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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In an effort to increase transparency and provide the public with a quick and easy method to verify the authenticity of a professional’s certificate of licensure, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) is now including a unique quick response (QR) code for all professions within the Divisions of Professional Regulation and Real Estate. When the QR code is scanned using a QR reader application from any mobile device, the latest license information from IDFPR’s database will be displayed, including licensure status. The QR code announcement is the latest from IDFPR in their ongoing efforts to modernize the state’s regulatory agency.

“Smartphone technology has revolutionized our lives and how we access information on a daily basis,” said Bryan A. Schneider, IDFPR Secretary. “By utilizing the QR code on our certificates of licensure, we afford consumers an easy and efficient way to ensure the validity of our licensed professionals.”

All license certificates issued by IDFPR before 7/19/2016 that do not contain the unique QR code are still considered valid. Users can access and print new certificates with a QR code anytime by accessing online eLicense search functionality from the IDFPR website at https://www.idfpr.com/Applications/GetMyLicense/login.asp.

For more information on IDFPR, please visit their website at: www.idfpr.com. Follow IDFPR on Twitter and Facebook to stay current on the latest from the state’s regulatory agency.

Below is a sample of what a QR Code may look like.

![QR Code Example](image)

**Design Profession Trivia**

Q: What year did Professional Land Surveyors become registered in Illinois?

A: **1937**.

The practice of land surveying includes surveying, preparation of boundary descriptions and measuring the area of any portion of the earth’s surface.
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.

Current Board Openings:

**Professional Engineering Board**
Licensed Member

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

Frequently Asked Questions:
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.

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

Updated Application Instructions and Forms.

The Department continually strives to find ways to streamline the process for individuals to apply for examination and/or licensure.

One way of accomplishing this is by routinely reviewing and updating the application instructions and other forms to ensure that the most accurate and effective information is being presented to the perspective examinee/licensee.

The Department has recently updated the instructions for each of the four Design profession applications. In addition, application instructions for the Professional Design Firm have been updated along with a new Design Firm application.

Candidate Examination Guides have been updated for the Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer and Structural Engineer professions.

**Want to serve on a Board?**

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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.

November:
Architect Board – November 3, 2016 (Springfield)
Structural Engineering Board – November 16, 2016 (Springfield)
Professional Engineering Board - November 17, 2016 (Springfield)
Land Surveyor Board – November 18, 2016 (Springfield)

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