

Department of Commerce, Community
and Economic Development

Division of Corporations, Business
and Professional Licensing

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and
Land Surveyors
Annual Report
Fiscal Year 2022**



Department of Commerce, Community and Economic Development
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing
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**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

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**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Identification of the Board

Board Member	Duty Station	Date Appointed	Term Expires
Catherine Fritz, Chair Architect	Juneau	Mar 1, 2016	Mar 1, 2024
Jeff Garness, Vice Chair Engineer Other Than Those Listed	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2020	Mar 1, 2024
Ed Leonetti, Secretary Landscape Architect	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2021	Mar 1, 2025
F. Robert (Bob) Bell Land Surveyor	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2020	Mar 1, 2024
Brent Cole Public Member	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2022	Mar 1, 2026
Elizabeth Johnston Electrical Engineer	Fairbanks	Mar 1, 2017	Mar 1, 2025
Loren Leman Civil Engineer	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2020	Mar 1, 2024
Jake Maxwell Land Surveyor	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2021	Mar 1, 2025
Randall Rozier Architect	Fairbanks	Mar 1, 2021	Mar 1, 2025
Sterling Strait Civil Engineer	Anchorage	Mar 1, 2022	Mar 1, 2026
Fred Wallis Mining Engineer	Healy	Mar 1, 2016	Mar 1, 2024

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Identification of the Staff

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**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Narrative Statement

In FY22, the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS) held four, two-day meetings. The board reviewed public comments on proposed changes to regulations, reviewed and processed applications for registration, participated in affiliated national organization topics and meetings, and deliberated and responded to requests for clarification. All meetings and application deadlines were public noticed as required. Meeting agendas, minutes, and public versions of board packets were made available on the AELS website.

FY22 Highlights

- The board's adopted strategic plan's action items were updated for the year.
- The comprehensive review and update of AELS Statutes and Regulations continued. The regulation updates are underway; Public hearing is expected in FY 2023.
- Board continued discussions regarding HB61, and testified at the House Finance committee. See Appendix C
- Board performed an audit of continuing education requirements, reviewing 258 registrants randomly selected for the audit.
- A new Executive Director and Licensing Examiner were hired.

Board Membership

The board is comprised of 11 members, including two civil engineers, two land surveyors, one mining engineer, one electrical or mechanical engineer, one engineer from another branch of the profession of engineering, two architects, one landscape architect, and one public member. Currently, the majority of engineers serving on the board maintain professional registrations in multiple disciplines and represent 5 of the 15 branches of engineering regulated by the board.

Investigations

Complaints were received that resulted in 49 cases being opened in FY2022, of which 9 are still open.

Registrations

228 applicants were approved for licensure in FY22. The following tables provide a breakdowns of registrations by field of practice and branch of engineering for both FY21 and FY22.

In addition to individual registrations, 48 firms, including 24 Corporations, 23 Limited Liability Companies and 1 Limited Liability Partnership were issued Certificates of Authorization in FY22.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Narrative Statement (continued)

FY 2022 New Individual Registrations

License Type	In State	Out of State	Total
Architect	5	19	24
Chemical Engineer	2	2	4
Civil Engineer	41	66	107
Control Systems Engineer	1		1
Electrical Engineer	1	21	22
Environmental Engineer	2	1	3
Fire Protection Engineer	2	4	6
Land Surveyor	8	2	10
Landscape Architect	1	3	4
Mechanical Engineer	13	14	27
Naval Architect and Marine Engineer		3	3
Petroleum Engineer	2		2
Structural Engineer		15	15
Total Licensed	78	150	228

FY 2022 All Licensees

License Type	In State	Out of State	Total
Agriculture Engineer		1	1
Architect	232	341	573
Chemical Engineer	50	58	108
Civil Engineer	1388	1492	2880
Control Systems Engineer	22	26	48
Electrical Engineer	265	424	689
Environmental Engineer	107	29	136
Fire Protection Engineer	23	34	57
Industrial Engineer		1	1
Land Surveyor	276	107	383
Landscape Architect	31	22	53
Mechanical Engineer	329	444	773
Metallurgical and Materials Engineer	3	2	5
Mining and Mineral Processing Engineer	23	15	38
Naval Architect and Marine Engineer	2	16	18
Petroleum Engineer	50	49	99
Structural Engineer	129	252	381
Total Licensed	2930	3313	6243

Legislation & Regulation Updates

Proposed comprehensive AELS regulation updates were delayed in 2021 due to COVID-19 and significant turnover in board membership and AELS staff. The updates are now underway and expected to proceed with public notice in FY2022. These relevant bills and resolutions were reviewed by the board.

- HB148, Modifications to Land Surveying Coordinates, has no direct impact on the board, but content adjustments to the Alaska land surveying examination may be necessary. The bill passed on May 17, 2022, and is waiting to be signed into law by the governor.
- HB61, Licensing of Commercial Interior Designers proposes to expand the board to 13 members and add a new registration discipline. Board members are concerned about impacts; continued to monitor the bill and worked with the sponsor and other bill advocates to suggest improvements. The board provided written concerns to the House Finance Committee in January, 2022, and the board chair answered questions at a House Finance Committee hearing in April, 2022. (Written concerns are included in the the Annual Report Appendix C)
- SB21, Military Licensure was signed into law in August of 2021. The board passed regulations to implement applicable sections of the law in FY 2022.
- Proposed Changes to 18-AAC-72 (Wastewater Disposal Regulations: Written comments were provided by the board chair during the public comment process.)

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Narrative Statement (continued)

National Memberships

As a multi-discipline board, AELS is a member of three national nonprofit organizations, each of which is dedicated to protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare through establishing and promoting uniform laws, licensing standards, and professional ethics for the four professions regulated by the board. These organizations also prepare, administer, and score national examinations that the board has adopted as the accepted standard to assess a candidate's ability to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare with respect to architecture, engineering, and landscape architecture.

The AELS board is a member of the following national organizations:

- Council for Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)
- National Council for Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB)
- National Council for Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)

Membership of each council is comprised of licensing boards across the United States, including U.S. territories. As a member of these organizations, the AELS board actively participates in discussions that result in changes to examination requirements, national licensure standards, as well as model laws and rules for architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects. Membership in these organizations gives the State access to nationally accepted, psychometrically assessed, professional examinations, thereby saving the State hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of dollars in expenses that would be required to create an independent set of exams.

To encourage member participation, NCEES pays meeting registration, travel, and lodging expenses for three delegates from each member board and each member board administrator (MBA) to attend both the regional and annual meetings. NCEES also covers travel expenses for each member board chair and MBA to attend the Board President's Assembly, held biennially. Similarly, NCARB pays meeting registration, travel, and lodging expenses for two delegates from each board, one public member, and the member board executive (MBE). Travel expenses for one board member to attend the CLARB Annual Meeting is included in the membership fee and the board has allotted funds for one other board member or the MBA's travel expenses to be covered by the State of Alaska. All three organizations encourage active participation in committee work and pay for committee members to travel for meetings when necessary.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Narrative Statement (continued)

During FY 2022, many of the COVID-19 restrictions were lifted allowing meetings to be held in person, while also offering some aspects of the meeting to occur virtually. Various members of the board and the Executive Administrator attended the following meetings to discuss legislation, deregulation trends, evolving technology and its effect on regulatory boards, national standards for education and experience, examination content, law enforcement, and identify potential areas for streamlining application processes to increase licensure mobility among jurisdictions:

- NCEES Annual Meeting, August 2021 – Virtual only format
- CLARB Annual Meeting, September 2021 - Hybrid
- NCARB Regional Summit, March 2022 - Hybrid
- NCEES Western/Southern Zone Interim Meeting, May 2022
- NCARB Annual Meeting, June 2022 - Hybrid

Through their role on the AELS Board, the following members and staff also serve on committees for these national councils and other institutions:

