



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION  
ILLINOIS STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING BOARD MINUTES

**III. Old Business**

A. Legislative Update  
Act/Rules

Mr. Nguyen shared that the Sunset Statute Bill SB657 has gone through three amendments and has been approved by the House and Senate and sent to the Governor's desk for signature.

The draft for the Rule amendments are still on "hold."

He also stated that SB1899 is effectively "dead."

**IV. Report from Subcommittees**

A. Complaint Review  
Committee/Subcommittee  
Reports

Mr. Lazell reported as there were no members in attendance at the May 9, 2019 meeting.

Complaint Statistics based on recommendations from the March 21, 2019 meeting:

Architect: Opened 7, Closed 1, Referred 4  
PE: Opened 17 Closed 1, Referred 3  
LS: Opened 2, Closed 0, Referred 31  
SE: Opened 3, Closed 2, Referred 4  
PDF: Opened 0, Closed 0, Referred 0

Complaints currently under investigation:

Architect – 31  
PE – 42  
LS – 12  
SE - 12  
PDF – 1

Cases currently being prosecuted:

Architect – 9  
PE – 22  
LS – 8  
SE – 11  
PDF – 0

**V. New Business**

A. Report from NCEES Zone  
Meeting

Mr. Bishop reported on the NCEES Zone Meeting. He provided a brief overview of main topics that were discussed.

- NCEES Finances
- Motions to be brought up at the Annual Meeting
- Zone finances to be restructured underneath the NCEES budget
- Engineers without Borders "partnership" with NCEES
- Elimination of Exemptions
- De-coupling of experience and examinations
- Computer Based Testing (CBT) examinations
- Continuation of Paper & Pencil PE exams to CBT changeover

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- Education Committee
  - 8-hour max CE per day
  - Reduce general education requirement to 12 hours
- EPE Committee – 16-hour SE exam is a P.E. exam
- ACCA Committee disagrees with the EPE Committee's idea
- Responsible Charge term discussed

B. Board Liaison comments  
from NCEES Central Zone  
Meeting

Mr. Lazell shared a few items that were discussed during the Member Board Executive sessions at the Zone meeting.

- Temporary license for military & their spouses
- Acceptance of Foreign EAC/ABET BS programs

C. Discussion on  
Decoupling Exam &  
Experience Requirement

Mr. Lazell shared that there were two items that he took away from the Zone meeting that was initially discussed at the 2018 Annual NCEES Meeting.

- De-coupling of experience and examinations
- Becoming "License" driven, not exam approval driven

Currently, all applicants are required to apply to the Department for education and/or experience review and approval to sit for the examination(s) and/or for licensure.

There is a national push to change the regulatory board mindset of being "exam approval" driven, to being "license approval" driven.

Mr. Lazell said the idea is to allow all applicants to sit for the examination(s), prior to the education review. The examination(s) could be taken at the discretion of the applicant and would not need Board approval to do so. They would still be required to meet the educational and experience requirements when they apply for enrollment as a Structural Engineer Intern or for Licensure as a Structural Engineer.

Mr. Lazell requested that the Board think and consider adopting this method and said that the Department plans to research this idea to see what would be necessary to implement this for the Structural Engineer profession.

D. Section 1480.130  
Discussion of dual-degree  
applicants and concurrent  
experience acceptance

Mr. Lazell informed the Board that over the past few years, there has been an increased number of applicants who are running into one of two issues regarding the current experience rules.

The first issue is that there are several dual-degree (BS/MS) Engineering programs that confer both of the degrees at the same time; which currently as the Rules specify, we could not grant experience credit for the MS degree as Section 1480.130 of the Rules states that the MS degree must be after the conferral of the

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BS degree.

He said the other issue is that applicants are working full-time in an engineering firm and concurrently are acquiring a post-graduate degree (MS or PhD) in Structural Engineering at night. Currently Section 1480.130 of the Rules does not allow acceptance of concurrent experience (work experience and a post-graduate degree) for the experience.

Mr. Lazell asked the Boards' thought on this topic and whether it was still a relevant rule to maintain – given that over the past 15+ years there has been a continual increase of online and distance programs available to applicants that they can complete at night & weekends and still be able to work full-time at an engineering firm.

The Board considered the information and reasoning behind it and agreed that concurrent experience is relevant and should be acceptable. Mr. Lazell said that the Department will research what will be required to make this change in the Rules.

**Motion to go into Closed Session:**

**VI. Closed Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Bishop/Di Bernardo) and passed to go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2c (4) & (15) of the Open Meetings Act at 12:30 pm.

Roll Call.

The Board Members present constituted a quorum of the Board.

**A. Review of Closed Minutes**

The Board reviewed the closed minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting.

**B. Application Review**

The Board reviewed and made recommendations for 17 applications for enrollment as an SEI or licensure by examination, endorsement and restoration.

**Motion to go into Open Session:**

Motion was made, seconded (Bishop/Varghese) and passed to go into Open Session at 1:55 pm.

**Recommendations:**

Motion was made, seconded (Di Bernardo/Greifzu) and passed to accept the recommendations made in Closed Session.

**VII. Signatures**

**A. Action Sheets**

The Board signed action sheets: 19-0734 through 0751

**B. Travel Vouchers**

**VIII. Adjournment**

Motion was made, seconded (Varghese/Bishop) and passed to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm.