

# *Annual Report*

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# *Fiscal Year 2021*

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



**Department of Commerce, Community  
and Economic Development**

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**Division of Corporations, Business  
and Professional Licensing**

This annual performance report is presented in accordance with  
Alaska statute AS 08.01.070(10).

Its purpose is to report the accomplishments, activities, and the  
past and present needs of the licensing program.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
FY 2021 Annual Report**

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

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Duty Station</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b>Elizabeth Johnston, Chair</b> Electrical Engineer	Fairbanks, AK	Mar 01, 2017	Mar 01, 2025
<b>Catherine Fritz, Vice Chair</b> Architect	Juneau, AK	Mar 01, 2016	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Jennifer Anderson, Secretary</b> Civil Engineer	Anchorage, AK	Mar 01, 2018	Mar 01, 2022
<b>Robert (Bob) Bell</b> Land Surveyor	Anchorage, AK	Mar 01, 2020	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Jeffrey Garness</b> Engineer Other Than Those Listed	Anchorage, AK	Mar 01, 2020	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Loren Leman</b> Civil Engineer	Anchorage, AK	Mar 01, 2020	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Edward Leonetti</b> Landscape Architect	Anchorage, AK	Mar 01, 2021	Mar 01, 2025
<b>Jake Maxwell</b> Land Surveyor	Anchorage, AK	Mar 01, 2021	Mar 01, 2025

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
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**Identification of the Board (continued)**

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Duty Station</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>	<b>Term Expires</b>
<b>Randall Rozier</b> Architect	Fairbanks, AK	Mar 01, 2021	Mar 01, 2025
<b>Fred Wallis</b> Mining Engineer	Healy, AK	Mar 01, 2016	Mar 01, 2024
<b>Vacant</b> Public Member			

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

**Vacant – Executive Administrator**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Post Office Box 110806  
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**Sara Neal – Licensing Examiner**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
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Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806  
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**Vacant - Investigator**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
550 West 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1500  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501-3567  
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**Jun Maiquis – Regulation Specialist II**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
Post Office Box 110806  
Juneau, Alaska 99811-0806  
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**Marilyn Zimmerman – Paralegal II**

Department of Commerce, Community & Economic Development  
Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing  
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(907)465-1673

# Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors FY 2021 Annual Report

## Narrative Statement

In FY21, the Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS) held four, two-day meetings (three were held fully videoconferenced and the fourth was available via both in person and videoconference), and one special teleconference on a proposed legislative bill that would affect AELS Board operations. The board provided new board member orientation, reviewed public comments on proposed changes to regulations, reviewed 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.

### FY21 Highlights

- The strategic plan was refined, and specific action items were identified 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 2022.
- Board discussed impacts to board of HB61, Licensing of Interior Designers, and met with bill sponsor.
- Board performed an audit of continuing education requirements, reviewing 303 registrants.

### 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

In FY21, 37 cases were opened, 13 of which are still open. The majority of cases continue to be related to unlicensed practice or activity, or a violation of licensing regulations.

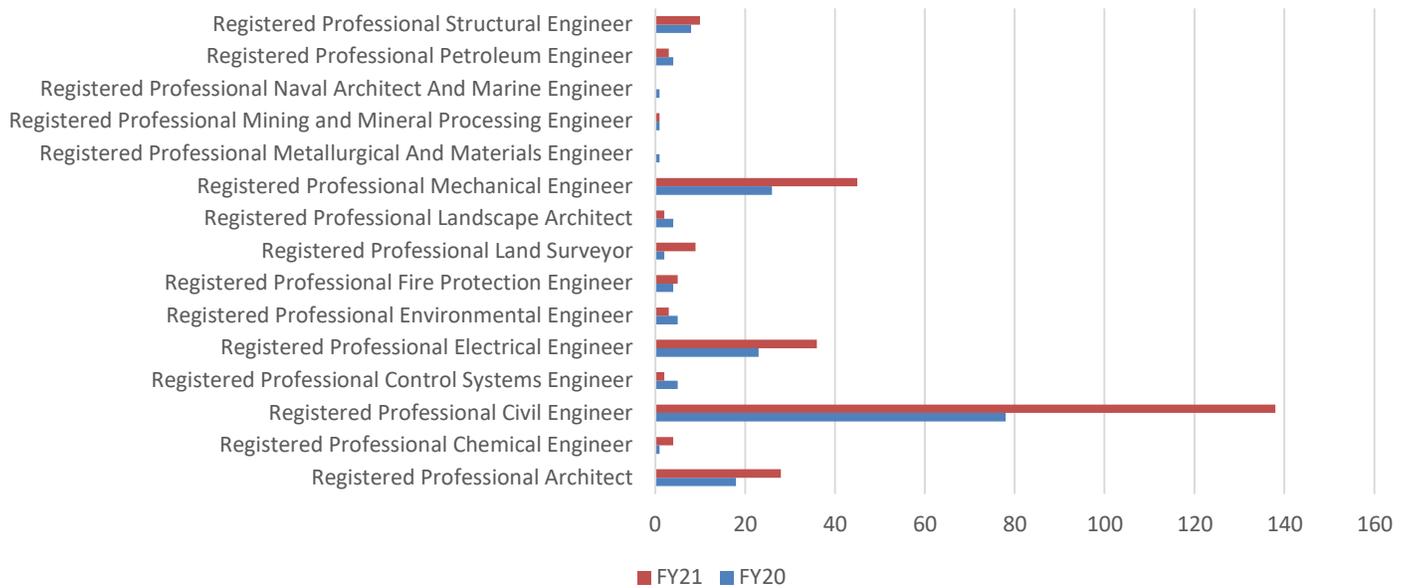
### Registration

As of June 23, 2021, 292 registrations were issued in FY21. The following chart provides a breakdown of registrations by field of practice and branch of engineering for both FY20 and FY21.