- Board Member Loren Lemman continues to serve on the University of Alaska Anchorage, College of Engineering's Advisory Board Denali Commission Transportation Advisory Committee, and LeTourneau University Board of Trustees.
- AELS Chair Elizabeth Johnston and Board Member Fred Wallis continue to serve on the University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Engineering's Advisory Council.
- Board Member Jake Maxwell serves on the Alaska Professional Design Council.
- Board Member Catherine Fritz was elected Secretary to the Western Council of Architectural Registration Boards (WCARB) Executive Committee in FY22 and has been re-elected to that position for FY23. She was also reappointed to NCARB's Examination Committee in FY22 and FY23.
- Board member Elizabeth Johnston serves on and chairs the NCEES Examination and Procedures Committee.
- Board member Sterling Strait serves on the Alaska Seismic Hazards Safety Commission, the Municipality of Anchorage Building Board, the NCEES Civil PE Exam Committee, and as an officer for the Structural Engineering Association of Alaska.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Narrative Statement (continued)

Outreach

Outreach efforts were somewhat limited due to COVID-19 restrictions and the limitations of professional associations related to this board; however, several outreach efforts were successful as Outreach continues to be a priority for the board and it expects to make a concerted effort to increase outreach in FY23. Outreach Reports are prepared by board members after each presentation or engagement and are included in the Annual Report in Appendix B. It is the board's objective to schedule outreach activities in conjunction with board meetings to engage with students, current registrants, and the public while minimizing travel expenses. Having the full board at a society luncheon and/or presentation to students sends a powerful message. Similarly, a lack of in-person engagement with these groups has the potential to send a message that the board is not interested in hearing from or sharing information with students, applicants, or registrants about licensure requirements and process, or requirements for maintaining a license.

Resources

Finding meeting rooms in Anchorage continues to be difficult as the Atwood building has only four rooms that accommodate the AELS board and they are frequently booked well in advance by others. Current and past board members have generously provided no cost meeting spaces in their offices, but renting a room in the future may be necessary.

Application Review

It was decided during FY22, to transition to reviewing applications before the scheduled quarterly board meeting. Board members review applications in pairs so as to have support from a colleague but not violate the Open Meetings Act. Pairing has also allowed new board members to have a mentor in this essential work. Reviewing applications before the meeting is expected to free up 2-3 hours during the quarterly meetings, allowing the board to focus on other important tasks, and/or reduce the overall duration of meetings.

In-State Travel for Board Meetings

Four quarterly meetings were held in the hybrid format in FY2022. Two meetings were in Anchorage, one in Fairbanks and one in Juneau for those board members who chose to attend in person. The hybrid format has been helpful to those board members who were unable to travel, or remained concerned about health issues. Meetings will continued to be offered in a hybrid format as virtual only meetings have proved to limit robust and complex conversations for this 11 member board that oversees 18 design disciplines. Because of this the board requests all-four quarterly meetings in FY2023 be held in-person with the hybrid format. Each meeting is considered to be of equal importance and is therefore listed in chronological order.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023

Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board's fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as "other" so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
August 16-17, 2022	Fairbanks	11	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 2,800.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$ 3,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$ 1,350.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 7,650.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
November 9-10, 2022	Anchorage	11	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 1,450.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$ 1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$ 850.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 4,300.00

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
February 7-8, 2023	Juneau	11	2
<input type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 4,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$ 3,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$ 1,550.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 9,550.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Budget Recommendations section anticipates the board's fiscal priorities for the upcoming year. Please complete all parts of this section with details about anticipated meetings, conferences, memberships, supplies, equipment, to other board requests. Meeting expenses that are being funded through third-party reimbursement or direct booking must be identified separately from expenses paid through license fees (receipt-supported services or RSS). Be sure to explain any items listed as "other" so they may be tracked appropriately.

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
May 2023	Anchorage	11	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 1,450.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$ 1,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$ 850.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 4,300.00

Travel Required to Perform Examinations			
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable			
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
April 21, 2023	Fairbanks	1	
Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:			
Every effort is made to utilize board members and staff to proctor the Alaska Land Surveying (AKLS) Exam; however, in the event a proctor is needed in Fairbanks, the board requests one-day travel be included in FY23 for a board member or staff to proctor the exam. a board member or staff to proctor the exam.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$ 350.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$ 50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Per Diem for travel day			\$ 45.00
Total Estimated Cost:			\$ 445.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel (Rank in order of importance)

#1 Rank in Importance or Not Applicable

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
August 23-26, 2022	Carlsbad, CA	3	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

The purpose of the NCEES Annual Meeting is to discuss and take action on resolutions that result in updates to model laws, national education standards, and/or content of professional engineering and surveying examinations, all of which may directly affect AELS engineer and land surveyor applicants. Similarly, the Survey Exam Module Task Force is looking at revising the professional surveying exam and developing modules, which may result in extensive changes to the state-specific Alaska Land Surveyor exam. Participation in this meeting allows the AELS board to play an active role in decisions regarding national minimum standards and requirements for engineer and land surveyor licensure for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

This meeting also includes professional development workshops and training sessions for board administrators and members. Topics for administrators include mobility agreements, ethics, law enforcement, auditing continuing education, and NCEES' E3 system. AELS staff use NCEES' E3 system on a daily basis to complete and access license verifications, approve exam requests, enter and review disciplinary actions, and disseminate state-specific requirements to potential applicants.

FUNDING: NCEES offers two types of funding. All airfare, hotel, and conference fees for both types are third-party direct booked

Funded Delegates: NCEES funds up to three delegates from each member board, to be determined by the board. Historically, two engineers and one land surveyor attend as the funded delegates

Member Board Administrators: NCEES membership offers separate funding for board administrators to attend the Zone meeting for continuity and the different perspective staff offers on issues.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$2,988.00	\$2,988.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$1,700.00		\$1,700.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCEES reimburses travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 7,788.00	\$ 9,488.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
June 2023	Tampa, FL	3	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

The purpose of the NCARB Annual Meeting is to discuss and take action on resolutions related to national licensure standards for architects including potential updates to model law; NCARB bylaws; requirements for education, experience, and examination; and alternative pathways to licensure. Participation in this meeting allows the AELS board to play an active role in decisions regarding national minimum standards and requirements for architectural licensure for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

Additionally, the annual meeting includes workshops to examine ways regulatory boards can proactively address deregulatory environments, identify trends in technology that may impact regulation, how to educate policy makers, and training sessions on how to better utilize NCARB tools and resources.

NCARB offers funding for up to four delegates from each member board as follows:

- Two funded delegates
- There is no restriction on the discipline/ profession, attendees determined by board
- One public/consumer member and one member board executive
- Airfare, hotel and conference are 3rd party direct booked.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$3,200.00	\$3,200.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$2,988.00	\$2,988.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$1,300.00		\$1,300.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCARB reimburses travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 7,988.00	\$ 9,288.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#3 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
September 21-23, 2022	Omaha, NE	1	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

The purpose of the CLARB Annual Meeting is to discuss and take action on resolutions related to national licensure standards for landscape architects, amendments to bylaws, and analyzing current licensure processes to identify potential areas for streamlining and/or increasing mobility. Participation in this meeting allows the AELS board to play an active role in decisions regarding national minimum standards and requirements for landscape architect licensure for the protection of public health, safety, and welfare.

Funding: CLARB funds up to \$2,750 for board member delegate(s) to attend the annual business meeting.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$800.00		\$800.00	\$1,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$750.00		\$750.00	\$1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$500.00		\$500.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$250.00	\$325.00		\$575.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): Travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 2,300.00	\$ 325.00	\$ 2,050.00	\$ 4,675.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#4 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
May 2023	Houston, TX	3	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

The purpose of the NCEES Western Zone meeting is to discuss and put forth resolutions related to NCEES' Model Laws and Rules, examination policies and procedures, and/or education requirements for licensure, that will be voted on during the annual meeting. Zone meetings are structured so there are specific break-out sessions for engineers, surveyors, member board administrators, and law enforcement, to allow each group to discuss topics of interest. Being able to send three funded delegates and the board administrator allows representatives from the AELS board to actively participate in all of the break-out sessions and have a voice in the discussions. Additionally, the AELS board is extremely interested in hearing from the Survey Exam Task Force and discussing progress on the professional survey exam module, which may have a significant effect on the content of Alaska Land Surveying Exam. The Zone meeting is also a time to focus on legislative issues and trends at the regional level, such as Consumer Choice Act, Right to Earn a Living Act, and Military Spouse Portability. This meeting allows attendees to proactively address concerns and share experiences to assist other jurisdictions.

