

News

State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers



Term: Summer | Issue 2

Indiana Professional Licensing Agency

www.in.gov/pla

The New Rule For Education Requirements for Engineering Licensure in Indiana

By John Sauer, P.E. Former Board Member 2005-2018

Certain sections of Title 864 State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers were officially amended and added effective December 31, 2017. While amending the educational bar for a “non- approved engineering curriculum,” the new rule also allows a broader range of education courses to qualify toward the academic portion of licensure.

These new Rules in 864 IAC (Indiana Administrative Code) are available to view at <http://www.in.gov/legislative/iac/To864o/A00011.PDF>

The sections amended were 864 IAC 1.1-1-1, 864 IAC 1.1-4.1-2, 864 IAC 1.1-4.1-3.5, 864 IAC 1.1-4.1-8, 864 IAC 1.1-5-1, 864 IAC 1.1-5-4, 864 IAC 1.1-7-3, 864 IAC 1.1-8-1, 864 IAC 1.1-9-1, 864 IAC 1.1-11-24, 864 IAC 1.1-11-25, and 864 IAC 1.1-12-1, and section 864 IAC 1.1-2.1 was added.

The sections clarify what an accredited degree is, define education and work experience and update and clarify education definitions and requirements, add and comply IAC references, update examination schedule, clarify examination attempts timeline, update the application of seal and signature requirement, clarify renewal requirements, update “roster” to “name and address change,” clarify notification of change of address requirement, update disclosure of a conviction of a crime requirement, update discipline language, and reduce the fee for registration as a professional engineer by comity.

The added section_864 IAC 1.1-2.1 Engineers, education and work experience, which replaced 864 IAC 1.1-2-2, addresses

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the new educational requirements to become a professional engineer that must be met when the applicant does not have an [“approved engineering curriculum”](#). An “approved engineering curriculum” means an EAC ABET accredited baccalaureate degree in an engineering program.

In general, the new rule increases technical requirements to ensure a deeper and broader education that is more parallel to the EAC ABET accredited baccalaureate degree in an engineering program. The rule also defines broader course alternatives in the areas of basic sciences (life sciences and physical sciences), engineering sciences, and engineering design.

A new form for “Supplemental Information for Professional Engineer and Engineer Intern Application” has been developed and can be found at <https://forms.in.gov/Download.aspx?id=5896> to assist the applicant in meeting this new requirement.

The Indiana Code (Statutes) that apply to engineering licensure in Indiana is available at: https://iga.in.gov/static-documents/5/9/d/e/59de1ab5/TITLE25_AR31_ar31.pdf.



Board News

Ethan Manning, Board Chairman

As summer arrives, your State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers remains active! Here’s a summary of the events from our May 23rd, 2018 board meeting and a look ahead.

Your Professional Engineer’s license is due to be renewed by July 31st, 2018. I’m sure many of you have already completed this task, but if you haven’t, please do so before the end of July in order to avoid any late penalties! You may renew as Active, Inactive, or Retired. If you are renewing as Active, please make sure your required **Continuing Education** is current and complete! The license renewal fee is \$100 and you can find all the information you need at www.in.gov/pla. You may also renew online by visiting mylicense.in.gov.

“One item new to the renewal form this cycle is a section that asks two questions: Are you a U.S. Citizen or are you a Qualified Alien under 8 U.S.C. 1641. These questions are to comply with a new state law, so please be mindful of those as you complete your renewal form.”

John Sauer, P.E. announced his resignation from the SBRPE at the May board meeting. John has been a valuable member of the Board since his appointment in 2005, with 13 years of service including several as Board Chairman and 10 years as the Board’s liaison to the Attorney General’s Office. John’s

[2018 Meeting Dates]

2/21/2018 — W064

3/21/2018 — W064

5/23/2018 — CC1

7/18/2018 — W064

9/19/2018 — W064

11/13/2018 — W064

wisdom was often heeded during discussions of disciplinary actions and the practice of engineering in the private sector; his leadership will be missed by all of us. The SBRPE thanks John for his years of service and wishes him well in his retirement! Stephen Gillman, P.E., was appointed as the Board's new Liaison to the Attorney General's Office.

With John's resignation, that means the Board currently has 2 vacant seats out of 7. There is also the possibility the Board will have 3 vacant seats by November 2018. **If you or someone you know might be willing to serve on the Board, contact Mike Minglin, mminglin@pla.in.gov, for information the application process.** Board meetings are typically held 6 times per year, with opportunities to travel to NCEES zone and annual meetings, plus be involved with NCEES Committees and more. The makeup of the Board is defined in statute, with current open positions both needing to be filled by private practice Professional Engineers.

Board Member Opal Kuhl, P.E. represented the SBRPE in Rapid City, South Dakota for the joint Central and Western Zone NCEES Zone Meeting. She reported that there was great discussion and information presented and that NCEES and the Central Zone is in a good position leading up to the Annual Meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona. Harold Snead, 2018 Board Vice-Chairman, Opal Kuhl, and Vincent P. Drnevich were selected as delegates from the SBRPE to represent Indiana the NCEES Annual Meeting in August.



NCEES reaches settlement with test prep of company over allegations of copyright infringement

Jerry Carter, NCEES Chief Executive Officer

National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and a test preparation company for certain NCEES exams have reached an \$800,000 settlement agreement regarding allegations of the unauthorized use of copyrighted practice questions belonging to NCEES. The agreement was finalized March 15, 2018.

