

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

POLICIES AND HISTORICAL INFORMATION

I. HISTORY

Alaska began registering architects, engineers and land surveyors in 1949. Engineers with verified land surveyor work experience were also granted a land surveyor registration. In 1972, a new practice act was established for land surveyors. Until 1973 the practice act allowed engineers to apply for a land surveyor registration based on their practice. Alaska began registering landscape architects in 2000. Alaska expanded the registered branches of engineering to 15 in 2012.

Alaska began administering national exams as follows:

NCARB Architect Registration Examination (ARE)	1963
NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) (8 hr.)	April 1966
NCEES Principles and Practices of Engineering (PE) (8 hr)	April 1967
NCEES Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FS) (8 hr)	April 1974
NCEES Professional Land Surveying (4 hours)	April 1974
NCEES Professional Land Surveying Public Domain (3 hours)	April 1987
NCEES Professional Land Surveying (PS) (6 hours) - combined	October 1992
CLARB Landscape Architect Registration (LARE)	2000
NCEES 16-Hour Structural Exam (SE) (16 hr).....	April 2011
NCEES Principles and Practices of Structural Engineering (PE)	2024

Prior to these dates for national exams by NCARB and NCEES, state exams were used in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California. Alaska used the same ‘state specific’ PE and PS exams. The first engineering exam administered in Alaska was given by the University of Alaska in College (Fairbanks) in 1953. Before 1953, engineers were registered based on education and work experience.

II. GENERAL BOARD POLICIES

- A. Election of Officers - The board elects members to serve as chair, vice-chair, and secretary at the first regularly scheduled meeting of each calendar year, or as needed due to vacancies.
- B. Voting – All permanent board members, including the chair, are entitled to vote on all matters that come before the board, but a conflict of interest may cause a member to abstain. Temporary, non-voting members may not vote but otherwise may fully participate in meetings.
- C. Communications – Board members may use a ListServe or email to communicate between meetings according to Alaska’s Open Meetings Act.
- D. Emeritus Status – The board may nominate outgoing and former board members for Emeritus Status when the former board member notifies the board they will be serving on a NCEES, NCARB, or CLARB committee.
- E. Investigations – The board adopted a “Board Investigative Review Committee” at its February 2006 meeting whereby two board members will meet monthly or as necessary with the board’s investigator to determine merit and disposition of complaints. At the May 2012 meeting the Board adopted a policy that former Board Members could be called on for this service at the discretion of the Investigator.
- F. Date on Sealed Documents – The board adopted a policy to define “close proximity” in 12 AAC 36.185(d) as within two inches of the seal.
- G. Public notice policy – the board adopted a policy at its May 2008 meeting to explain, if warranted, for proposed changes to regulations to accompany the public notice.
- H. Corporations selling or offering to sell pre-engineered structures or parts of structures shall be considered offering professional services in the State of Alaska per AS 08.48.241 and 12 AAC 36.232 and are required to be registered as a professional corporation in the state.

III. BOARD MISSION STATEMENT

The board's mission is to protect the public health, safety, and welfare* through the regulation of the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, and landscape architecture by:

- ensuring that those entering these professions in this state meet minimum standards of competency, and maintain such standards during their practice; and
- enforcing both the licensure and competency requirements in a fair and uniform manner.

*The board's definition for health, safety, and welfare is found in the Guidance Manual

IV. APPLICATION REVIEW POLICIES

A. Work Experience

1. If an applicant initially became registered in a jurisdiction that required less work experience than Alaska, passed an acceptable equivalent exam, and gained experience AFTER initial licensure that meets Alaska's current minimum requirement, the board may consider approving the application by comity.
2. To meet Alaska's requirements, exam candidates may project their anticipated work experience up to the date of the exam. The board does not project responsible charge experience.
12 AAC 36.067. DATE OF EXPERIENCE. Computation of qualifying experience for admission to the examination as an architect, engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect is up to the date of exam.
The board may require that an applicant submit an updated employment verification or letter from present employer before the exam date.
3. Credit for engineer or land surveyor experience BEFORE obtaining a degree shall be based on work experience verifications submitted and evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Education and work experience may not be accumulated concurrently. Note: A maximum of 12 months' credit may be claimed for a calendar year (12 AAC 36.062(b), 12 AAC 36.063(e), 12 AAC 36.064(b), 12 AAC 36.065(f), 12 AAC 36.068(d)).
4. Architect by comity applicants, if initial registration was obtained in another jurisdiction after January 1, 1990, must have completed the NCARB Experience program and submit NCARB verification (12 AAC 36.103).
5. Other Work Experience Issues:
Other verified work experience or questionable experience requires a full board review and the board may require more information.

B. Examinations

1. All NCEES, CLARB, or NCARB exams are considered as acceptable to meet minimum qualifications for exam under 12 AAC 36.100 for architects, engineers, landscape architects, and land surveyors.
2. EQUIVALENT exams:
 - a. Fundamentals of Engineering: NCEES and its equivalent (Alaska offered a state specific exam prior to April 1966 when Alaska began offering the NCEES exam).
 - b. PE: NCEES and its equivalent (Alaska offered a state specific exam prior to April 1966 when Alaska began offering the NCEES national exam).PS, 6 hours: NCEES. (Texas exam is NOT acceptable.)
 - c. SE Exams:
 - 1 NCEES PE Structural Examination (formerly 16-hour NCEES Structural Examination)
 - 2 NCEES Structural II and Washington or California Structural III Examinations – passed before 2011
 - 3 NCEES Structural I and NCEES Structural II – passed before 2006
 - 4 Western States 16-hour Structural Examination – passed before 2004
3. A registrant whose registration has been lapsed for five years or more may reinstate the registration by completing the form "Reinstatement for Expired Registration", paying the current registration fee, and renewing continuing education requirements. If an applicant was originally registered in Alaska by exam before April 1967, or in another state that did not offer the national examinations, the board has the discretion to not require the applicant to take the current national examinations. The board may require retesting for registrants who have had disciplinary action. (12 AAC 36.165)
4. 12 AAC 36.105(d) is interpreted to mean a non-NCEES examination.