FUNDING: NCEES offers two types of funding for the Zone Meeting. All airfare, hotel, and conference fees for both types are third-party direct booked

Funded Delegates: NCEES funds up to three delegates from each member board, to be determined by the board. Historically, two engineers and one land surveyor attend as the funded delegates

Member Board Administrators: NCEES membership offers separate funding for board administrators to attend the Zone meeting for continuity and the different perspective staff offers on issues.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$4,000.00	\$4,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$1,700.00		\$1,700.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCEES reimburses travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,700.00	\$ 9,400.00	\$ 11,100.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#5 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
March 2-4, 2023	Honolulu, HI	3	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

The NCARB Regional Summit allows members to focus on key issues related to architectural licensure at the regional level including deregulation trends, legislation, evolving technology and its effect on regulatory boards, national standards for education and experience, and examination content. Meetings are structured to include training sessions, regional breakout sessions, and plenary sessions. In conjunction with the Regional Summit, the Member Board Executive (MBE) Committee hosts a one-day workshop for all MBEs the day before the Summit. The workshop is specifically designed for MBEs and includes training sessions by NCARB staff on license verification tools, mutual recognition agreements, certification alternatives, disciplinary database, and other relevant topics.

NCARB offers funding for up to four delegates from each member board as follows:

- Two funded delegates
- There is no restriction on the discipline/ profession, attendees determined by board
- One public/consumer member and one member board executive
- Airfare, hotel and conference are 3rd party direct booked.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$3,600.00	\$3,600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$4,200.00	\$4,200.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$1,300.00		\$1,300.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCARB reimburses for travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,300.00	\$ 9,600.00	\$ 10,900.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#6 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	Washington D.C.	1	

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

NCARB's Examination Committee - Catherine Fritz.

The committee is made up of 14 members from across the U.S. The committee oversees the development, delivery, and assessment of the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) for use by the 55 U.S. licensing boards. This committee also includes three subcommittees: Case Study Subcommittee that develops case study scenarios and resources for the ARE, the Item Development Subcommittee that writes and edits new items for ARE, and the Forms Assembly Subcommittee that performs quality control for ARE 5.0 and reviews new items. The Committee meets in person three times per year and has teleconference meetings at least four additional times per year, or as needed to address the workload.

The purpose of this committee is to maintain the rigor and relevance of all aspects of the nationally administered ARE. The committee reviews examination content, assesses data and psychometrics, and develops new examination protocols for remote proctoring of the ARE. This work is essential to Alaska's board since it relies on the NCARB's development and administration of the ARE. Board Member Catherine Fritz was appointed to this committee in 2020 and has been reappointed for FY23. There are three meetings scheduled for this committee in FY23. The travel costs associated with this meeting are paid by NCARB.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$1,200.00		\$1,200.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCARB reimburses for travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 3,900.00	\$ 5,100.00

Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
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Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#7 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	Greenville, SC	1	

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

NCEES's Exam Policy and Procedures Committee - Elizabeth Johnston/Chair

The committee is responsible for reviewing the effectiveness of the examinations and recommending policies, specifications, and procedures consistent with the trends in the engineering and surveying professions. There are two meetings scheduled for this committee in FY23. The travel costs associated with this meeting are paid by NCEES.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$600.00		\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCEES reimburses for travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,100.00

Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report

Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#8 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	Greenville, SC	1	

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

NCEES PE CE Exam Committee - Sterling Strait

This committee oversees the development and scoring of the PE Civil exams. Committee members write and evaluate exam questions, review item performance and recommend changes to exam policies and procedures. The committee meets two times each year.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$600.00		\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCEES reimburses for travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 4,100.00

Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report

Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#9 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	Santa Fe, NM	1	

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

WCARB Executive Committee - Catherine Fritz/Secretary

The Executive Committee of the Western Region administers the affairs of the Western Region and puts into effect all general policies, directions and instructions adopted at any meeting of the Western Region where a quorum is present, and acts for the membership of the Western Region. Executive Committee members are reimbursed for their expenses relative to WCARB activities.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$900.00	\$900.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$700.00	\$700.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$300.00		\$300.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): WCARB reimburses for travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 300.00	\$ 1,600.00	\$ 1,900.00

Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report

Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Out-of-State Meetings and Additional In-State Travel

#10 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
October 14-15, 2022	Salt Lake City, UT	1	1

Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

Chair/MBE Summit - Participation in this Summit offers leaders of each Member Board the opportunity to give feedback on NCARB initiatives and be alerted to the latest issues concerning both licensure and regulation in the practice of architecture.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:				\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:				\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		\$600.00		\$600.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCARB reimburses for travel incidentals				
Net Total:	\$ 0.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 3,100.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Membership & Services	Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards	\$8,925.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

CLARB is a national nonprofit that works to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare by establishing and promoting professional licensure standards. CLARB prepares, administers, and scores the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). Membership dues provide: Access to the LARE, record transmittals for applicants, national disciplinary database, regional meetings, trainings, and one funded delegate to the annual business meeting.

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Membership & Services	National Council of Architectural Registration Boards/Western Council	\$5,000.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

NCARB is a national nonprofit organization comprised of architectural boards from 55 states and territories. NCARB prepares, administers, and scores the Architectural Registration Exams (ARE). Membership dues provide: Access to the ARE, review of licensing candidates' education, tracking the required experience, record transmittals for applicants, three funded delegates to both the annual business meeting and the regional meeting, and regional support from WCARB. Annual dues: \$1,000 NCARB / \$4,000 WCARB.

Non-Travel Budget Requests

- Not Applicable Resources Examinations
 Membership Training Other

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Membership & Services	National Council of Examiners for Engineering & Surveying	\$6,500.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

NCEES is a national nonprofit that maintains model laws and rules and sets licensing standards that are determined by its member board members which are made up from 55 states and territories. Membership dues provide: access to the FE, FS, PE, LS and SE exams, three funded delegates to both the annual business meeting and the zone meeting, record transmittals for applicants, outreach materials, CE tracking system, and publications.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Budget Recommendations for FY 2023 (continued)

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact

Not Applicable

Cost Per Event: \$10,000.00

Number of Events: 1

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Exam Development & Scoring	Test, Inc.	\$10,000.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

TEST, Inc. develops and scores the Alaska Land Surveyor Exam (AKLS). After the exam each year, the AKLS test blueprint is reviewed at the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) test development workshop. During the workshop, the SMEs update the test blueprint with any statute or regulation change that impact the practice of land surveying and compare the blueprint to the NCEES FS and PS test specifications to ensure the AKLS does not duplicate the content and scope of the FS or PS exams.

Other Items with a Fiscal Impact

Not Applicable

Cost Per Event: \$1,000.00

Number of Events: 1

Product or Service	Provider	Cost Per Event
Outreach	AELS Board	\$1,000.00

Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:

In April 2017, the board approved adding budget item outreach with an initial budget of \$1,000 per year to be spent facilitating communication about board activities, rules, laws, etc. Facilitating opportunities where the board can engage with students, applicants, registrants, and the public is a pro-active approach to ensuring understanding of requirements for licensure and compliance which is critical to the board's mission to protect health, safety and welfare as well as reduce the number of investigative matters. Outreach reports can be found in Appendix B.

Summary of FY 2023 Fiscal Requests

Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$25,800.00
Travel for Exams:	\$445.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$63,751.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$20,425.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	- \$61,451.00
Other:	\$11,000.00
Total Requested:	\$59,970.00

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Legislative Recommendations - Proposed Legislation for FY 2023

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed legislation at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

HB61, Licensing of Interior Designers. The board has concerns about this bill and worked with bill sponsor and its supporters to modify the bill to address concerns. See Appendix C.

The board will continue drafting proposed comprehensive statute updates (begun in 2019) with the goal of being ready for review and adoption through appropriate legislative means in FY 2023.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Regulation Recommendations - Proposed Regulations for FY 2023

No Recommendations

The Board has no recommendations for proposed regulations at this time.

