



Georgia Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors Board

Important Update – Land Surveyor Licensure Process

On May 2, 2024, Governor Brian Kemp signed Senate Bill 195 into law. This new law, affecting Section 7 of OCGA 43-15-13, significantly changes how the State Board will review and approve land surveying applications for licensure. Here are few important facts about the new law:

- Eighteen semester hours of acceptable land surveying coursework are still required by law for licensure as a land surveyor. Per previous board policy, prerequisite hours required for the required surveying coursework do not apply towards the total of 18 hours of land surveying subjects.
- Three distinct experience tracks for licensure are now created with passage of the new law, based on the level of education of the applicant. Each track requires different amounts of experience as follows:
 - High School Diploma 8 years of acceptable land surveying experience
 - Associate's Degree 5 years of acceptable land surveying experience
 - Bachelor's Degree 3 years of acceptable land surveying experience
- Effective immediately, applicants are now allowed to take the NCEES FS, NCEES PS, and the GA State Specific exams (in this order) at any time during their licensure journey. Surveying coursework should be completed or nearly complete before attempting to pass the exams.
- Applicants that take and pass the FS (Fundamentals of Surveying) exam may apply to the board to obtain a LSIT certificate if desired.

After all requirements above and as set forth in board rules and policies are met, the applicant may apply to the board for licensure as a professional land surveyor. The new law as passed, along with board rules and policies in effect at the date of the application will be used as the criteria for the application. The board will review the application package and issue licensure as a professional land surveyor if all requirements are deemed by the board to have been met.

Board rules are currently in the process of being changed to comply with the new law and add a few additional requirements. Newly revised board rules are anticipated to go into effect before the end of 2024. Until the revised board rules are adopted by the board, the board will review applicants under the same guidelines and existing board rules as previously used, with a few exceptions:

- Applicants that are waiting to complete a board required amount of experience are now free to take all three licensure exams at any time.
- Applicants will be required to complete their board required amount of experience, even after passage of all three exams. Applicants nearing completion of their required experience are encouraged to submit their application for licensure package upon completion and passage of all three exams. Their experience will be reconsidered under the new experience guidelines as set forth under the newly passed law.