

MISSISSIPPI

Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Surveyors



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Fall, 2008

NEWSLETTER

Twenty-second Edition

Board proposes 2009 Legislation to revise Licensure Law

The Board plans to introduce a bill in the upcoming legislative session to revise the licensure law. The primary focus of this bill is to revise the Professional Surveyor and Surveyor Intern requirements to *encourage and promote* college education. The Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors (MAPS) supports this effort; it reflects the growing need for advanced knowledge and skills in the surveying profession.

If passed, this legislation will bring Mississippi's PS licensure laws into alignment with the surrounding states, requiring a minimum of 4 years of qualifying surveying experience for those applicants with the highest level of surveying education. Applicants may still qualify with no college coursework, but they will be required to have 12 years of experience.

Other proposed revisions are discussed on the next page. A copy of the proposed bill is available in pdf format on our web page.

Your support is needed to insure that the licensure law remains strong and viable for years to come. Your emailed comments are welcomed to:

information@pepls.state.ms.us

Proposed Requirements for PS/SI Licensure/Enrollment (2009 Legislation)

Section 73-13-77. Qualifications of applicant as professional surveyor or surveyor intern.

From and after July 1, 2016, this section shall read:

- (1) The following shall be considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that the Applicant is qualified for licensure as a **professional surveyor**:

(a) (1) A Bachelor's degree in geomatics, surveying or surveying technology approved by the board consisting of a minimum of 120 semester hours, or the equivalent, in surveying curriculum subjects and a specific record of four (4) years of qualifying surveying experience; or

(2) A Bachelor's degree in a related science curriculum defined by board rule, consisting of 62 semester hours in surveying curriculum subjects as defined by board rule, and a specific record of five (5) years of qualifying surveying experience; or

(3) A Bachelor's degree in a related science curriculum defined by board rule, and a specific record of six (6) years of qualifying surveying experience; or

(4) An associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board consisting of 62 semester hours in surveying curriculum subjects as defined by board rule, and a specific record of seven (7) years or more of qualifying surveying experience; or

(5) A high school diploma, or its equivalent, and a specific record of twelve (12) or more of qualifying surveying experience; and

- (b) successfully passing examinations in surveying prescribed by the board.

From and after July 1, 2012, this section shall read:

- (2) The following shall be considered as minimum evidence satisfactory to the board that the applicant is qualified for enrollment as a **surveyor intern**:

(a) (1) A Bachelor's degree in geomatics, surveying or surveying technology approved by the board consisting of a minimum of 120 semester hours, or the equivalent, in surveying curriculum subjects; or

(2) A Bachelor's degree in a related science curriculum defined by board rule consisting of 62 semester hours in surveying curriculum subjects as defined by board rule; or

(3) A Bachelor's degree in a related science curriculum defined by board rule; or

(4) An associate degree, or its equivalent, in a curriculum approved by the board consisting of 62 semester hours in surveying curriculum subjects as defined by board rule; or

(5) A high school diploma, or its equivalent, and a specific record of eight (8) or more of qualifying surveying experience; and

- (b) successfully passing examinations in surveying fundamentals prescribed by the board.

Examinees who passed the April 2008 exams

MS 2 hr PS Exam

Joshua E Bettis
 Daniel B Busby
 Kellen C Corbin
 Michael A Daniels
 James M Denney
 Jeremy T Duke
 Michael K Frye
 Corry D Harms, Jr.
 Daniel R Hooker
 Nathan J Junius
 Michael C LaMure
 Derrol D Luker
 Brett W Mathis
 Jimmy A Moore
 Paul Moore
 Timothy B Thurmond
 Travis Wampler
 Michael J Zoltek

**Principles/Practice
of Surveying**

Kellen C Corbin
 Corry D Harms, Jr.
 Daniel R Hooker
 Thomas Mirzadeh
 Charles Sheffield
 Arthur J Underwood

**Principles/Practice
of Engineering**

Vladimir J Alarcon
 Jeffrey B Allen
 Peter R Benson
 Woodman W Berry
 Timothy A Bryant
 Bradley R Crain
 Samrat Datta
 Kevin R Day
 Jonathan D Dixon
 Charles C Ellison
 Matthew S Gong
 Bradley W Griffin
 Andy P Hardy
 Gary R Hickman
 Robert C Hinton
 Charles N Ingram
 Sarah R Jersey
 Cape Jones
 Bruce A Laird
 Eric F Lang
 Christy L LeBatard
 Berry L McCormick
 Jerod D McCully
 Ronni R McDaniel
 Sean D Murphy
 Franklin J Overstreet
 Jason T Overstreet
 William P Purvis
 Corey D Ravenhorst
 John T Rea

