



**Board of Licensure for
Professional Engineers
and Surveyors**



660 North Street, Suite 400 Jackson, MS 39202

Telephone (601)359-6160

www.pepls.state.ms.us

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Spring, 2018

NEWSLETTER

Thirtieth Edition

NCEES exams transition to computer-based testing (CBT)

Conversion schedule

NCEES has successfully converted, or is in the process of converting, the following exams to a computer-based format. They are no longer offered in pencil-and-paper format.

Year	Exam	Availability
2014	FE exam (all disciplines)	Year-round
2014	FS exam	Year-round
2017	PS exam	Year-round
2018	PE Chemical	Year-round
2018	PE Nuclear	Single-day (see date)

All other NCEES exams are currently in the conversion process and scheduled to launch in computer-based format between now and 2024. They are currently offered in pencil-and-paper format and available once or twice per year depending on the exam. See the current [pencil-and-paper exam schedule](#).

The following conversion schedule is tentative. Official notification and details related to each exam will be provided 12 months in advance.

Year	Exam	Availability
2019	PE Environmental	Year-round
2019	PE Petroleum	Single-day (date TBD)
2020	PE Mechanical: HVAC and Refrigeration	Year-round
2020	PE Mechanical: Machine Design and Materials	Year-round
2020	PE Mechanical: Thermal and Fluids Systems	Year-round
2020	PE Fire Protection	Single-day (date TBD)
2020	PE Industrial and Systems	Single-day (date TBD)
2021	PE Electrical and Computer: Computer Engineering	Single-day (date TBD)
2021	PE Electrical and Computer: Electronics, Controls, and Communications	Single-day (date TBD)
2021	PE Electrical and Computer: Power	Year-round
2021	PE Agricultural and Biological	Single-day (date TBD)
2021	PE Mining and Mineral Processing	Single-day (date TBD)
2022	PE Architectural	Single-day (date TBD)
2022	PE Metallurgical and Materials	Single-day (date TBD)
2022	PE Control Systems	Single-day (date TBD)
2022	PE Naval Architecture and Marine	Single-day (date TBD)
2022	PE Software	Single-day (date TBD)
2023	PE Civil: Construction	Year-round
2023	PE Civil: Geotechnical	Year-round
2023	PE Civil: Structural	Year-round
2023	PE Civil: Transportation	Year-round
2023	PE Civil: Water Resources and Environmental	Year-round
2024	Structural exam (SE)	TBD

Year-round vs. single-day exams

Some CBT exams are administered year-round. NCEES constructs these exams using a linear-on-the-fly (LOFT) algorithm. This means that all examinees for a particular exam are required to answer the same number of questions in the same topics; however, no examinees will have the same set of questions. The algorithm will assemble a unique exam within the same specification framework (i.e., the same number of questions per topic area) and the same relative level of difficulty.

Other CBT exams that have a smaller examinee population use a different high-stakes testing model and are administered on a single day each year. All examinees taking these exams receive the same questions.

The question formats used on both types of exams are the same, independent of the statistical model employed.

Alternative item types

CBT exams include traditional multiple-choice questions as well as alternative item types (AITs). AITs provide opportunities to assess the technical knowledge of examinees using methods not available through paper-based testing. AITs include but are not limited to the following:

- Multiple correct—allow examinees to select multiple answers
- Point and click—require examinees to click on part of a graphic to answer
- Drag and drop—require examinees to click on and drag items to match, sort, rank, or label
- Fill in the blank—provide a space for examinees to enter a response to the question

AITs are incorporated into the [practice exams](#) for CBT exams. You can also review the general format of AITs in the [Pearson VUE computer-based testing demo](#).

Congratulations to all the Examinees who passed the 2017 exams!

MS 2 hr PS Exam

David Baggett
Loyd Carpenter
Johnathan Dasler
Jeffrey Evans
Todd Farrar
Michael High
Trevor McMann
David Merrill
Daniel Rogers
Charles Taylor
Prosper Touns
Edward Turner
Dallas Westerlund
Tyler Wilson

**Principles/Practice
of Engineering**

Erik Archibald
Robert Autry
Timothy Barnes
Thomas Bates
Durlon Bryant
Oscar Burt
Heather Clark
Amanda Clark
Lauren Coe
Graham Coffelt
Cassidy Coon
Benjamin Cox
Robert Dale
Judson England
Cole Farris
Bradley Foust
Dana Foxworth
Alba Green
Brandon Griffin
Donald Hendon
Ross Henley
Lyndsey Henley
Christopher Herron
Erik Jones
Joshua Lack
Benjamin Lightsey
Wendy Long
David Luter
Bruce Mainka
William McAuthur
Joshua McCool
Adam McDaniel
Sarah McEwen
Matthew McKenzie
Vincent McKenzie
Kelly Miam
James Mitchell
Nicholas Moody
Austin Moody
Joseph Moore
Phillip Ozier
Wesley Perry
Thomas Phelan
Kristopher Pierce
Hunter Porter
Christopher Rabalais
Joshua Ross
Daniel Russum
Philip Scrimshire
Jonathan Stanley
Michael Terrell
Duncan Welch
Timothy Wicker
Ryan Williams
Alina Young
Daniel Zabaldano
Gretchen Zmitrovich

