

Taking the PE exam without experience
OR
Taking the PE exam with 4 or more years of experience

Beginning with the April 2015 exam administration, rule §1305 has been changed to allow candidates to take the Principles and Practice exam prior to obtaining the requisite experience.

§1305. Approval to Take the Examination in the Principles and Practice of Engineering

A. An applicant who meets all of the other requirements for licensure as a professional engineer may be permitted to take the examination in the principles and practice of engineering in the discipline in which he/she seeks licensure.

B. An applicant who has already been duly certified as an engineer intern by the board, but has not yet met the experience requirement for licensure as a professional engineer, may be permitted to take the examination in the principles and practice of engineering in the discipline in which he/she seeks licensure.

You must understand that passing the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination does not necessarily mean that you will receive a professional engineer license. You will still need to obtain the requisite progressive engineering experience. Once you pass this examination and obtain the requisite progressive engineering experience, you must complete Part II of this Application and submit it to LAPELS.

If you are applying to take the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination prior to obtaining the requisite progressive engineering experience, please be aware of the following:

- You must already be duly certified as an engineer intern with LAPELS. Here is a link to the Application for Certification as an Engineer Intern:
<http://www.lapels.com/docs/Applications/EI/EI App with checklist AR.pdf>
- Once you have passed the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination and obtained the requisite progressive engineering experience, you will be required to complete Part II of this Application and submit it to LAPELS.
- You are strongly encouraged to obtain a PE license, prior to taking the 16 hours of Structural Exams (Lateral and Vertical forces). To obtain a PE license with the Structural designation, you must obtain acceptable results, within a five-year period, on both of the structural exam components. You can find additional information on these exams at <http://ncees.org/engineering/se/>.
- **If you ever apply for professional engineer licensure in another jurisdiction, you MAY be required to take the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination again. Some jurisdictions may not honor the “early taking” of the Principles and Practice of Engineering examination prior to obtaining the requisite progressive engineering experience.**

If you believe you have the four years of experience, by the application deadline of December 1 for the April exams and June 1 for the fall exams, and subsequent to your graduation date, you can complete the entire application for board review.