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 FY21.

## FY 2021 Narrative Statement (continued)

### FY20 & FY21 Individual Registrations



#### Legislation & Regulation Updates

Proposed comprehensive AELS regulation updates were delayed in 2020 due to COVID-19 staff impacts, and significant turnover in board membership and AELS staff. The updates are now expected to proceed with public notice in FY2022. Three relevant bills are currently being considered by the Alaska legislature:

- 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.
- HB61, Licensing of Interior Designers proposes to expand the board to 13 members and add a new registration discipline. Board members are concerned about impacts; will continue to monitor the bill and work with the sponsor to suggest improvements. Testimony by the board to the House Labor & Commerce Committee in May 2021 is included in the Annual Report Appendix (page 25, Appendix A).
- HB15, Temporary Licenses, may affect the practice of regulated professions and is being monitored by the AELS board. Related concerns to simplify and/or expedite licensing for military spouses was also discussed by the board, and administrative improvements are expected in FY22.
- SB12, Military Spouse Courtesy License, Will take affect in January 2022. The board is working with the division to support simplifying and/or expediting licensing for military and military spouses. The board provided a written response to this bill in February 2020 which is included in the Annual Report Appendix (page 26, Appendix A)

#### 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)

## FY 2021 Narrative Statement (continued)

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 has historically been covered by the State of Alaska, but a proposed change in dues will allow two people to attend the annual meeting. All three organizations encourage active participation in committee work and pay for committee members to travel for meetings when necessary.

*During FY 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic caused all meetings to be held 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 between jurisdictions:*

- NCEES Annual Meeting, August 2020
- CLARB Annual Meeting, September 2020
- NCARB Regional Summit, March 2021
- NCEES Western/Southern Zone Interim Meeting, May 2021
- NCARB Annual Meeting, June 2021

*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 Leman continues to serve on the University of Alaska Anchorage, College of Engineering's Advisory Council, 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. She also led the WCARB Strategic Plan Committee and serves on NCARB's Examination Committee.

### **In-State Travel for Board Meetings & Outreach**

Although the board had met once via videoconference in May 2019, the board met solely by videoconference for all meetings from May 2020 through February 2021 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Four quarterly meetings were held in FY2021 and one special meeting was held to discuss and prepare testimony for HB61. While improvements were made in videoconferencing technology with each successive meeting, the board's overall efficiency and productivity suffered.

Outreach efforts were also reduced, as in-person gatherings were limited. It was especially difficult for new members of the board to learn how to review registrant applications and to complete continuing education audits. The public member seat on the board was filled twice during this period, but each person resigned after only two meetings. The board also lost two Executive Administrators during this period, and as of June 2021, the position remains vacant. The board chair prepared and presented a Board Orientation at the May 2021 meeting to help new board members to become familiar with board operations and responsibilities, and a board member helped draft this annual report because of staff shortages.

**Resources**

Hosting meetings via videoconference requires additional staff resources to ensure multiple locations are equipped with the appropriate videoconferencing equipment, documentation, signage, etc.

**Application review**

Some of the board members attempted to review applications outside the board meeting, but the majority of members noted a significant increase in the amount of time it took to review the applications individually rather than in a group setting. Additionally, reviewing applications in a group format allows members to train one another and mentor newer board members on what to look for during the review process. The use of "break-out rooms" during the videoconference allowed small groups to meet, but still limited consultation with board members not assigned to the specific break-out room. Based upon these experiences, the board maintains that in-person review of the applications is most efficient. Additionally, having the AELS Licensing Examiner attend the meeting is beneficial for both board members and staff, providing an opportunity to learn from the discussions and improve preparation of application materials. It is also unclear whether this method violates the intent of the open meetings act, given that the board is required to review applications in an open meeting.

**Engagement**

The board continues to make outreach a priority and individual members often give presentations on the purpose of the AELS board and the importance of licensure. Outreach Reports are prepared by board members after each presentation and are included in the Annual Report Appendix (page 26, Appendix B). The board also tries to schedule outreach activities in conjunction with board meetings to engage with students, current registrants, and the public. Having the full board at a society luncheon and/or presentation to students can send a powerful message in and of itself. Similarly, a lack of in-person engagement with these groups has the potential to send a negative message and infer the board is not interested in hearing from students, applicants, or registrants about licensure requirements and process, or requirements for maintaining a license.

The board is also reviewing travel times to ensure the board is making the most efficient use of their available time together both prior to and following the meeting to engage in outreach activities and/or committee work. For example, if traveling board members arrive in the afternoon on the day before the meeting, a presentation could be scheduled or a committee may choose to meet during that time.