In addition to the settlement payment, the test preparation company has agreed to permanently remove the NCEES-owned material from its print and online materials on an agreed-upon schedule. Per the terms of the agreement, the test preparation company does not admit any guilt regarding copyright infringement or liability to NCEES, and NCEES will not disclose the company's identity.

“While this settlement includes a monetary payment, NCEES’ focus, as always, was on protecting its intellectual property.”

NCEES produces licensing exams for the professions of engineering and surveying, including the Fundamentals of Engineering exam and the Principles and Practice of Engineering exam. The nonprofit organization also publishes study materials, including practice exams, to familiarize candidates with the format and content of the exams. NCEES alleged that the test preparation company used NCEES' copyrighted practice questions in its exam preparation materials without NCEES' authorization.

“While this settlement includes a monetary payment, NCEES’ focus, as always, was on protecting its intellectual property,” said NCEES Chief Executive Officer Jerry Carter. “NCEES and its volunteers have literally thousands of hours invested in the development of high-quality examination items that assist licensing boards in performing their

Tips for Renewing

The following link can be used to assist you in using the on-line service to renew your license:

[How to Renew Your License](#)

important work. We will take whatever steps are required to protect our intellectual property. We are glad to have arrived at a resolution that upholds our rights.”

Don't Put the Public at Risk While Removing Barriers to Entry

Protecting the PE License Protects the Public: *Gary Staats, P.E. President; Leslie Carroll II, P.E. Chair —Legislative Affairs Committee; Samuel J. Reed, P.E., Vice President & Legislative Liaison | Indiana Society of Professional Engineers*

The purpose of government is to enable the people of a nation to live in safety and happiness. Government exists for the interests of the governed, not for the governors.” ~ Thomas Jefferson

The decades' long debate over the role of government in regulating occupations and professions has risen further into the forefront. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, occupational licensing directly affects nearly 30% of U.S. workers.

Barbers, cosmetologists, florists, interior designers, naturopaths, manicurists ... and the list goes on. Are these regulations in the interest of the governed?

While the work of professional engineers—like that of doctors, registered architects, and attorneys—clearly affects the public health, safety, and welfare, it is common for state legislatures to categorize highly educated and trained PEs

with barbers and yoga instructors in the debate over eliminating occupational licenses, missing Jefferson's point regarding living in safety.

Powerful organizations, such as the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) and the Institute for Justice (IJ), as well as others, have been introducing model legislation to undermine and eliminate licensure in the states for several years. Their arguments for such legislation include barriers to entering occupations, impeding the mobility of workers among states, and decreasing the rate of job growth.

These Model Law proponents argue that licensure allows “private-sector entities to gain a competitive advantage through government intervention,” (ALEC Model-Policy, Resolution on Occupational Licensing). Design profession advocates do not argue against many of their points. However, not every occupational license is created equal. Safety IS a key role of government.

In fact, the Model Law drafters do not target key learned professions, such as engineering. ALEC specifically exempts regulations “needed to protect immediate health, safety, or welfare of the public,” in their Model-Policy, Resolution on Occupational Licensing.

“PEs need to be vigilant and proactive, and educate policymakers about the necessity of engineering licensure.”

However, as experienced first-hand by professional engineers here in Indiana in 2015, the devil at times gets lost in the details, and the distinction between occupations gets lost.

As you likely recall, model legislation enacted in 2014 created the Indiana Job Creation Commission. The JCC was charged with examining all professional licensing boards and proposing future actions for each board in a report to then-Governor Pence. In its draft report, the JCC proposed the elimination of the PE license in Indiana.

As the result of extensive advocacy efforts from the design professions, the Indiana Job Creation Commission rescinded its troubling recommendation. However, the proposal to eliminate the PE license for an entire state shows how easily this can happen in any state. PEs need to be vigilant and

proactive, and educate policymakers about the necessity of engineering licensure.

Indiana was just the start. Legislation and/or regulations have now been introduced in 31 states, and that number continues to grow in the 2018 session. Colorado, Ohio, Nevada, and more than a dozen other states have had bills and regulations introduced, including dangerous legislation here in the Indiana Legislature.

NSPE has been vigorously tracking and, in partnership with the state societies and other design professions, opposing any effort to undermine or potentially eliminate the PE license. ISPE is grateful to all members who stepped up answering our call to action in contacting members of the General Assembly this session, and to ACEC Indiana and AIA for their diligent work with the bill sponsors and testimony in committee.

Key Takeaway: There are an unprecedented number of threats that can directly or indirectly impact the future of engineering licensure.

What can YOU do?

Educate yourself on the issues. Monitor the Advocacy sections of the NSPE and ISPE websites. (See Advocacy Tools sections)

Educate your legislators about the importance of engineering licensure and other key issues impacting the practice of engineering. Take time to get to know them in their district offices.

Respond to our Calls for Action, typically in the 1st quarter of the year, when we need your immediate help on legislative and regulatory issues.

Recruit members. Help educate your colleagues on the threat to your livelihood. Invite them to join NSPE/ISPE. What would you do if your PE license was no longer relevant? Your membership dues help keep our advocacy efforts alive. Our membership numbers carry weight.

And always remember: Qualifications, safe practice, ethical conduct, and public protection are all essential parts of the licensing of professional engineers, which has more than a century of successes under its belt. Though lawmakers and regulators come and go, and political winds can quickly change, the licensing of PEs is critical. No other measure can ensure the qualifications of the men and women responsible for designing the innumerable systems that can affect the public health and safety.

For more from the SPE Newsletter Click Here:

indspe.org

Contact Us

With questions regarding your professional license, please reach out to our staff.

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