Fundamentals of Engineering

Gregory Abadie
Charlton Alford
Thomas Allard
Andrew Anderson
William Aust
Anna Baglan
Jared Bailey
Stephen Baldwin
Emily Ballheimer
Dalton Blakeney
Benjamin Boatright
Sarah Boles
Wesley Box
Cody Boykin
Bryn Brazile
Timothy Brister
Amanda Bryan
Mary Bryant
Jonathan Buckley
William Bullington
Rachel Carlton
Matthew Carpenter
Daron Chandler II
Dexter Childs
Perry Clark
Varun Coona
Tyler Covin
Kagen Crawford
Christopher Cullum
Zachary Curry
James DeWitt
Garrett DeYoung
Daniel Ducote
Lemuel Dunn
Richard Dye
Kyle East
Harley Eftink
Micah Everett
Casey Ferguson
Tyler Fields
William Foreman
Amber Frederick
Chadwick Frierson
Danielle Frobish
Richard Gatlin
Martin Gilliland
Jeremiah Glasz
Judson Gordy
John Gratwick
Jeremy Greene
Dustan Gregory
Adam Grimes
Kyle Grubb
Joshua Gunn
Amanda Gurley
Jake Haley
Lee Hall
Jousha Handcock
Emma Harris
Reid Haygood
Devin Herrinton
Sara Hoang
John Horner
Thomas Hughes
Christopher Johnson
Skylar Jones
Michael Joyner
James Kemp
Claire Kendall
Daniel King
Jonathan King
Daniel Krizak
Philip Labarre
Brandon Ladner
Jing Liao
Nathan Lin
Logan Long
Danny Luke
Ben Malone
John Markham
Matthew Marsh
Taylor Maurey
Rachel McKenzie
Patrick McNamara
Caleb Meyer
Derek Migues
Frances Miramon
James Mitchell
Quinton Munn
Eric Myers
William Newman
Thomas Paduch
Kyle Palmer
John Patterson
Wyatt Peterson
Nicholas Petras
Carl Pittman
Joshua Posey
Thomas Quinn
Zachary Rabalais
Maninder Randhawa
Augustus Raymond
Dylan Reed
Bradley Robinson
Samuel Rust
Benton Schenck
Collin Selman
Aaron Shepard
Aleksander Sina
Elizabeth Stafford
William Stafford
Jeffrey Steinwinde
Richard Stone
Brian Sullivan
Taylor Sultan
Caleb Tillotson
James Waddle
Jack Walker
William Walker
Mike Walseben
Joseph Ward
George Weatherall
Adam Weed
DeFoe West
Colby Willis
Danielle Winans
Wesley Windham
Logan Yann
Omar Yassin
Brandon Young

Principles/Practice of Surveying

Jimmy Catt
Daniel Rogers

Fundamentals of Surveying

Ryan Craft
Forrest Dungan
John Fluharty
Kevin Martin

NCEES discontinuing PE Software Engineering exam

Posted on March 13, 2018 at 10:15 am.

NCEES will discontinue the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) Software Engineering exam after the April 2019 exam administration. Since the original offering in 2013, the exam has been administered five times, with a total population of 81 candidates. Only 19 candidates registered for the April 2018 administration. Per NCEES exam development policy, the Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures (EPP) is required to review the history of any exam with fewer than 50 total first-time examinees from NCEES jurisdictions in two consecutive administrations and provide recommendations to the NCEES board of directors concerning the desirability of continuing the exam.

At the January 2018 meeting, the EPP Committee reviewed the history of the PE Software Engineering exam, the low candidate population, and the potential for increasing the number of first-time examinees. After consideration of all information, the EPP Committee recommended that NCEES discontinue the PE Software Engineering exam.

At its February 2018 meeting, the NCEES board of directors accepted the EPP Committee's recommendation to discontinue offering the PE Software Engineering exam. Since this exam is offered only once per year, the board directed that NCEES discontinue the PE Software Engineering exam after the April 2019 exam administration.

NCEES provided official notification to all member boards of the discontinuation of the PE Software Engineering exam in accordance with policy.

For more information on FE or PE exams, visit ncees.org/engineering.

Worth repeating – A Reminder about Contingencies...

Rule 17.5-6 states, "A licensee, acting individually or through a firm, association, partnership or corporation shall neither request, propose, or accept an agreement, contract, or commission for professional services on a "contingency basis" under which his professional judgment may be compromised or when a contingency provision is used as an inducement to promote or secure an agreement, contract or commission, either for future commissions or projects or for performing additional services on the project involve.