5. 12 AAC 36.105(b) is interpreted to mean an engineer by comity must have passed the NCEES exam in the same discipline of their application.
6. The exam referenced in 12 AAC 36.105(d)(1) must be in the same discipline for which the applicant is applying.

C. Education

1. Engineering and/or land surveying exam candidates

- a. The board shall follow the requirements for education credit as outlined in the regulations for FE (formerly the EIT), PE (except as outlined in sub-paragraph 1 below), SE, FS (was formerly the LSIT), and PS exam applicants, (12 AAC 36.062, 12 AAC 36.063, 12 AAC 36.064, 12 AAC 36.065)
 - i. The following alternative ABET accredited engineering degree programs are considered equivalent to the full engineering education allowance for an ABET Accredited Degree Program in the licensed discipline as given in 12 AAC 36.063(3)(B) if the college transcript shows a minimum of 18 credit hours in 300 level or greater coursework related to the desired license discipline. In addition, the work experience verification must show involvement in the work of that discipline.

<u>Discipline</u>	<u>ABET degree program</u>	<u>Alternative ABET engineering degree program</u>
Agricultural (AG)	Agricultural Engineering	Civil Engineering
Chemical (EC)	Chemical Engineering	-
Civil (CE)	Civil Engineering	Architectural Engineering, Construction Engineering, Environmental Engineering, Geological Engineering, Mining Engineering
Control Sys (CS)	-	Architectural Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
Electrical (EE)	Electrical Engineering	Architectural Engineering, Computer Engineering, Computer Science
Environmental (EV)	Environmental Engineering	Civil Engineering
Fire Protection (FP)	Fire Protection Engineering	Architectural Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering
Industrial (IN)	Industrial Engineering	-
Mechanical (ME)	Mechanical Engineering	Architectural Engineering
Metallurgical and Materials (MM)	Metallurgical Engineering	-
Mining and Mineral Processing (EM)	Mining & Mineral Processing	Civil Engineering, Geological Engineering
Naval Architecture and Marine (NM)	Naval Architecture & Marine Engineering	-
Nuclear (NU)	Nuclear Engineering	-
Petroleum (EP)	Petroleum Engineering	-
Structural (SE)	-	Architectural Engineering, Civil Engineering

- b. If degree was earned over a period of more than four years, and the applicant was working at the same time, the board will review the transcripts, comparing work experience verifications and assign calendar years/months for education credits and work experience gained while in college. (12 AAC 36.063(e))
- c. If a person worked full time and attended college simultaneously and obtained a degree after six years, the board will not give the applicant any work experience credit beyond two years.
- d. In 12 AAC 36.064 and .065, coursework in land surveying – no degree (minimum of two years credit hours), means 30 credit hours of core surveying courses and 30 credit hours of professional development courses.
- e. If a person applies for the Fundamentals of Land Surveying Examination before July 1, 2014 and meets 75% of the requirements of one of the Classifications listed under “12 AAC 36.064.(2)(A) – Table A of Education and Work Experience Requirements for Fundamentals of Land Surveying Examination” that person will be

considered in the system and allowed to use “12 AAC 36.065.(2)(A) – Table A of Education and Work Experience Requirements for Professional Land Surveyors” for a period up to five years beyond July 1, 2014.

2. Architectural Exam Candidates

First time architectural registrants applying to take the exam for registration in Alaska shall have an NAAB degree or meet NCARB alternative education standards. Documentation of alternative standards shall be as recommended and accepted by NCARB (per the current NCARB Education standard publication) (12 AAC 36.060)

D. Cold Regions Design

Cold Regions Design courses are approved by the Board. “Successful completion” of a Cold Regions Design course is defined as achieving a minimum final grade of C-.

The following are approved courses:

1. University of Washington: Cold Regions Engineering Short Course.
2. University of Alaska Anchorage:
 - i. UAA Arctic Engineering - CE A603 (semester web-based course)
 - ii. UAA Arctic Engineering – ES AC030 (web-based short course)
 - iii. UAA Northern Design Course – ES A411 (semester course)
 - UAA Arctic Engineering – CE A403 (semester web-based course)
 - v. UAA Introduction to Arctic Engineering – ES AC031 (short course)
3. University of Alaska Fairbanks:
 - i. UAF Arctic Engineering - CE 603 (semester course).
 - ii. UAF Arctic Engineering - CE 603 (web-based semester course).

E. Council Records

1. Applicants for architect registration by comity may submit a completed NCARB Council Certificate with the application. (12 AAC 36.103)
2. Engineer applicants may submit a council record issued by the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) to verify qualifications. (12 AAC 36.105)
3. Intern architects who apply to sit for the Architect Registration Examination (ARE) in Alaska must submit an “NCARB Council Record in Support of Application for Examination”. This council record must include verification of a NAAB degree or compliance with NCARB's education standard (per the current publication). (12 AAC 36.060)
4. An architectural associate may qualify for early testing if they submit a Record Summary to support ARE Eligibility.

F. Continuing Education

Staff is authorized to approve continuing education audits where there is no question that the criteria in the regulation have been met. Where a question exists, the audit will be brought to the Board for review. 08-4052 (Rev 03/14/19)