Recommendations

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

Proposed Changes to 18-AAC-72. The Board recommends working with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation to clarify proposed regulation changes.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Goals and Objectives

Part I

FY 2022's goals and objectives and how they were met:

- The board adopted a Strategic Plan and set specific Action Items that are underway. See Appendix A.
- The board welcomed two new members in FY22 and currently has every seat filled including the public member seat. The Executive Administrator position was filled in August 2021 and the licensing examiner position was filled in November 2021. The seasoned board members have assisted the department staff (who have carried extra workloads) to ensure that the critical operations and objectives have been fulfilled.
- The board continued to focus on considering whether occupational licensing requirements are reasonable responses to actual potential harm rather than hypothetical harm; reviewed statutes and regulations to ensure any licensing requirements are necessary and tailored to fulfill legitimate public health, safety, or welfare objectives; and, reviewed the license application process with a goal of simplifying and streamlining for both applicants and the board, as well as substantially reducing the time required to review applications and issue licenses.
- Committee reports and presentations included topics on continuing education, regulation changes, proposed legislation, and board interactions with the licensed professions.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Goals and Objectives (continued)

**Part I (continued)
FY 2022's goals and objectives and how they were met:**

During each board meeting, tasks are assigned to staff, committees, and individual board members. To ensure tasks are accomplishing the goals as laid out in the Strategic Plan, each task is assigned to a goal. The Board completed 47 tasks in FY 2022 to achieve the goals in the Strategic Plan

Action #	SP	Assigned To	Meeting Date	Task	Status
08-2021-01	2.b.	Legislative Committee	Nov-21	Review HB61 board impacts.	Complete
08-2021-02	2.d.	Staff	Nov-21	Update renewal form for new military/dependent waiver of fees.	Complete
08-2021-04	2.a.	Bob, Fred, Loren, Ed	Nov-21	review name of board & board composition statute language, inactive status language	Complete
08-2021-05	2.a.	Randall, Jeff, Elizabeth	Nov-21	review joint ventures & limited partnership language	Complete
08-2021-06	2.a.	Catherine, Jennifer	Nov-21	review definitions statute language	Complete
08-2021-07	2.a.	Jake, Catherine, jeff	Nov-21	review exemptions statute language	Complete
08-2021-08	2.a.	Legislative Liaison Committee	Nov-21	HB15a legislative comm. Review	Complete
08-2021-09	2.a.	Guidance Manual	Nov-21	Calculation sealing	Complete
08-2021-10	2.a.	Guidance Manual	Nov-21	"Work of Minor Importance"	Complete
08-2021-11	2.a.	Garness	Nov-21	Regulation project 12 AAC 36.180 - License # on stamp	Complete
08-2021-12	2.c.	Continuing Education	Nov-21	Survey	Complete
11-2021-01	2.b.	Guidance Manual	Feb-22	update board by-laws, reference to Landscape Architect	Complete
11-2021-02	2.a.	Jeff Garness	Feb-22	36.180 regulation project for seals	Complete
11-2021-03	1.a.	Licensure Mobility Committee	Feb-22	CLARB uniform standards review	Complete
11-2021-05	2.d.	Jeff Garness	Feb-22	Correspondence: expiration of engineering records	Complete
11-2021-08	1.a.	Johnston	Feb-22	Branches of professional engineering with exams offered should be reviewed after NCEES review	Complete
11-2021-09	2.a.	Randall/Jake/Jennifer	Feb-22	Board Member make-up Statute working group	Complete
11-2021-11	2.d.	Johnston	Feb-22	Correspondence: metallurgical experience letter	Complete
11-2021-12	2.b.	Johnston	Feb-22	Add Cover letter to HB61 response	Complete
11-2021-13	2.d.	Staff	Feb-22	Limited Partnership, referred to legal	Complete
11-2021-14		Planning & Implementation	Feb-22	Meet to develop draft Planned Actions for 2022	Complete
02-2022-01		Staff	Feb-22	Draft Meeting minutes	Complete
02-2022-02	1.d.	Staff	Feb-22	Place travel request for May meeting (Anchorage)	Complete
02-2022-03	2.a.	Chair/Staff	May-22	Update committee assignment roster	Complete
02-2022-04	1.d.	Chair/Staff	May-22	Conduct new committee member orientation at May meeting	Complete
02-2022-06	1.c.	Fritz	May-22	NCARB Report Due (annual meeting 6/24-6/26)	Complete
02-2022-08	2.a.	Staff	May-22	Public Notice 2019 Regulation Project	Complete
02-2022-09	2.a.	Staff	May-22	Public Notice Military Spousal Registration Regulation Project	Complete
02-2022-10	1.b.	Chair	May-22	Send congratulatory letter to UA engineering and land surveying graduates.	Complete
02-2022-15	2.d.	Guidance Manual	May-22	Joint ventures require a COA change guidance manual	Complete
02-2022-18	1.c.	Fritz/Rozier	May-22	Attend NCARB annual meeting & create report	Complete
02-2022-20	1.b.	Licensure Mobility Committee	May-22	UAF offering of Arctic Engineering	Complete
02-2022-21	1.a.	Staff	May-22	Correspondence: Applicant requesting an extension to take PE Exam	Complete
02-2022-22	1.b.	Johnston	May-22	Correspondence: Respond to "Title of Engineer" letter	Complete
02-2022-23	1.b.	Johnston	May-22	Correspondence: Respond to "Engineer" in Business name	Complete
02-2022-26	2.a.	Guidance Manual	May-22	Clarify that if one or both sides of the Joint Venture have a current COA the joint venture does not need a COA	Complete
02-2022-28		Guidance Manual	May-22	Exemption 7 - refer to statute	Complete
02-2022-29	2.a.	Bell	May-22	Alternate Education/Equivalent Degree - Board Policies and 12 AAC 36.063 TABLE B	Complete
02-2022-30	2.d.	Staff/Fritz	May-22	Submit form for Emeritus Status for Jennifer Anderson	Complete
02-2022-32	1.b.	Loren	May-22	Letter on CE extension	Complete
02-2022-33	2.a.	Legislative Liaison Committee	May-22	Is there a way to interpret 08.48.011 to allow a mechanical and electrical to simultaneously serve on the board?	Complete
		Staff	May-22	Letter RE: Joint Venture	Complete
		Leonetti	May-22	Complete Regulation project LA direct examination approval	Complete
		Guidance Manual	May-22	update board by-laws, reference to Landscape Architect	Complete
		Guidance Manual	May-22	Definition of "design" in regulation	Complete
5/11/2022		Maxwell	Aug-22	Write letter to respond to Venechuk re: which classes are applicable for application	Complete
5/11/2022		Elizabeth	Aug-22	Refine Digital signature into guidance manual	Complete

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part II

FY 2023's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

During FY 2023, the board will continue to focus on strengthening relationships with professional organizations as well as identifying and developing relationships with other groups as needed. As members of Alaska chapters of these professional societies, board members intend to use those established relationships to arrange presentations and other opportunities for the board to engage with these groups.

In addition to working with professional societies and similar organizations, the board will continue to seek opportunities to participate in events oriented to the public, such as the Association of General Contractors - Alaska Chapter's Family Safety Day event, to raise general awareness and understanding of the importance of the AELS professions and the need for licensure. The board will continue to recognize UA engineering and land surveying graduates with a congratulatory letter.

The Board is looking into development of annual newsletter for registrants that can be distributed via email or available through a link on the AELS website. The newsletter will provide a forum for communicating key issues to registrants regarding board decisions, policy and actions related to the practice of their profession

Applications

The board will continue to consider a short application form for architectural applicants submitting an NCARB Certificate. In addition, the board proposed a regulation change in FY2022 that would delegate some of the authority to staff to approve applications that meet certain criteria, such as NCARB certificate holders, CLARB council record holder, and NCEES record holders. Online applications, which will allow applicants to apply for licensure and pay fees online using the myLicense feature in myAlaska, are in the process of being developed by division staff.

AELS Webpage

Updates to the website are needed, and the board's Outreach Committee will work on this as independently of staff as is allowed by State policy. Due to current staff shortages in the licensing division, staff will be setting aside tasks for additional website topic additions until staff levels can accommodate this work. The new website topics desired by the board include creating a disaster planning webpage that includes a link to the Structural Engineers of Alaska documents and information regarding Safety Assessment Program Training from the Applied Technology Council.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report**

Goals and Objectives (continued)

Part II (continued)

FY 2023's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.