While the board (and staff) did the best they could with videoconferencing under trying pandemic conditions, the board was grateful for the opportunity to resume in-person meetings in May 2021, as well as offer videoconferencing to those board members who were unable to travel, or remained concerned about health issues.

As a result of the identified inefficiencies with conducting board meetings via videoconferencing, the board requests all four quarterly meetings in FY2022 be held in-person. 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 2022**

The 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 2021	Fairbanks, AK	11	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,550.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$2,100.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$1,006.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$5,156.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
November 2021	Anchorage, AK	11	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$1,006.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$4,306.00</b>

Board Meeting Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
February 2022	Juneau, AK	11	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$3,700.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$2,700.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$1,006.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$8,406.00</b>

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
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**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

The 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 2022	Anchorage, AK	11	2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$1,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$1,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$1,006.00
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$4,306.00</b>

<b>Travel Required to Perform Examinations</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> Not applicable			
Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
April 2022	Fairbanks, AK	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>			
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 FY22 for a board member or staff to proctor the exam.			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:			\$250.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Hotel:			\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:			\$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:			\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:			\$45.00
Describe “Other” (break out all sections):			
<b>Total Estimated Cost:</b>			<b>\$335.00</b>

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**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (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 19 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> , 2021	New Orleans, LA	3	

**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.

**Funded Delegates:** NCEES funds up to three delegates from each member board, to be determined by the board.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$2,050.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$975.00	\$0.00	\$975.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCEES provides a \$325 stipend to each funded attendee to cover travel meals and ground transportation to and from airport.				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$975.00</b>	<b>\$6,450.00</b>	<b>\$7,425.00</b>

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

#2 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
June 2022	Austin, TX	3	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b> 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. <b>FUNDING:</b> NCARB offers funding for up to four delegates from each member board. Airfare, hotel and conference fees for the MBE are 3rd party direct booked. For the two funded delegates and public member, airfare and hotel are third-party reimbursed, and conference fees are third-party direct booked.				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Two funded delegates</b> There is no restriction on the discipline/ profession of the board member, attendees determined by board</li> <li>• <b>One public/consumer member</b></li> <li>• <b>One member board executive</b></li> </ul>				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$2,664.00	\$880.00	\$3,544.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$1,200.00	\$400.00	\$1,600.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,660.00	\$2,660.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$1,280.00	\$0.00	\$1,280.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,144.00</b>	<b>\$3,940.00</b>	<b>\$9,084.00</b>

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

#3 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
September 22-24, 2021	Phoenix, AZ	1	1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b> 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.				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$150.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$150.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$1,450.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,450.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$300.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$300.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$3,700.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$3,700.00</b>

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**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

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

#4 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
May 2022	TBD	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:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,050.00	\$2,050.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,400.00	\$2,400.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCEES provides a \$200 stipend to each funded attendee for travel meals and ground transportation.				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$6,450.00</b>	<b>\$6,450.00</b>

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
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**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

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

#5 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
March 2022	Charlotte, NC	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 3rd party direct booked

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$2,700.00	\$850.00	\$3,550.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$800.00	\$2,800.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,800.00	\$1,800.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCARB will reimburse up to \$80/day for travel meals and ground transportation. Expense report required.				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,450.00</b>	<b>\$8,950.00</b>

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

#6 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	TBD	1	0

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

NCARB's Examination 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 FY22. There are three meetings scheduled for this committee in FY22. 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:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections): NCARB will reimburse up to \$80/day for travel meals and ground transportation. Expense report required.				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>\$5,000.00</b>	<b>\$5,800.00</b>

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

#7 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	TBD	2	1

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

**NCARB Orientation and Training for new board members, public board members, and Member Board Executive (MBE).**

The purpose of this training is to familiarize new board members, public seat board members, and executive administrators with the structure and operations of NCARB. This meeting provides essential information that allows board members and the MBE to quickly become effective in their roles as regulators. Alaska's multi-discipline board means that most of the members are not architects and do not have the understanding of the career path that leads to licensing, so quickly learning about NCARB's role and resources in a concentrated meeting format is invaluable to their participation on Alaska's board. NCARB typically provides funding for two board members and the MBE to attend.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$800.00	\$0.00	\$800.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$800.00</b>	<b>\$4,000.00</b>	<b>\$4,800.00</b>

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

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

#8 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff
TBD	TBD	1	

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

NCEES Exam Policies & Procedures (EPP) Committee has the following tasks for 2021-2022. The committee will meet as needed and travel costs associated with these meetings are paid by NCEES. Board Member Elizabeth Johnston was appointed chair of this committee effective September 2021.

1. Accomplish all recurring committee activities:
  - Review all exam policies, examination development policies (EDPs) and examination administration policies (EAPs) for redundancy and clarity. Recommend revisions as appropriate.
  - Review exam volumes regarding EDP 8 and provide recommendations to the NCEES board of directors.
  - Review the NCEES Examinee Guide for content and effectiveness.
2. Review the following NCEES publications.
  - Review the following position statements (PS); PS 8, PS 9, PS 14, and PS 20. Propose revisions as necessary, recommend if a position statement should be combined with another position statement, or recommend if the position statement should be removed if it no longer reflects the position of the Council.
3. Consider whether additional member boards and/or more detailed information should be required from member boards that request a new exam discipline or module regarding EDP 5.
4. Review all references to pencil-and-paper exams in exam policies to determine if they can be removed or if they must remain until the conversion of the 16-hour PE Structural exam from a pencil-and-paper format to a computer-based format. Propose language for policies that can be changed.
5. Review EDP 15 C to determine if diagnostic reports could/should be provided to all candidates. Propose revisions as necessary.
6. Ensure that the significant issues of the committee are presented to the Council at each zone meeting by either a committee member in attendance or the zone vice president.

Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$500.00	\$500.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$0.00	\$400.00	\$0.00	\$400.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):		Ground transportation, meals, and incidentals.		
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$1,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,900.00</b>

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

#9 Rank in Importance

Date	Location	# Board	# Staff	
TBD	Multiple		1	
<b>Description of meeting and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b> Investigative sweeps are critical to ensure public health, safety, and welfare. <i>Expenditures noted below represent the combined total for the following investigative sweeps:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Fairbanks</b> – 3 days in the field, travel on day 1 and 3</li> <li>• <b>Juneau</b> – 3 days in the field, travel on day 1 and 3</li> <li>• <b>Kenai Peninsula</b> – 3 days in the field, travel on day 1</li> <li>• <b>Seward</b> – 2 days in the field, same day travel</li> </ul>				
Expenditure	License Fees (RSS)	Third-Party Reimbursement	Third-Party Direct Booked	Total
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airfare:	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hotel:	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground:	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Conference:	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other	\$540.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$540.00
Describe "Other" (break out all sections):				
<b>Net Total:</b>	<b>\$1,140.00</b>	<b>\$400.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$2,740.00</b>

## 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 (CLARB)	\$9,110.00

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

The Council of Landscape Architect Registration Boards (CLARB) is a national nonprofit that works to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare by establishing and promoting professional licensure standards. Members are the licensure boards across the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. CLARB prepares, administers, and scores the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E) that assesses the ability of prospective licensees to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare. CLARB also manages a professional information system, called the CLARB Council Record, through which landscape architects document and verify their education, experience, examination, and licensure history. The record helps reduce barriers to mobility by streamlining the initial and reciprocal licensure processes.

*Membership dues provide:*

- Access to the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination that is used by Alaska and is a national standard to assess a candidate's knowledge and skills regarding the practice of landscape architecture
- Access to records transmittals which staff use to verify an applicant's education, experience, examination, and licensure in another jurisdiction
- National disciplinary database
- Regional Meetings
- Training/webinars on a variety of topics including new member orientations, CLARB tools and resources, mid-year review, and developing skills to identify potential issues and make future-focused decisions regarding regulation.
- One funded delegate to annual conference.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

**Non-Travel Budget Requests**

- |  |                                    |                                       |
|--|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable        | <input type="checkbox"/> Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Examinations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Membership | <input type="checkbox"/> Training  | <input type="checkbox"/> Other        |

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

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

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) is a national nonprofit organization comprised of architectural licensing boards representing fifty-five states and territories. NCARB develops and administers national programs for licensure candidates and architects.

*As a member of NCARB, the AELS board has access to:*

- Exam development, administration, and scoring services for the Architectural Registration Examination(A.R.E.), a multi-division exam that is used as a national standard to assess candidate’s knowledge and skills regarding the practice of architecture.
- Review of licensing candidates' education including accreditation, and assessment of alternative education to meet minimum requirements.
- Tracking of 3,740 hours of experience and verification experience relates to 96 tasks categorized within six core areas of experience.
- Access to licensure verification tools, records transmittals, and national disciplinary database.
- Program support including standards for mentoring, alternative education, ethics, outreach, and model law.
- Monthly and annual publications that highlight NCARB activities and events, and include data, exam trends, legislation, and special projects.

*\*Annual membership dues for NCARB are \$1,000. Annual membership dues for WCARB are \$4,000. Regional dues are used to develop and offer education programs at the regional level, leadership training and development to help board members become better regulators and board members, travel costs for the executive committee members, and the WCARB Executive Director’s salary.*

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

**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 (NCEES)	\$6,500.00

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

The National Council for Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) is a national nonprofit, 501(c)(3) that maintains uniform model laws and rules and sets licensing standards that are determined by its member board members. NCEES' members are engineering and surveying licensure boards from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Membership dues account for approximately 1.5 percent of the Council's total revenue, or \$435,500.

*NCEES provides the following services to its member boards:*

**Examinations** – exam development, administration services, and scoring.

**Member Services** – Integrated customer management system and records program, used daily by AELS staff in working with applicants to verify education, examination results, and licensure

**Enforcement Exchange** – national database of disciplinary actions

**Meetings** – regional (zone) and annual meetings

**Outreach** – materials and resources to assist boards in outreach efforts and raising awareness of the importance of licensure

**Publications** - The *Annual Report* provides an overview of NCEES accomplishments and growth over the past fiscal year; *Squared* is the official source for engineering and surveying licensure statistics including number of U.S. licensees, exam volume and pass rates, and services such as the Records Program; *Annual Meeting Minutes and Reference Materials* shows the actions taken at the annual meeting and reference material about NCEES.