Board Changes –New Appointments

Mr. William Mitchell, PE/PS was appointed by the Governor on 08/28/2017 to the Post 2 position. This Post was previously seated by Mr. Rick Turner PE/PS who served on the Board from 07/05/2005 to 08/27/2017

Speaking of Board Members, we wanted to share the following news article.

THE DISPATCH

Columbus, Starkville & The Golden Triangle

MSU project brings clean water to 7,000 Zambians



Dennis Truax, head of Mississippi State University's Bagley College of Engineering civil and environment engineering department, speaks to Starkville Rotary Club members Monday. Photo by: Luisa Porter/Dispatch Staff

[Slim Smith](#)

September 26, 2017 10:57:02 AM

For the past five years, Dennis Truax has been taking students to a small province in the southern African county of Zambia each summer to drill and assemble water wells.

The project was adopted by the Mississippi State University chapter of Engineers Without Borders (EWB). Truax, who is the head of the MSU Bagley College of Engineering civil and environmental engineering department, serves as the faculty adviser for the MSU EWB chapter.

On Monday, he spoke to the Starkville Rotary Club, which helped fund the project that cost about \$100,000 and resulted in the creation of nine wells.

Truax and his students made their last trip to the province of Simwatachela, Zambia, this summer to do a final assessment of the program.

"Since (Rotary) helped sponsor this project, I wanted to come and share what we learned from our assessment," Truax said. "We achieved a level of success far beyond what we imagined when we started. It was a life-changing experience in a lot of ways."

The four-to-six students who worked on the project each summer probably didn't learn much about engineering -- the wells they installed were the kind of simple hand-operated pump wells that have been around for generations -- but learned plenty about the impact engineering can have on people's lives.

"It completely changed everything I wanted to do," said Laura Wilson of Diamondhead, a former EWB chapter president who worked on four of the five trips to Zambia and is now pursuing her Ph.D. in civil and environmental education at MSU. "Before college I knew I wanted to get involved in some sort of project like this, but I had no idea it would completely change my career aspect like it has. I want to work in some sort of international development. I would love to be able to specialize in water supply in developing countries. So this changed my perspective on my career, but also my perspective on life."

Truax said the wells are making profound impacts on the lives of the roughly 7,000 people.

"You don't think about all the ways having access to clean water affects people's lives," Truax said. "As a result of these wells, people are healthier, have a more stable food supply and are even better educated."

Truax said prior to the wells, the main sources for water were shallow, hand-dug reservoirs which captured rainwater needed to sustain residents during the eight-month long dry season.

"They were muddy, quite silty and contaminated," Truax said.

The other option was to walk long distances to existing wells outside the area.

"What we heard is that it wasn't at all uncommon for children, particularly girls, when they reached the age of about 4 to carry water," Truax said. "For the next 10 years or so, that's all they do, seven days a week, eight-to-10-to-12 hours a day. They had no life, no opportunities, no prospects. That is all they did until they reached the age of 14 and were viable as wives and moved away."

Now, Truax said, the girls are attending school.

"Once water comes close by, where it takes only about 15-20 minutes to get water, that young lady all the sudden ends up in school, becomes educated, becomes an entrepreneur," Truax said. "Everywhere we put a well, we heard the same thing: 'Our general health is better. We're not having diarrhea and intestinal problems. Our food is better. Our kids are in school now.'"

Wilson said the experience has made her appreciate the remarkable spirit of the Zambian people.

"We take for granted that we can just turn on a faucet for water," she said. "What was most amazing to me was to see how much they do with so little and, more than that, how grateful and happy they are."

Slim Smith is a columnist and feature writer for The Dispatch. His email address is ssmith@cdispatch.com.

Disciplinary/Legal Actions

The Board office receives and processes complaints regarding engineering and surveying activities. Some investigations result in disciplinary actions while others result in administrative actions such as letters of education or closing unsubstantiated/insufficient complaints. Below is a recap of disciplinary actions that occurred from May 1, 2017 thru December 31, 2017.

Terry Eugene Smith, PS#2632, agreed to a consent order for Standards of Practice of Surveying violation. A fine was levied, required to successfully complete the Mississippi Standards of Practice course and submit revised plats to Investigative Committee for review and approval.

Robert Lynn Taylor, PS#3041, agreed to a consent order for Standards of Practice of Surveying violation. A fine was levied, required to submit revised plat to the Investigative Committee for review and approval.

Jason Randal Creasy Needham, PE# 16670 – Felony Conviction. License was revoked.

David Nicholas Sansatta, PE#28020, agreed to a consent order for false certification of the online renewal process. A fine was levied.

Matthew Theordore Mokanyk, PE#20063, agreed to a consent order for false certification of the online renewal process. A fine was levied.

GeoSyntec Consulting, Inc, COA#1441, agreed to consent order for false certification of the online renewal process. A fine was levied.