Describe any strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats and required resources:

Continuing Education

The board is actively working to simplify and clarify Continuing Education requirements. The Board conducted a CE survey that was sent out to approximately 5,000 registrants to which more than 1,100 registrants responded. Based upon the feedback, the board is considering a path to provide greater certainty of course approval if a class is taken from national professional organizations; allowing for more managerial coursework to qualify; allowing for some self-learning CE hours; and considering automatic approval of specific training provided through local organizations/agencies such as ADEC, Association of General Contractors of Alaska, and the University of Alaska. The board wants to reduce the regulation verbiage, provide clarity, reduce registrant record keeping, and make it easier for registrants to comply with CE requirements, yet benefit more from continuing education. Changes in the CE requirements will require regulation changes. These are expected to be drafted in FY2023.

Sunset Review (2025)

The board will begin discussions about and start preparing for the upcoming sunset review.

Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors
FY 2022 Annual Report

Sunset Audit Recommendations

Date of Last Legislative Audit: 04/27/2016

Board Sunset Date: 06/30/2025

Audit Recommendation:

Extend the AELS Board's termination date to June 30, 2025 and consider making the temporary, non-voting Landscape Architect seat a permanent, voting member of the board.

Action Taken:

The 2017 Legislature approved HB48, which extended the termination date of the board to June 30, 2025 and made the Landscape Architect seat a permanent, voting member of the board.

Next Steps:

Completed: No Yes

If yes, date completed: 06/22/2017

AELS Board's Mission is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare through regulation of the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, and landscape architecture by...

APPENDIX A -

AELS 2022 Strategic Plan STRATEGIES

OBJECTIVES

1. Ensuring that those entering these professions in this state meet minimum standards of competency, and maintain such standards during their practice; and

2. Enforcing the licensure and competency requirements in a fair and uniform manner.

a. Support license mobility by following national standards

b. Prepare university students for licensure

- Encourage licensing preparedness through UAA and UAF Engineering programs.
- Encourage Alaskan architecture and landscape architecture students to become licensed in Alaska

c. Maintain an effective outreach program

- Clarify the path to licensure for each discipline
- Share outreach program with license holders, licensure candidates, legislators, allied professions.

d. Provide Administrative Support

- Collaborate with Department to stabilize staffing and address institutional knowledge loss.
- Collaborate with Department to address meeting locations and outreach program challenges.

a. Protect HSW through effective Regulations

- Analyze and update regulations to simplify and maintain standards of the 3 Es (Education, Experience, Examination).
- Enforce regulations with prompt and thorough investigations.

b. Collaborate with design professionals

- Listen to and address regulatory concerns.
- Interact with professional organizations on HSW matters.

c. Maintaining Competency through Continuing Education

- Update CE regulations to reflect model law.
- Simplify CE reporting forms and licensee CE record keeping.

d. Provide Administrative Support

- Empower staff to administer simple applications without Board review.
- Modify regulations to accept NCEES application files.
- Increase access to legal support.
- Support special projects to develop knowledge base of Board past actions

OBJECTIVE 1. Ensuring that those entering these professions in this state meet minimum standards of competency, and maintain such standards during their practice; and

STRATEGIES

2022 PLANNED ACTIONS (3.1.2022 – 2.28.2023)

a. Support license mobility by following national standards when updating statutes, regulations, and policies.

1. Review proposed changes for consistency with relevant NCARB, NCEES, and CLARB standards.
2. Complete regulation change regarding military licenses.

b. Prepare university students for licensure by

- encouraging licensing preparedness at UA (and other) engineering and land surveying/geomatics programs.
- encouraging Alaskan architecture students to become licensed in Alaska.
- encouraging Alaskan landscape architecture students to become licensed in Alaska.

1. Send congratulatory letter to UA engineering and land surveying graduates.
2. Participate in university activities at UAA and UAF.
3. Appoint liaisons to applicable UAA and UAF Boards.
4. Present at 1 (or more) UAA weekly PDH Seminar series.
5. Identify Alaskan architecture and landscape architecture graduates and send congratulatory letters.

c. Maintain an effective outreach program

- Assist students and candidates on their licensure path
- Share outreach program with license holders, licensure candidates, legislators, allied professions.
- Maintain Outreach Committee
- Encourage Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI)

1. Develop and schedule at least 1 outreach project per discipline, per year, then complete an outreach report on each event.
2. Increase opportunities to interact with candidates and registrants. (e.g., newsletter, social media)
3. Analyze current DEI in the AELS LA professions and develop a DEI plan

d. Provide Administrative Support

- Collaborate with Department to support staff in developing reports, addressing meeting locations and outreach program challenges, etc.
- Collaborate with Department to answer questions from candidates and registrants.

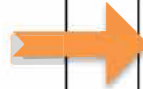
1. Utilize and organize Onboard Resource folders so they are easily accessible.
2. Identify events early to work out logistical challenges.
3. Promptly respond to administrative requests for assistance from candidates and registrants.
4. Assist in writing the Annual Report and Travel Plan.

OBJECTIVE 2. Enforcing the licensure and competency requirements in a fair and uniform manner.

STRATEGIES

a. Protect public HSW through effective statues and regulations

- Analyze/update regulations to simplify and maintain standards of the 3 Es.
- Enforce regulations with prompt and thorough investigations
- Maintain Investigatory Advisory Committee and Legislative Liaison Committee



2022 PLANNED ACTIONS (3.1.2022 – 2.28.2023)

1. Complete the regulation update project started in 2019.
2. Draft statue changes identified in 2019 in bill form and obtain a bill sponsor.
3. Review by-laws and work with investigator to share investigation information with registrants and improve investigator case efficiencies.
4. Develop a “lessons learned” summary with investigator and Board to increase consistency and share knowledge.

b. Collaborate with design professionals and allied professions

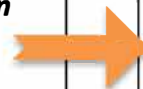
- Listen to and address regulatory concerns.
- Interact with professional organizations, especially on HSW matters.
- Maintain Guidance Manual Committee



1. Meet with architectural, engineering, surveying, and landscape architecture societies to listen to comments on legislature’s proposed interior design licensing bill.

c. Maintaining Competency through Continuing Education

- Update CE regulations to reflect model law.
- Simplify CE reporting and licensee CE record keeping.
- Maintain Continuing Education Committee



1. Study existing continuing education problems, and draft regulation changes to address.
2. Gather CE requirements and record keeping from other jurisdictions.
3. Gather CE requirements and record keeping from other Alaska boards.

d. Provide Administrative Support

- Collaborate with staff to increase efficiencies.
- Support special projects to develop knowledge base of Board past actions
- Maintain Planning and Implementation Committee and Emeritus Status Committee.
- Collaborate with staff to identify board training needs and opportunities.



1. Complete regulation changes that are necessary to empower staff to perform some level of application review/approval.
2. Complete statute changes to empower staff (See 2a2)
3. Complete regulation change to accept NCEES application files.
4. Review and update by-laws.
5. Review and update board member welcome packet.
6. Utilize Onboard resource folders to organize information
7. Develop overall board activity calendar.

APPENDIX B - AELS 2022 Outreach Reports

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event:

7/13/2021 2:00 PM

Person Reporting:

Bob Bell

of Attendees: Employees: / Board Members:

Type of Outreach:

DISCUSS AELS BOARD CONFIGURATION

Attendees:

MIA COSTELLO, Bob Bell, Melodie (Aide to MIA)

Description of Event:

MEETING IN MY OFFICE TO DISCUSS MAKEUP OF AELS BOARD.

AELS BOARD UPDATE (for AIA Leadership and Newsletter)
Prepared by Catherine Fritz, AIA
August 23, 2021

The Alaska AELS Licensing Board met for its regular quarterly meeting August 11-12, 2021 in Fairbanks. The seat designated for a member of the public remains vacant. If you know a member of the public who is interested in serving on the licensing board, please have them contact boards@alaska.gov, or go to the State of Alaska Boards & Commissions website to apply online. The Board's Licensing Examiner, Sara Neal can be contacted at Sara.Neal@alaska.gov to learn more about the role of the public member.