*NCEES provides continuing professional competency tracking system, international registry, and credentials evaluation services.* Over 800 professional engineers and surveyors work with NCEES staff and psychometricians to ensure the fundamentals of engineering, fundamentals of surveying, twenty-five discipline specific professional engineering exams, and the professional surveying exam remain reliable, uniform measures of licensure candidates' competency. The cost for the AELS board to replicate those efforts would be extremely high.

**Other Items with a Fiscal Impact**

**Cost Per Event:                      \$10,000.00**

- Not Applicable

**Number of Events:                      1**

Product or Service	Provider	Total Cost
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). Each year, following the exam administration, the AKLS Test Blueprint is reviewed by Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) at the test development/ review workshop. The SMEs will update the test blueprint if there are any changes made in the statutes, rules, or regulations that impact the practice of land surveying within the State of Alaska. The SMEs also compare the AKLS Exam Test Blueprint to the NCEES Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) and Professional Surveying (PS) test specifications to ensure the AKLS exam complements and does not duplicate the content and scope of the FS and/or PS examinations.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Budget Recommendations for FY 2022 (continued)**

<b>Other Items with a Fiscal Impact</b>		<b>Cost Per Event:</b>	<b>\$1,000.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable		<b>Number of Events:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Product or Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	
Outreach	AELS Board	\$1,000.00	
<b>Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>			
<p>One of the board’s goals is to continue to develop and expand its outreach efforts. 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 public health, safety, and welfare as well as reduce the number of investigative matters. COVID-19 limited the amount of outreach that was done in FY21, but Outreach Reports can be found in the Appendix (page 26, Appendix B), and outreach will resume in FY22.</p>			

<b>Other Items with a Fiscal Impact</b>		<b>Cost Per Event:</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable		<b>Number of Events:</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Product or Service</b>	<b>Provider</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>	
		\$0.00	
<b>Description of item and its role in supporting the mission of the Board:</b>			

<b>Summary of FY 2022 Fiscal Requests</b>	
Board Meetings and Teleconferences:	\$22,174.00
Travel for Exams:	\$335.00
Out-of-State and Additional In-State Travel:	\$42,909.00
Dues, Memberships, Resources, Training:	\$20,610.00
Total Potential Third-Party Offsets:	-\$33,959.00
Other:	\$11,000.00
<b>Total Requested:</b>	<b>\$63,069.00</b>

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Legislation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2022**

**No Recommendations**

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

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**Recommendations**

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed legislation:

HB148, Modifications to Land Surveying Coordinates. The board has no objection to this bill.

HB61, Licensing of Interior Designers. The board has concerns about this bill and requests an opportunity to work with bill sponsor to modify the bill to address concerns.

HB15, Temporary Licenses, and similar bills that authorize temporary licenses. The board requests that permissive "may" language be used to allow the board to address health, safety, and welfare issues for such temporary licenses where necessary.

The board would like the comprehensive statute updates that were drafted in 2019 to be reviewed, discussed, and adopted through appropriate legislative means.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Regulation Recommendations Proposed Legislation for FY 2022**

**No Recommendations**

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

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**Recommendations**

The Board has the following recommendations for proposed regulations:

The board is actively working on the comprehensive regulation changes that were drafted in 2019 so they can be reviewed and discussed and adopted through appropriate means.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives**

**Part I**

**FY 2021'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 (page 31, Appendix C).
- The board welcomed nine new members since March 2020 and lost two Executive Administrators (the EA position and Public Member seat are currently vacant). The seasoned board members have assisted the department staff (who have also 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  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Goals and Objectives**

**Part II**

**FY 2022's goals and objectives, and proposed methods to achieve them.**

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

**Continue to Develop/ Expand Outreach Efforts: See Strategic Plan and Outreach Reports in Appendix (pages 26-33, Appendix B and C)**

During FY 2022, the board will continue to focus on strengthening relationships with professional organizations as well as identifying and developing relationships with other groups. As members of Alaska chapters of these professional societies, board members intend to utilize those established relationships to facilitate presentations and other opportunities for the board to engage with these groups. While board members provide presentations and outreach in their respective locales, on-site presentations at conferences, etc. may be prohibited due to travel restrictions.

In addition to working with professional societies and similar organizations, the board will continue to participate in events that are 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 licensure. The board will continue to recognize UA engineering and land surveying graduates with a congratulatory letter.

**Licensure Mobility**

AELS staff is conducting a comparison review of Council Records from CLARB, NCARB, and NCEES against AELS application forms to identify areas of overlap as well as variations in vetting processes. Staff will present findings to the AELS Licensure Mobility Committee for consideration. Potential opportunities include shortened application forms for Council Record holders and utilization of more rigorous vetting processes for references, while still maintaining AELS specific requirements. In the event additional application forms are approved by the board, additional staff resources may be required to assist with form development.

**Applications**

The board will continue to consider a short application form for architectural applicants submitting an NCARB Certificate. In addition, the board is identifying specific barriers (e.g., current statutory requirements) that prevent delegation of some authority to staff to approve applications that meet certain criteria, such as NCARB certificate holders. Initial applications will be published to the website, which will allow applicants to apply for licensure and pay fees online using the myLicense feature in myAlaska.

