to perform and maintain the Health, Safety and Welfare of the public. The only exception to this is in regards to Structural Engineering (SE) as a PE in Illinois cannot offer or perform any Structural services. That requires a separate SE license. Only an SE can perform Structural services in Illinois.

The Professional Engineering Practice Act is State law. Violations of this Act or associated Administrative Rules are violations of State law that may result in civil penalties and could subject a person to criminal prosecution.

The Act provides that the first offense is a Class A misdemeanor; any subsequent offense constitutes a Class 4 felony. In addition to the possibility of criminal prosecution, the Department has the authority to levy fines, up to \$10,000 per offense, for violations of this Act or associated Rules.



### Want to serve on a Board?

The office of citizen is the highest office in the land. One of the best ways to participate in our democracy is by serving on a state board, commission or committee.

These groups advise Illinois' state agencies and organizations on a wide range of issues that affect public policy and welfare.

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#### Current Board Openings:

**Professional Engineering Board**  
Licensed Member

#### Links:

[Board Member Application Form](#)  
[State of Illinois Appointments](#)

## Frequently Asked Questions available online!

To assist potential candidates for examinations and/or licensure, the Department has created an F.A.Q. document for each design profession to address the most common questions the Department receives.

- ◆ **For Architecture Questions:** click [here](#)
- ◆ **For Professional Land Surveyor Questions:** click [here](#)
- ◆ **For Professional Engineering Questions:** click [here](#)
- ◆ **For Structural Engineering Questions:** click [here](#)

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*Be on the look out for updated forms and application instructions coming soon!*





## Continuing Education

Visit the following sites for resources on available Continuing Education courses for your renewal requirements.

### Architecture

www.aiail.org  
www.alatoday.org

### Professional Land Surveyor

www.iplsa.org

### Professional Engineering

www.illinoisengineer.com

### Structural Engineering

www.seaoi.org

**DESIGN** Times

**ISSUE 02 | July 2016**

## Upcoming Board Meetings

We invite the public to attend the open session of our Board Meetings to gain a better understanding of what issues are prevalent in the respective professions.

### July:

Land Surveyor Board – July 19, 2016 (Springfield)  
Architect Board – July 21, 2016 (Springfield)  
Professional Engineering Board - CANCELLED  
Structural Engineering Board – July 27-28, 2016 (Springfield)

### September:

Architect Board – September 9, 2016 (Chicago)  
Structural Engineering Board – September 21, 2016 (Chicago)  
Professional Engineering Board – September 22, 2016 (Chicago)  
Land Surveyor Board – September 23, 2016 (Chicago)

## Monthly Discipline Report

You may review the latest monthly discipline report here:

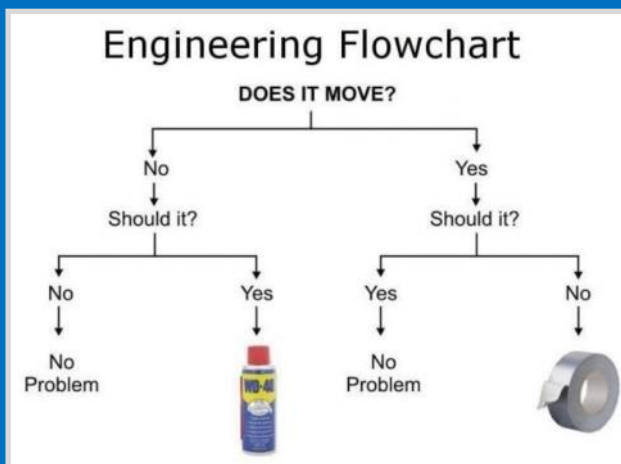
<http://www.idfpr.com/News/Disciplines/DiscReports.asp>

## Update your Contact Information

To receive Department renewal notices, verify your information here:

[Change Your Address](#)

## Laugh Out Loud



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