Fundamentals of Engineering

Richmond L Alexander	Bradley W Harbur	Troy K Pike
Brandon T Anderson	David B Hardin	Heather W Poschel
Robert G Allen	Wesley C Hardin	Matthew W Priddy
Brandon T Anderson	Thomas D Harmon	Brandi T Pulliam
Mary E Anderson	Zhiguo He	Charles D Quick
Scott A Baker	Lee S Hendrick	Jeremy L Raws
James E Banfield	John D Herman	Jeremiah A Read
Michael K Barron	Daniel A Hoing	Richard G Rhett, Jr.
Charles B Blount, III	George P Hopkins	Robert W Rives, Jr.
Phillip J Bryant	Jennifer L Inghram	Deana L Rogers
Charles A Burchfield	Jeremy K Jarmon	Mark A Russell
James P Burke	Kimberly Jeffares	Brandon M Saint
Christin L Burns	William R Johnson	Christopher M Sam
Douglas P Burrow	Walter S Jordan	Brent C Sauer
Andrew J Campbell	Brittany M Kilgore	Stuart E Saulters
Cary D Carpenter	Jason P King	Justin M Shaw
Jaideep Chatterjee	Jared R King	Russell A Skates
Stuart H Coleman	Joshua S Langston	George D Smith
William E Cox, Jr.	Kyle R LaPorte	Jeffrey D Smith
Charles C Cunningham	Samuel W Leggett	Miranda L Smith
Grady L Cutrer, III	Jessica L Mallette	Lauren E Spann
Michael H Davis	Michael McDaniel	Manish Sthapit
Trey E Davis	Sarah G Mixon	Meredith K Storm
William A Dendinger	John A Monteith	Jason M Strunk
Christopher R Donovan	Dev J Motiram	James M Styers
Raymond F Duncan	John R Nevels	William K Sumerford
James E Fortenberry	Cody A Nilsson	Hamza Syed
John A Franklin	Glenn L Odom	James M Taylor
Gregory Gomez, IV	Andrew Oppenheim	Hunter H Travis
Shane A Hall	Cody M Pace	Roberto Velasquez
Joshua H Hamilton	Randall Patterson	Brett A Vescovo

**Examinees who passed the
April 2008 exams (*continued*)**

Fundamentals of Engineering

**Thomas L Wall
Robert J A Warren
William B Wright**

Fundamentals of Surveying

**Jason B Cooper
Keith A Eaton
Stuart A Gaddy
Charles H Kaiser, III
Jason T Kinard
Franklin E Murphy
William H Stephens
Allen K Stroud
Michael L Windham**

Renewing your license ONLINE....

The Board's first online licensure renewal was a resounding success! We'd hoped for 25% participation, but over 50% of all licensees used the online renewal process! We hope to increase that percentage this next year.

Online renewal is available for renewal of *individual* licenses *only* – NOT for renewal of Certificates of Authority. The state of Mississippi hasn't yet worked out that capability, but we do expect it to be available next year, as well as acceptance of additional credit cards.

The process will automatically assess the late payment penalty required by Mississippi law for renewals occurring after December 31. You will be able to use this online renewal process to renew your license(s) until June 30, 2009. After that date, Mississippi law requires a relicensure application; renewal is no longer an option. Upon completion of the online renewal process, the licensee will be furnished a detailed receipt, which should be printed and retained by the licensee.

Licensees are still required to certify compliance with the Continuing Professional

Competency requirement (CPC) for 2008, or that they are exempt (new licensees or 60/20 licensees). Licensees requesting a medical or military CPC exemption cannot renew online, because supporting documentation is required; these renewals must be submitted by mail.

The online renewal process does not require completion of the PDH Activity Log, but mailed/manual renewals do require a completed log. *We encourage eligible licensees to take advantage of this new online licensure renewal process.*

Is there a "grace period" after my license expires and can I keep practicing?

Yes and No. There is a grace period until July 1st to renew a license by paying the renewal fee and late penalties.

The grace period does NOT apply to practice. The license expires on December 31; practicing on an expired license is a violation of state law.

The Board ceased mailing out wallet cards in 2003, yet every year the office receives many, many phone calls from administrative assistants asking for their boss's wallet card. Proof of renewal and current licensure is available in two ways: the online renewal process automatically generates a receipt and/or you may print out your individual licensure listing from our web site's Online Roster of Licensees.

Need us to send your Verification of Licensure to other states? Please submit a **pre-addressed, stamped envelope**. If you aren't currently licensed in MS, there is also a **\$50** fee for the research; **there is no fee if your MS license is current.**

Continuing Professional Competency Audits and Penalties

The steps to remember while obtaining your Professional Development Hours are;

- attend a course,
- get proof of attendance of the course,
- and file that verification in a neatly arranged file.

Simple.

If you are selected for an audit, you

- pull out your continuing education file,
- make copies of your verifications, and
- mail them to the Board office with your summary log.

Even simpler.

New Penalties for CPC violations:

\$200 for Rule 23 violation

30% PDH penalty

\$200 for false certification, if renewed online

Status of BS+30

At the recent NCEES annual meeting a resolution was passed for the NCEES president to charge a committee or task force with the development of a written analysis of the opposition to the BS+30 concept, any alternative solutions, and the potential educational, professional, regulatory, and economic impact. The analysis is expected to be completed by mid 2009 for the NCEES Zone meetings.

One of the main reasons the Mississippi Board supports the BS+30 concept is due to the reduction of hours required for an engineering degree by so many universities in other states.

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 recent disciplinary actions.

A letter of education was sent to an Alabama-based engineering firm, who has a Mississippi engineering Certificate of Authority, for issuing an engineering report on work done in Mississippi bearing an Alabama PE seal. The firm acknowledged the oversight that the report should have been signed and sealed by the Mississippi-licensed PE in responsible charge.

PE/PS Tim Burge was issued a consent order for practicing on an expired license; a fine of \$500 was levied; his licenses have been re-instated.

Upon voluntarily bringing the matter to the Board, Leland Hennington agreed by consent order to practicing without the required Certificate of Authority. The case has been resolved and the Certificate of Authority has been issued.

David Brian Stelly agreed to a consent order assessing a PDH penalty and a monetary assessment for not complying with the Continuing Professional Competency requirement for 2008.