**AELS Webpage**

Updates to the website are needed, and staff will continue to work on several topics, including creating a disaster planning webpage which will include a link to the Structural Engineers of Alaska documents and information regarding the Safety Assessment Program Training from the Applied Technology Council.

**Continuing Education**

The board is actively working to update and simplify the Continuing Education program.

**Board of Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors  
Fiscal Year 2021 Annual Report**

**Sunset Audit Recommendations**

**Date of Last Legislative Audit:** April 27, 2016  
**Board Sunset Date:** June 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:** Evaluate, draft, adopt, and enforce regulation of architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects to protect the public’s health, safety, and welfare.

**Date Completed:** N/A

**Testimony to House Labor & Commerce Committee re HB 61  
April 19, 2021**

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today on behalf of the AELS Board. My name is Catherine Fritz. I am an architect and currently serve as Vice-Chair. Our Chair, Elizabeth Johnston is also available for your questions.

Our Board serves 4 design disciplines, one of which (engineering) has 15 branches, or types of engineer licenses. While we are certainly concerned about the overall success and vitality of our professions, our mission is to protect the Health, Safety, and Welfare of the public.

We held a special meeting on April 14th to review HB 61. My testimony today reflects the shared concerns of our Board. We have a fundamental concern that HB 61 needs more time for review so we can understand its full implications. More specific concerns include:

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 of 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 2 members to the Board. We have had extensive turnover in staff in the past 2 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. HB 61 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 3 national organizations that it relies upon to continually assess the adequacy of the 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 4<sup>th</sup>. Does CIDQ appropriately align with Alaska statutes, and is it similarly rigorous and collaborative? An example of potential concern is in regard to exam eligibility. Alaska statute requires that the Board review and approve candidates prior to 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.

I want to emphasize that while individual AELS Board members have opinions about whether or not interior designers should be licensed under a practice act, this testimony is not about that debate – HB 61 is your bill. We will do our very best to uphold all adopted statutes assigned to our Board, and we thank you for the opportunity to work with you on this legislation.



February 12, 2020

State of Alaska, Department of Commerce and Economic Development  
Division of Occupational Licensing  
PO Box 110086  
Juneau, AK 99811-0086

Attn: Sara Chambers, Division Director

Ms. Chambers:

The Alaska Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers, and Land Surveyors (AELS) recently reviewed SB157 and supports streamlining the comity licensure process. Section 2 of SB157 allows the Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing to grant temporary licenses to individuals that are licensed in another jurisdiction that has “substantially similar” or more stringent requirements as Alaska. The bill excludes those regulated by the Marine Pilots and Big Game Guides’ Boards. To preserve the interests of public safety, the AELS board believes architects, engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects should also be excluded.

In addition to national standards for education, experience, and examination, the State requires architects, engineers, and landscape architects to pass a course in arctic engineering. This ensures those practicing in Alaska are familiar with the complexities, challenges, and standards of practice in cold and remote environments.

Land surveyors are required to pass a state-specific survey exam that covers those Federal and State laws that are unique to Alaska. Laws such as the Native Land Claims Act and other Public Lands laws are different than elsewhere in the United States. It would harm the public to allow unqualified surveyors to do work in Alaska.

Requirements of other jurisdictions are not “substantially equivalent” to the arctic engineering requirement and land surveying exam requirement that are core to the AELS mission of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of Alaskans. Thus, the AELS Board requests that AS 08.48 be added to the list of exclusions in Section 2, paragraph (d).

Alternatively, to streamline the comity licensure process, the AELS Board would like to add a section to the bill that allows the board to grant its staff the authority to provisionally approve

comity applications that meet all the AELS requirements. These application approvals would be subject to ratification by the Board at their quarterly meetings. Several other state licensing boards already have this delegation of authority. Our suggested language is:

**Sec. 08.48.011(d) If this chapter authorizes a designee to perform a duty, the board may designate a single board member, the executive secretary, or another employee of the department.**

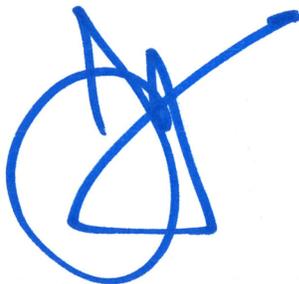
Sec. 08.48.101. Regulations; bylaws; code of ethics. (a) the board may adopt regulations to carry out the purpose of this chapter, including regulations

- (1) describing the contents of an examination;
- (2) establishing the conduct of an examination;
- (3) establishing a minimum score for passing an examination;
- (4) establishing bylaws governing its meetings and activities;
- (5) publishing a code of ethics or professional conduct for those persons regulated by this chapter, including corporations, limited liability companies, and limited liability partnerships under AS 08.48.241;
- (6) establishing continuing education requirements for persons regulated by this chapter that must be completed before a certificate may be renewed; the continuing education standards may not exceed standards established by a national accrediting body or other recognized professional organization;
- (7) **designating an individual to issue a provisional comity license to applicants whose record shows that they meet all the requirements established under this chapter.**

(b) *[Repealed, Sec 6 ch 19 SLA 1998].*

If you have any additional questions, please forward them to Alysia Jones, Executive Secretary for the Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JK', written over a large blue circular scribble.