Reports were received from the national organizations that support the four disciplines that the Alaska AELS Board oversees. I provided a report on NCARB activities that included an overview of the Annual Business Meeting held in June. It was a hybrid meeting (I attended virtually). I have attached my meeting report to this update. I was re-appointed to the NCARB Exam Committee that recently began meeting virtually. The new option for remote proctoring of the exam is very exciting for Alaska and is expected to increase access to the exam.

Five architectural applications for registration by Comity were reviewed and approved, or conditionally approved pending completion of the required northern design course. No applications for architectural registration by examination were received.

The board unanimously approved a measure to waive the application fee for comity registration for individuals and their spouses who are actively serving in the military. This helps to ease the financial burden on these individuals and is a positive gesture toward encouraging military members to consider postings in Alaska.

Each member of the board participates in a least one working committee. I serve on the Legislative Liaison Committee (Loren Leman, PE is Chair); we are analyzing HB 61, licensing of Interior Designers, to identify specific impacts to the Board. We are also getting familiar with SB 21, Temporary Licenses that was passed into law. It provides for issuance of temporary licenses for some people under specific conditions. The Board will receive a full presentation on the impacts of the law at the November, 2021 meeting.

The Board has begun review of Continuing Education (CE) regulations, with a strong desire to simplify the CE reporting during audit, and to bring clarity to the types of CE activities that meet the regulation requirements. The CE Committee will be reaching out to the professions through surveys and discussions to get feedback about the CE program. Please review Article 5 of the current regulations (12 AAC 36.500) to get familiar with the CE requirements, and engage with the Board when you get the chance about this important topic.

The next AELS Board meeting will be November 15-16, 2021. The Board has requested that the meeting location be in Anchorage, but approval must come from the Governor's Office to confirm the location. Please visit the AELS website for additional information, or contact Randall or myself to stay connected.

Catherine Fritz, AIA

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: September 2, 2021 12:00PM-1:00PM

Person Reporting: Jake Maxwell

of Attendees: 12 **Employees:** / **Board Members:** 1

Type of Outreach: AELS update (typically performed by Chris Miller)

Attendees: Alaska Professional Design Council, Board of Directors

Description of Event: This meeting serves as a conglomerate of design professionals. The standing committees are Communications, AELS Board, Legislative, and Procurement of Professional Services.

Old Business includes Interior Design Alaska Credentials, Alaska Earthquake Problem Solving Teams, State Fire Marshal Reviews.

New Business includes Digital/Electronic Signatures and Discussion of ASLA “housekeeping updates.”

My updates for the AELS Board included Continuing Education being a congoing discussion and the upcoming NCEES Annual Meeting being rescheduled to online due to covid.

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: September 8, 2021 10AM-12PM
September 15, 2021 8AM-2PM

Person Reporting: Jake Maxwell

of Attendees: Employees: / Board Members: 2

Type of Outreach: Meeting representing AELS Board

Attendees: Member Boards of NCEES

Description of Event: NCEES Annual Meeting – State of the Council & Business Session

State of the Council – Discussion of motions being presented for the Council vote at the annual meeting.

Business Session – Reports from President, President-Elect, Treasurer, and CEO. Zone meetings were held. Motions for discussion and Council vote.

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: 10/14/21 12:00 pm

Person Reporting: Ed Leonetti

of Attendees: Employees: / Board Members:

Type of Outreach: Alaska Chapter ASLA Monthly Executive Board Meeting

Attendees: Melisa Bab, Taylor Keegan, Elise Huggins, Jonny Hayes, Mark Kimerer, Laura Minski.

Description of Event: Monthly Executive board to discuss chapter business and activities.

Ed Reported the following during the AELS portions of the agenda:

- a. CLARB Annual Meeting summary;
 - i. Uniform Standard Summary
 - ii. Diversity Equity and Inclusion Summary
- b. Update on the CE subcommittee and discussion regarding CE requirements
- c. Reported on Board Composition subcommittee meeting and that the next meeting scheduled for the week of the Oct. 18th
- d. Discussed regulation Revisions to 12 AAC 36.068.i
 - i. The chapter is in support of the modified language and will send a letter.
- e. Discussed Statute revisions and that there are no changes from when Luanne and the chapter updated the language.
- f. Reported that the next AELS meeting is Nov. 15th & 16th.

**Alaska AELS Board
Outreach Project Report**

Event: AIA Alaska Chapter conference

Date Held: November 18, 2021

Location: Virtual (via Zoom)

Description of Event: This event featured a presentation of the Health, Safety, & Welfare concerns of HB61, a proposed bill to regulate interior designers.

Catherine Fritz collaborated with AIA Legislative Affairs Chair, Paul Baril and AIA Lobbyist, Dianne Blumer in developing a powerpoint that was shared with the audience. AIA President, Ryan Morse presented portions that were originally planned for Paul Baril, since Paul was unable to attend. Approximately 60 people were in attendance via Zoom.

The powerpoint presentation has been provided to AELS Exec Admin, Sara Neal for distribution to full Board as information.

Volunteer Hours: Preparation for the event required approximately 3 hrs from AELS Board member, Catherine Fritz (2 hours preparation; 1 hour presentation). AELS Board member, Loren Leman also attended the presentation.

Cost: There was no cost to the AELS Board for this presentation.

Outreach (contact) reports

Scott Hamel, UAA

On January 12, 2022 Scott Hamel, P.E., PhD, professor and chair of the civil engineering department at UAA, contacted me by email with a request to speak to his senior Capstone class on April 1 on the topic “PE Licensure in Alaska.” He knows that I am on the AELS Board and also serve on the Community Advisory Board for the UAA College of Engineering.

I accepted Scott’s invitation and hope to get input from fellow Board members on appropriate material to cover. I believe others (perhaps Colin Maynard and Elizabeth Johnston?) have put a PowerPoint presentation together that might be a good start for this. I do not expect this will result in a cost to the State of Alaska. I will later submit an Outreach Report.

Barbara Cash, west Anchorage resident

On January 21, 2022 Barbara Cash called me about HB 61. Barbara is a longtime resident of west Anchorage, an area I represented in the Legislature for 14 years. Carolyn and I became friends with Barbara and her husband Larry during that time. She, of course, is a supporter of this legislation and a prime source of knowledge for its drafting. Barbara knew that I chair the legislative liaison committee and wanted to know what our intention is regarding this legislation. She said she had heard that the committee opposes HB 61.

I told Barbara that we hadn’t yet taken that formal position but several members of the committee and others on the AELS Board have expressed concerns about various provisions in the bill and Catherine Fritz had provided testimony to the Legislature on behalf of the Board at one hearing. I also said the Board considers this a public policy call that really belongs in the Legislature and with the Governor. I suggested that the AELS Board may further express our concerns and hope they can be accommodated if the legislation moves, and then we will implement the new requirements if and when the bill becomes law. Further, I told her that probably no one on the AELS Board is particularly excited about HB 61 right now—at least that’s my perception from conversation we have had about it. But I also reminded her that our Board deals with work and implementation of statutes and regulations and not necessarily excitement, so we would offer thoughtful comments, and not consider this solely as a “turf battle.”

I did not have the legislation in front of me when she called, so was operating from memory, but Barbara identified three exemptions that she thought should make the bill more palatable and allay concerns, especially from architects: 1) architects are exempt; 2) Interior Designers (IDs) not registered can work under a registered architect or ID; and 3) residential IDs can work on up to a 4-plex without being registered.

I asked Barbara if she and other supporters of this legislation would consider revising this into a title act, instead of a practice act—and then see how this is accepted in the Alaska community. From what I understand, except for two states and the District of Columbia, that’s what is happening elsewhere That seems more mainstream. But Barbara didn’t seem to want to go that route.

Respectfully submitted,

Loren Leman
Member, AELS Board

AELS BOARD UPDATE (for AIA Leadership and Newsletter)

The Alaska AELS Licensing Board met for its regular quarterly meeting on February 15-16, 2022 in Juneau. The agenda was very full and included review of 76 applications for licensing (all disciplines). There were 6 architects approved for registration through comity, and 3 architects approved for examination. The Board extended its sincere thanks for the service of civil engineer, Jennifer Anderson who has completed her term, and welcomed new member, Sterling Strait (civil and structural engineer). The public member seat has also been filled by Brent Cole, an Anchorage attorney. Both Sterling and Brent are still in the legislative confirmation process, but expected to officially join the Board soon.

