

## **2019 Policy on programs offering Land Surveying courses relevant to SI and PLS applicants in Georgia**

*Adopted by Georgia Board of Registration December 11, 2018*

*SB425 has generated new interest in professional careers in Land Surveying in Georgia. This has brought a new focus on the educational opportunities and offerings available to aspiring surveyors in Georgia. The Board is charged with determining what education is deemed acceptable and in doing so has adopted the following criteria:*

**A. Prerequisites:** surveying courses must require an adequate foundation in mathematics. A college level pre-calculus or trigonometry course is a minimum prerequisite to begin learning surveying technology at the college/professional level.

**B. Structure:** courses must follow acceptable progression of material and be compatible with the Georgia 2018 Land Surveying Education Evaluation Policy and SB425.

**C. Laboratories:** applicable courses must provide for adequate laboratory exercises to augment lecture theory with practical application. For distance learning, laboratories can be proctored through an approved mentor PLS program or similar scenario.

**D. Accreditation:** programs must have appropriate accreditation and reasonable transfer portability with other similar programs. Additionally, for out of state programs, acceptance by the home state's licensing board is mandatory.

### Review of Surveying programs in Georgia

**1. Kennesaw State University** (Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering & Engineering Technology), formerly Southern Polytechnic State University. **\* all required 18 semester hours can be obtained at KSU.** Offerings include BS in Surveying and Mapping and a Surveying Certificate. (No response to request for program numbers)

**2. University of North Georgia** (Gainesville Campus, Lewis Rogers Institute for Environmental and Spatial Analysis). **\* all required 18 semester hours can be obtained at UNG** (as of summer 2019). Offerings include BS in Environmental Spatial Analysis, AS in Geospatial Engineering Technology, and a Land Surveying Certificate. Fall 2018 numbers: 8 courses were offered which would apply to the 18 semester hour requirement, including Surveying 1 (9 students), Legal Aspects of Surveying (13 students), and other courses in spatial analysis, GIS, and remote sensing.

**3. Georgia Southern University** (College of Engineering and Computing). **\*18 semester hours of acceptable surveying courses are available through undergraduate and graduate level courses.** Offerings include Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with a Surveying-Geomatics Specialization and a Master of Science in Civil Engineering with a Surveying-Geomatics Specialization. Fall 2018 numbers: 5 courses were offered which would apply to the 18 semester hour requirement, including Surveying 1 (43 students), Construction Surveying (47 students), Terrestrial Lidar (6 students), Laser Scanning (2 students), and Government Flood Mapping (2 students). Additional courses are planned for 2019.

**4. Other universities:** University of Georgia offers various courses through the GIS, Forestry, Agricultural Engineering, and Civil Engineering programs which are applicable, but not 18 semester hours. Similarly, Georgia Tech offers various courses through the Civil Engineering and GIS department but not 18 semester hours.

### **5. Technical College System of Georgia.**

a. **Athens Technical College:** Approximately 30 students enrolled in Associate of Applied Science in Civil and Environmental Engineering Technology program. 2 applicable surveying courses are offered, as well as hydrology courses. Fall 2018 numbers: 4 enrolled in Applied Surveying, 7 enrolled in Watershed Hydrology.

b. **Albany Technical College** offers a Surveying Specialization option within the Civil Engineering Technology Associate Degree. Several applicable Surveying courses are offered.

Review of surveying programs outside of Georgia \*\*

**A. On campus programs which the Board has reviewed and found acceptable.**

1. East Tennessee State University
2. Troy University (Alabama)
3. University of Florida

**B. Remote learning programs which the board has reviewed and found acceptable**

1. Great Basin College (Nevada)
2. Oklahoma State University
3. North Carolina A&T
4. University of Florida
5. University of Maine

\*\* Other programs exist that have not been reviewed, this list reflects those that have been reviewed. And, other programs exist that have been reviewed and have been found to not be acceptable. The Board intends to accept course work from programs that were completed or enrolled no later than Spring 2019 for programs that meet most but not all of the review criteria.

The listing of programs is not intended to be inclusive nor final. The Board will continue to monitor these programs as well as evaluate other programs as they are presented to the Board.

**CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO PURSUE PROGRAMS THAT ARE ON THIS LIST, OR TO ENCOURAGE SCHOOLS THAT ARE NOT ON THIS LIST TO SEEK APPROVAL. SCHOOLS AND/OR PROGRAMS THAT ARE NOT LISTED AS APPROVED SHOULD BE ENROLLED AT THE INDIVIDUAL'S OWN RISK. THE BOARD IS UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO ACCEPT COURSE WORK WHICH DOES NOT MEET THESE REQUIREMENTS.**