Jeffrey P. Koonce, AIA NCARB  
Chair, Board of Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors

## **Alaska AELS Board Outreach Report**

**Event:** Anchorage School District Engineering Academies Advisory Council Meeting

**Date:** February 4, 2020

**Location:** Dimond High School, Anchorage

**Description of Event:** This was one of three scheduled meetings for the school year. The agenda included reports and coordination among teachers, administrators, UAA faculty and staff, and industry advisory council members regarding student enrollment, recruitment and retention; Project Lead the Way training, application and competitions; articulation agreements with UA, community outreaches; and review of industry needs.

Appointee Loren Leman, P.E. has participated on this advisory council for more than a decade. At this meeting he identified his recent appointment by Governor Dunleavy to the AELS Board and his expectation that he would soon be confirmed by the Legislature and starting Board service. Alaska engineering academies expose middle and high school students to the technical professions through a fun, yet challenging curriculum, and provide mentoring and support for many of these students to attend the University of Alaska and other programs. Many post-secondary schools produce graduates for the Alaska work force who later seek registration through the AELS Board. Mr. Leman spoke about his experience as a high school student in Ninilchik, a teacher who made physics fun, a college student, and being paired as an adult mentor with gifted high school students. He also expressed appreciation for the change in the PLTW environmental pathway and counseled on the importance of its rigor and support for recruiting students into the technical professions.

**Volunteer Hours:** Mr. Leman invested 3 hours communicating with the meeting coordinator, preparing for and attending the meeting, following up with attendees, and writing post-meeting notes.

**Cost:** Mr. Leman used his own vehicle for local travel and there was no cost to the AELS Board.

**Post Mortem:** The last meeting of the school year for the Advisory Council was scheduled for April 28, 2020, but was canceled because of COVID disruption. In addition to regular Engineering Academy business, this meeting traditionally includes student presentations and judging of senior projects by Advisory Council members.

## **Alaska AELS Board Outreach Report**

**Event:** Anchorage School District Engineering Academies Advisory Council Meeting

**Date:** November 18, 2020

**Location:** Anchorage (by Zoom)

**Description of Event:** One of three meetings per school year for reports and coordination among teachers, administrators, UAA staff, and industry advisory council members regarding Engineering Academies enrollment, Project Lead the Way training and application, competitions, articulation agreement with UA, and industry needs for engineers, scientists and other STEM graduates.

Board member Loren Lemman, P.E. has participated on this advisory council for more than a decade and in this meeting identified his recent affiliation as a member of the AELS Board. Engineering academies in Alaska support and enhance the recruiting of middle and high school students to UAA, UAF, and UAS, as well as to other universities and technical programs. Many of these post-secondary programs in turn feed the Alaska work force and produce graduates who later seek registration through the AELS Board. Mr. Lemman counseled on the importance of communication skills, particularly speaking and writing, as well as project management and learning how to function as members of teams.

**Volunteer Hours:** Mr. Lemman invested 2 hours in communicating with the meeting coordinator, preparing for and attending the meeting, and writing post-meeting notes.

**Cost:** This was a videoconferenced meeting delivered by Zoom. Mr. Lemman did not travel and there was no cost to the AELS Board.

**Alaska AELS Board  
Outreach Project Report**

**Event:** ASPE Presentation & Discussion of AELS Board Purpose & Issues

**Date Held:** December 2, 2020

**Location:** Fairbanks ASPE chapter organized the event that was held virtually via Zoom.

**Description of Event:** This event featured a power point presentation of the organization and purpose of the Alaska AELS Board, and included discussion on a variety of board related topics including continuing education requirements, enforcement issues, and statute/regulation change processes.

The presentation was led by AELS Board Chair, John Kerr. Other Board members that contributed to the presentation were Jennifer Anderson and Catherine Fritz. Additionally, Board member Elizabeth Johnston, who is a member of the Fairbanks ASPE chapter, participated in the event.

**Volunteer Hours:** Preparation for the event required approximately 2 hrs from AELS Board Chair to refresh the power point that had been previously used for a similar event.

Four AELS Board members attended the event and contributed to the presentation, donating 4 hours (total).

**Cost:** There was no cost to the AELS Board for participation in this event.

## Outreach Activity Report

**Board:** AELS

**Date & Time of Event:** 04/21/21 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, Michele Elfers, Maeve Nevins-Lavatar, Elise Huggins, Jonny Hayes, 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. Results of Interior design HB61.
- b. Met with people prepping to take the LARE.
  - i. Good feedback from community, scheduling is biggest priority to improve (board is understaffed by state staff);
  - ii. Community asked if
    1. a calendar could be created to help candidates
    2. if the preapproval requirement could be updated to reflect the current conditions so that a candidate could take the exam prior to meeting all the requirements to be licensed.
- c. CLARB Mid term mtgs summary;
  - i. Uniform Standard Applications implementation is starting. Will follow up with schedule.
- d. CLARB Annual mtg is in AZ in Sept and they are evaluating if it will be virtual or in person
- e. CLARB Pre-approval Feed back meeting is May 13<sup>th</sup>. Ed plans on attending. Alaska is one of a few states left that requires pre-approval.
- f. Future AELS meetings are going to merging into a hybrid in-person, more updates to follow.