The Board reviewed its Strategic Plan and adopted new actions for 2022. There was no public testimony received during the meeting, but the Board was visited by Senator Mia Costello who expressed her support for the design professions and the work of the licensing board. Legislative Liaison Committee Chair, Loren Leman, testified at the Senate Labor & Commerce Committee, and the board authorized member Jake Maxwell (Land Surveyor) to testify at the Senate State Affairs Committee in support of HB 148 (2022 update to Alaska coordinate system), however, the bill was passed out of committee without additional testimony.

Regarding HB61 (interior design practice act), in January, the AELS Chair wrote a letter to the House Finance Committee that included the concerns raised last year, but not heard by the House Labor & Commerce Committee. The board's Legislative Liaison Committee is continuing to monitor the bill.

Survey results regarding Continuing Education (CE) were discussed. In general, there is support to maintain CE requirements, but interest in streamlining and clarifying requirements. The required audit will begin soon, and those who are audited will see a new reporting form that is expected to more clearly reflect the CE requirements that are adopted in regulation. It's good to be familiar with these regulations – you can find them at 12 AAC 36.500. Note that the AIA learning units that are identified as HSW have been fully accepted for credit. Other courses may require additional documentation to meet the regulations - Take a look!

The Board voted on new officers for 2022, and I was elected Chair. The Vice Chair position is now held by Environmental Engineer, Jeff Garness, and the new Secretary is Landscape Architect, Ed Leonetti. The next meeting will be May 10-11, 2022 in Anchorage and will also be available through teleconference. You are encouraged to review the agenda that is posted on the AELS website approximately 1 week before the meeting, and you are welcome to attend (in person or virtual) and offer testimony on both scheduled items and open topics/concerns.

As architect Board members, Randall Rozier and myself are Alaska's representatives to the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB), whose role is to set the education, experience, and examination standards for our profession. We will be attending NCARB's annual meeting June 2-4, 2022.

Please reach out with questions and/or comments, and enjoy the growing daylight!

Catherine Fritz, AIA

NCARB MEETING REPORT
Prepared by Catherine Fritz
March 10, 2022

The NCARB Regional Summit was held (hybrid) on March 4-5, 2022 in Charlotte, NC; Catherine Fritz and Sara Neal attended in person to represent Alaska. There was also a pre-summit workshop for Member Board Executives on March 3rd that Sara Neal attended.

The Regional Summit brings together all NCARB regions (Alaska is part of Region 6) and focuses on topics relevant to each region, as well as council-wide topics. Region 6 is also referred to as the Western Council of Architectural Registration Boards (WCARB). It is made up of 13 jurisdictions (11 states plus the commonwealth of the Northern Marianas and the territory of Guam). See WCARB.com for more info.

During our Region 6 meeting time, we reviewed our Strategic Plan and made updates to our Action Item Groups, received reports from all jurisdictions, reviewed our budget (which is healthy), reviewed proposed Region 6 Bylaw changes, and held elections for Region 6 Executive Committee and its officers. We also considered national candidates for the upcoming June election, and discussed proposed national resolutions that will be voted on in June. I was re-elected to a second 2-year term on the WCARB Executive Committee, and was also re-elected as Secretary. I look forward to continuing to give Alaska an active voice at the table.

There were many interesting topics and speakers, including significant discussions about Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). NCARB is taking bold steps to deeply consider how both the organization and the profession of architecture respond to DEI. Significant study is underway to understand data from exam pass rates, completion of architectural education, and a variety of experience issues. Action based results are already apparent, and lots more are in the making. The goal is to increase participation by under-represented groups and embrace the inherent value that diverse people and types of practices offer the profession. It is an exciting time of change.

The NCARB annual conference will be held June 2-4, 2022 in Austin, TX and will offer both in-person and hybrid formats for participating.

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: April 1, 2022, 9 to 10 am

Person Reporting: Loren Leman

Attendees: 25 students, 1 professor **Board Members:** 1

Type of Outreach: Presentation on AELS Board function and PE registration

Board member: Loren Leman

Description of Event: I responded to a January 12, 2022 invitation from Scott Hamel, P.E., PhD, professor and chair of the civil engineering department at UAA, by speaking to his senior civil engineering Capstone class on the topic “PE Licensure in Alaska.” Dr. Hamel knows that I am on the AELS Board and also serve on the Community Advisory Board for the UAA College of Engineering.

To prepare I first got input from fellow Board members on appropriate material to cover, including starting with a PowerPoint presentation Colin Maynard and Elizabeth Johnston had put together for other outreaches. I did some editing to make the presentation more me—and to ensure I could land it, including a time allowance for Q&A, within the one-hour class period. I was able to do that. Sixteen students were present face-to-face in the classroom. Nine others participated by videoconference.

This was a local Anchorage event for me and did not create a cost to the State of Alaska. I expect that four years from now the Board will be reviewing applications from many of these students, so we should see a substantial return from this investment.

The PowerPoint presentation is in the OnBoard Resources folder.

Submitted by,

Loren Leman

AELS Board Outreach Report

Board Member: Loren Leman

Event: Dimond Engineering Academy advisory board meeting, judging of senior projects, and ceremony honoring graduates

Date: April 27, 2022 at 4:30 to 6:30 pm

Location: Dimond High School, Anchorage, 1st floor rooms

Description of Event: I have served on the Dimond High School and Anchorage areawide engineering academies advisory board for more than 13 years. One of the aims and successes of this program is showing students that engineering is fun and encouraging them to study engineering, with particular introduction to UAA and UAF.

This was an advisory board meeting with high school engineering academy staff, UAA dean of engineering, members of industry and academia. We received a briefing from staff on the Project Lead the Way (PLTW) program and results from robotics competitions this past school year. Discussed budget, Anchorage School District support, retirement of some staff, and outlook for the future. Judged very impressive presentations of research and hands-on construction of prototypes for senior projects. Discussed with students and parents benefits from the rigor of the engineering academy through four years of high school. Observed introduction of graduating seniors, nearly all of whom will go to college, and most plan to study engineering, architecture, mathematics, sciences, and eventually medicine and law. Learned about special academic honors.

Volunteer Hours: 2.5

Cost: This was a local Anchorage event that I attended at no cost to the State of Alaska. I expect that many of the graduates will become registered professionals in Alaska more than eight years from now.

AELS Board Outreach Report

Board Member: Loren Leman

Event: UAA College of Engineering graduation & Order of the Engineer ceremony

Date: April 29, 2022 at 4:00 to 5:30 pm

Location: Engineering & Industry Building at UAA, 2nd floor

Description of Event: Observed introduction of engineering, geomatics, project management, and computer science graduates (total of 136); greetings from chancellor, provost, dean, and department heads; notices of special academic honors, presentation honoring a faculty member who died this past year; observed students being led in Order of the Engineer pledge. Interacted with faculty, staff and students, had discussion and received feedback about my Capstone presentation to 25 civil engineering seniors on April 1.

Volunteer Hours: Two

Cost: This was a local Anchorage event that I attended at no cost to the State of Alaska. I expect that many of the graduates will become registered professionals

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: Friday, May 13th

Person Reporting: Sterling Strait

of Attendees: Employees: / Board Members:

Type of Outreach: Email Contact – Board of *Structural Engineers Association of Alaska (SEAAK)*

Attendees: See attached

Description of Event: I contacted the SEAAK Board by email on 5/13/22 to solicit feedback on proposed regulatory language defining 'Progressive Structural Experience'.

This topic was discussed on 5/11/22 during the May AELS Board meeting and I was requested to contact the structural engineering community for feedback.

This email is intended to start a conversation which I will continue with the SEAAK Board and SEAAK Members over the next few weeks. I will prepare a report for the next AELS meeting in May documenting the discussion and my recommendations.

Disclosure: I am currently serving on the SEAAK Board as secretary. My email contact makes clear that I am asking for information under my role as AELS Board Member. Moving forward I will be facilitating discussion, however I will refrain from providing any further input as a SEAAK Board Member.

Strait, Sterling H.

From: Strait, Sterling H.
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2022 11:22 AM
To: 'Greg Latreille'; Horazdovsky, Jake; Hrinko, William; 'Michael Quimby'; 'Mike Fierro'; 'msams@pndengineers.com'; 'Nicholas Choromanski'; 'Nikolai Petrov'; 'Warren Lukas'
Cc: 'Colin Maynard'
Subject: [SEAAK/AELS] SE License Exam Requirements

Good morning SEAAK Board,

I am writing you under my role as AELS Board Member to request input from the structural engineering community on the requirements for taking the SE Exam in Alaska. I ask that you consider this question as a board and solicit feedback from your members.

The current regulations state as follows (12 AAC 36.063):

- (k) To be eligible for the structural engineering examination, an applicant must
- (1) be currently registered as a professional engineer in this state; and
 - (2) have at least two years of progressive structural experience, in addition to the eight years of education and work experience or both that are equivalent to the requirements set out in the applicable table of education and work experience requirements for a professional engineering examination in this section.

In summary, all you need to take the SE is a PE license + 2 years of additional experience. Note that the term *progressive structural experience* is not currently defined.

What these requirements lack is any requirement that the additional experience be gained under a licensed SE or that the applicant has any experience on *significant structures*. This does not align with my recollection of what was intended when the SE license was introduced and is definitely relaxed as compared to the grandfathering option that was available prior to 2017.

Question: Do you feel the existing SE exam requirements are appropriate as written? Do you feel there should be additional requirements related to experience and practice on significant structures?

Proposal: I suggest adding the following definition to the regulations:

- (46) "progressive structural experience" means that a candidate for structural licensure progresses in job knowledge and duties including the design of significant structures while under the responsible charge of a registered Structural Engineer.

This definition would allow the board to request evidence of practice and work under an SE as part of the SE Exam application process.

Note: I have inserted this proposed definition into an set of proposed regulation changes which will be soon be issued for public comment. SEAAK and its members will be able to provide public comments directly in addition to responding to this request.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to working with you to improve the regulatory framework for our profession.

-Sterling

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: May 18th at 11:30a

Person Reporting: Sterling Strait

of Attendees: 40 **Employees:** / **Board Members:** 1

Type of Outreach: Professional Organization

Attendees: Members of Structural Engineers Association of Alaska (SEAAK)

Description of Event: Bimonthly lunch meeting for SEAAK.

I provided an 'AELS Board Update' during the initial portion of the meeting and specifically mentioned:

- Adoption of regulations for accelerated military licensure
- Electronic Stamping update to the guidance manual
- Ongoing continuing Education clarification effort
- SE Exam requirement regulation language and proposed definition for *progressive structural experience*.

Outreach Activity Report

Board: AELS

Date & Time of Event: 6/13/22

Person Reporting: S. Strait

of Attendees: Employees: / Board Members:

Type of Outreach: Email Communications

Attendees: N/A

Description of Event:

Contacted through email by SE Exam applicant asking for clarity on registering for the NCEES SE Exam.

Responded with guidance referencing NCEES site and AK state regulations (see attached).

Strait, Sterling H.

From: Strait, Sterling H.
Sent: Monday, June 13, 2022 11:24 AM
To: Bishop, Forest Winter
Subject: RE: [SEAAK] SE Exam

Forrest,

You will need to pass both the Vertical Forces and Lateral Forces portion of the exam for SE registration.

NCEES splits up the 16-hour SE Exam ([NCEES Info](#)) into these two parts to give you options. You can take both portions at the same time back-to-back or you can take them one at a time. Taking them separately allows you to spread out the prep work by only focusing on one topic at a time. They also grade each portion separately so if you do well on the one part but bomb the other, you'd only need to retake the part you failed.

The state regulations obliquely reference this exam in 12 AAC 36.100(c): *An applicant for registration as an engineer must pass the NCEES Principles and Practices of Engineering Examination for the branch of engineering for which the applicant has applied.* Per NCEES, the SE is a Principles and Practice Exam for Structural Engineering.

Thank you for asking this question as I am currently reviewing the state regs for ways to clarify the SE requirements. This is definitely an area that needs improvement.

Let me know if you have any further questions on this process.

-Sterling Strait
Alyeska Engineering
(907) 787-8731

APPENDIX C - AELS 2022 HB61 Concerns

October 28, 2021

Legislative Committee Report

At our committee meeting on October 28 we agreed to recommend monitoring HB61 and if it gets scheduled for a hearing, submit testimony to House Finance Committee, the next committee of referral. In our opinion, House Labor & Commerce Committee did not do its job, but instead reported the bill from committee without addressing serious issues we raised.

The first four points in this testimony are the same as what Catherine Fritz presented previously on April 26, representing the Board. In addition, today we added a new fifth point to counter information we understand is being shared with legislators. We believe it misrepresents what the bill does.

Testimony from the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers & Land Surveyors on HB61

We held a special meeting of the Board on April 14 to review and discuss HB61. One of our members, Catherine Fritz, subsequently testified to the House Labor & Commerce Committee, expressing our concerns. At the time we believed HB61 needed more review, discussion with the bill's supporters so we could understand its full implications and relate our concerns to legislators. We shared the first four concerns listed on this paper with the Labor & Commerce Committee, but none of these were incorporated in a bill mark-up. We believe this should have been done before the bill was reported from that committee. We have since added a fifth point to clarify what we believe is misinformation that is being shared suggesting that registration under a practice act is voluntary. In all of the other professions regulated by our Board, professional registration is required as defined in Alaska Statutes and the Alaska Administrative Code.

1. The definition of Scope of Practice is excessively broad and incorporates activities that are outside the scope of Health, Safety, and Welfare. Interior design will overlap with architectural practice, as well as incidental practice of some engineering professions. It is essential that the definition of interior design be clear to minimize confusion and reduce enforcement issues.
2. There are many passages within the bill that are not aligned with existing statutory language for other design disciplines. The Board has worked very hard to build consistency, and requests that interior design language be similarly integrated.
3. We are greatly concerned about the workload and impacts of adding a new design discipline and two members to the Board. We have had extensive turnover in staff in the past two years, both in operations and enforcement. The complexities of our multi-discipline board (with a myriad of details within each discipline) are already substantial, and we are very concerned about adding a new discipline without thoroughly understanding its impacts.
4. HB61 relies heavily on an organization called The Council for Interior Design Qualification (CIDQ) to determine the adequacy of a candidate's Education, Experience, and Examination. The Board currently has three national organizations that it relies upon to continually assess the adequacy of this 3-legged stool. Each has

robust systems in place that include writing and administering exams, developing standards for practice, and evaluating educational adequacy. CIDQ would become a fourth. Does CIDQ appropriately align with Alaska Statutes, and is it similarly rigorous and collaborative? An example of potential concern is exam eligibility. Alaska Statutes require the Board to review and approve candidates before examination. We understand that CIDQ's approval for a candidate's exam is granted without regard to the Board. Can CIDQ change this practice? We don't yet know.

5. It is important to understand that HB61 establishes licensure for selected interior designers, referred to as "commercial" in the version of the bill we reviewed, through what is known as a "practice act," requiring that, unless exempted, anyone practicing interior design would be required to comply with the education, examination, and experience defined in statute and regulation. The most common framework for regulating interior design in the U.S. is through voluntary certification (approximately 27 states) while only four jurisdictions regulate interior design through practice acts (Nevada, Louisiana, North Carolina, and the District of Columbia.) There are significant differences in regulated responsibility and authority in each state, making it difficult to compare HB 61 to the laws in other jurisdictions. If HB 61 were modified to certify interior designers through what is known as a "title act," individuals who wished to use the title Interior Designer could be recognized through a voluntary process without being charged with health, safety, and welfare responsibilities in the current AELS statute and regulations subsequently adopted by the Board. Although the AELS Board is not the body making this public policy decision, we suggest that this might be an easier "first step" by proponents of the legislation.

We recommend that the full Board consider and approve submittal of this testimony at our next meetings on November 15 and 16.

Submitted by Loren Leman, Chairman
Legislative Committee

Other members participating: Catherine Fritz, Bob Bell, Ed Leonetti

[Clarifying language added in Track Changes by Loren Leman on March 8, 2022](#)