## Outreach Activity Report

**Board:** AELS

**Date & Time of Event:** April 23, 2021, 12 noon to 2:15 pm

**Person Reporting:** Loren Leman

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

**Type of Outreach:** Advisory Board Member for UAA College of Engineering

**Attendees:** Loren Leman

**Description of Event:** Advisory Board Meeting delivered by Zoom. I have served on this advisory board for 10 years. While I engage in this 25-member advisory board as part of my normal outreach to prospective and current engineering students, as well as faculty and staff at UAA and UAF, and the engineering and industry communities, now as a member of the AELS Board, I consider my role as also representing our Board. To help with this, I recently recruited and the Board approved for membership, Colin Maynard, a respected long-term member of the AELS Board. We also recruited and approved for membership a recent (within the last two years) graduate of UAA Engineering to help us with outreach to younger engineers-in-training. I am pleased that Elizabeth Johnston followed through on writing and distributing a letter to engineering graduates as part of the Board's outreach. In my opinion we need to do more of this type of outreach.

**Alaska AELS Board Outreach Project Report**  
**Prepared 8.11.21 by Catherine Fritz**

**Event:** Written Summary of May 19-20, 2021 AELS Board Meeting to Alaska Chapter AIA

**Date Submitted:** May 25, 2021

**Location:** electronic submission

**Description of Event:** AELS Board Member (Architect) Catherine Fritz offered to prepare a written summary report of each Board meeting for AIA Leadership and for use in AIA newsletters to members (at discretion of leadership). AIA accepted this offer; summary of the May 2021 meeting is below.

**Volunteer Hours:** Preparation and delivery of the report required approximately .5 hrs from AELS Board member, Catherine Fritz.

**Cost:** There was no cost to the AELS Board/program to provide the report.

**AELS BOARD UPDATE (for AIA Leadership and Newsletter)**

Provided by Catherine Fritz, AIA, AELS Board Member

The Alaska AELS Licensing Board met for its regular quarterly meeting May 19-20, 2021. The full board was in attendance, except that the seat designated for a member of the public is again 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](mailto: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](mailto:Sara.Neal@alaska.gov) to learn more about the role of the public member.

The two-day agenda covered a variety of topics and provided orientation programs about Board operations and licensing enforcement. Six of the ten design professionals on the Board have been appointed within the past year, so the orientations were especially helpful to those members. One of the new members is architect Randall Rozier of Fairbanks – welcome Randall!

Regulation updates were reviewed, and modifications to the structural engineer regulations were approved. Those proposed changes will now proceed to public hearing. Committee assignments were made, and action items from the Strategic Plan were identified. There is a high level of interest in updating the Continuing Education program. This includes both regulation updates and record keeping (forms), so stay tuned.

House Bill 61 to regulate Interior Designers was discussed briefly. It is assigned to the Board's Legislative Liaison Committee (Loren Leman, Chair). The Board has not taken an official position in favor or opposed to the bill, but has a number of concerns about implementation due to specific language that is proposed. The LLC will continue to work with the Sponsor of the bill to encourage modifications.

63 applications for licensure were approved (or conditionally approved); four of those were for architects for license by comity. The Board also acknowledged the 2021 engineering and land surveying graduates from the UAA schools.

As architect Board members, Randall 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 24-26, 2021.

The next AELS Board meeting will be August 11-12, 2021. The Board has requested that the meeting location be in Fairbanks, 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.

## 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.

## STRATEGIES

### **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**

**2021 PLANNED ACTIONS (3.1.2021 – 2.28.2022)**

**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. Respond to the request to ease the licensing burden for military spouses.

**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. Attend graduations, honors events, and Order of the Engineer Induction at UAA and UAF
3. Participate in student activities at UAA and UAF.
4. Appoint liaisons to applicable UAA and UAF Boards.
5. Present at 1 (or more) UAA weekly PDH Seminar series.

**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.

1. Develop and schedule at least 1 outreach project per discipline, per year, then complete an outreach report on each event.

**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.

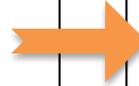
1. Identify administrative tasks that the Board can assist with while a new Executive Director is selected and oriented to the job.
2. Participate in Working Group with Division to review salaries, job descriptions, and similar personnel issues.

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

### STRATEGIES

#### **a. Protect public HSW through effective statutes and regulations**

- Analyze/update regulations to simplify and maintain standards of the 3 Es.
- Enforce regulations with prompt and thorough investigations



### 2021 PLANNED ACTIONS (3.1.2021 – 2.28.2022)

1. Complete the regulation update project started in 2019.
2. Draft statute changes identified in 2019 in bill form, and obtain a bill sponsor.
3. Share investigation information with registrants, including patterns of complaints so registrants can be educated.
4. Improve early interventions with investigator cases to increase efficiency.
5. Develop a “lessons learned” summary with investigator and Board to increase consistency and share knowledge.

#### **b. Collaborate with design professionals**

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



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 forms and licensee CE record keeping.



1. Study existing continuing education problems, and draft regulation changes to address.
2. Develop improved CE audit reporting forms and instructions to registrants.

#### **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



1. Identify statute and regulation changes that are necessary to empower staff to perform some level of application review/approval.
2. Draft regulation change to accept NCEES application files.