

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Bijan Sharafkhani, P.E.



EXAM DEVELOPMENT AND GRADING SYSTEM

We are often asked how the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) develop a new exam and how the passing scores are determined.

The first step in the developing of an exam is to conduct a Professional Activities and Knowledge Survey (PAKS). The process consists of sending out questionnaires to practitioners in that field, soliciting their input in establishing specifications, and their respective ranking based on their importance and applicability. The specifications denote the question types and the ranking reflects the number of questions that would appear in the exam for that specification. The next step in the process is to write questions (items). The item writers are all volunteers; they are licensed professional engineers and they are diverse in terms of ethnicity, gender, age and experience. Each question is

reviewed and solved independently by at least four other volunteers, to ensure that a minimally competent examinee could solve it within the allotted time. After the administration of the exam, the task of establishing cut score begins by NCEES. To accomplish this, they call upon a panel of volunteers, again a diverse group of licensed professional engineers, representing a cross-section of the population, who were not involved in exam development, to participate in cut score study. The volunteers take the same exam with similar conditions as the candidates. The exams are then graded and returned to the panel either on the same day or the next day. The volunteers with the assistance of a facilitator deliberate on each question and reach a consensus on a score that a minimally competent candidate would be able to achieve. This process will continue for all the questions on that exam. These scores are added; with the use of sound



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Louisiana Professional
Engineering and Land
Surveying Board

psychometric procedures, they are adjusted to represent a 70 % passing score. For future exams, the passing score is equated to allow for variability. Generally, NCEES conducts a PAKS every four to five years. Given the strenuous process of cut -score study, NCEES should be lauded for its effort for notifying the examinees of their results within 8 to 12 weeks of exam administration.

LAPELS

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

LAPELS Board Meeting Dates

March 15-16, 2004

May 24-25, 2004

July 19-20, 2004



LAND SURVEYOR INTERN EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS TO CHANGE

Robert A. "Tony" Huval, P.E.



Robert A. "Tony" Huval, P.E.
Deputy Executive Secretary

At the November 17-18, 2003 meeting of the board, a motion was approved that will change the education requirements for Land Surveyor Interns. The change will not take effect until June 1, 2005 to accommodate those who are "in the pipeline" (working towards meeting the current educational requirements). Before the changes are discussed, I would like to list the current LSI educational requirements. The current requirements were approved by the Board at the January 2001 meeting. The requirements are:

1. The applicant shall hold a baccalaureate degree from a curriculum of four years or more.
2. An applicant for Land Surveyor Intern certification must complete fifteen (15) semester hours with a grade of "C" or better, from college courses in surveying, mapping and real property listed in Group A. These 15 hours must include 3 hours in Boundary Surveying and, at least, 2 hours selected from the Mapping Courses. Semester hours required from Group A and Group B must be completed before a P.L.S. application can be submitted to the Board.

Group A			
Surveying Courses			
Basic Surveying	Route Geometrics/ Route Surveying	Subdivision Design	Legal Aspects of Surveying
Practical Surveying	Topographic Surveying	Advanced Surveying	Evidence and Procedures for Boundary Location
Surveying Practice	Hydrographic Surveying	Geodetic Surveying	Louisiana Surveying and Land Law
Construction Surveying	Surveying Computations	U.S. Public Land Surveys	Boundary Surveying
Mapping Courses			
Drafting /Graphics/CAD	GPS	Air Photo Interpretation/ Remote Sensing	GIS
Geodesy	Mapping	Photogrammetry	Cartography
Real Property Courses			
Real Estate and Land Economics	Real Estate Principles	Real Estate Valuation	Real Estate Law

3. An applicant for Land Surveyor Intern certification must complete an additional 15 hours, with a grade of "C" or better, from college courses or educational areas listed in Group A and/or Group B. No more than 3 hours will be allowed in each college course or educational area listed in Group B.

Group B			
College Trigonometry	Calculus	Legal Research	Dendrology
Analytic Geometry	Computational Methods	Contracts and Specifications	Botany (plant identification)
Linear Algebra	Probability and Statistics	Public Speaking	Surveying Seminars (2 hrs. max.)*

4. The applicant must have satisfactorily completed the LAPELS web-based course on Professionalism and Ethics.

The new Land Surveyor Intern educational requirements scheduled to take effect June 1, 2005 are as follows:

1. The applicant shall hold a baccalaureate degree from a curriculum of four years or more.
2. The applicant shall complete at least **30 semester hours of college surveying courses approved by the Board with a grade of "C" or better in Surveying, Mapping and Real Property listed in Group A.** The 30 hours must include 3 hours in Boundary Surveying and, at least, 2 hours selected from the Mapping Courses.
3. The applicant must have satisfactorily completed the LAPELS web-based course on Professionalism and Ethics.

The change consists of *increasing* the number of Group A semester hours from 15 to 30 and *eliminating* the requirement of 15 hours from Group B.

Please note that if you are currently "in the pipeline", you have until June 1, 2005 to complete the current educational requirements and apply to the Board for certification as a land surveyor intern. Applications received after June 1, 2005 must meet the new educational requirements.

EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Examinations in land surveying and in the Chemical, Civil, Electrical, Environmental, Mechanical, Structural I, and Structural II engineering disciplines are offered in the **spring and fall** of each year.

Examinations in the discipline of Naval Architecture & Marine engineering are offered **ONLY in the spring** of each year.

Examinations in all other engineering disciplines are offered **ONLY in the fall** of each year.

The professional examinations are offered on Fridays, and the fundamentals examinations are offered on Saturdays. Upcoming examination weekends include:

April 15-16, 2005	October 29-30, 2004	October 28-29, 2005
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For the October, 2004 examination:

(1) First-time applications must be received by the Board Office not later than June 1, 2004. The COMPLETE application must be received by this date — incomplete applications may not be processed.

(2) Applications other than first-time applications must be received by the Board Office not later than June 1, 2004.

(3) Student Intern applicants must submit the completed application to their Dean of Engineering. They must also register with NCEES to reserve a seat for the examination and pay the examination fee required by NCEES.

Professional Engineering examinations are administered in Baton Rouge. The Fundamentals of Engineering examinations are administered in New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Lafayette and Ruston. All surveying examinations are administered in Baton Rouge.



ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Robert E. Eddleman, Acting Director of Enforcement



Robert E. Eddleman
Acting Director of
Enforcement

The Enforcement Section of the Board continues to expend numerous hours supporting both Continuing Professional Development and Enforcement issues/problems. For the fiscal year 2003 the section has opened 127 new cases and closed 150 cases. During this same time period, the section has also audited approximately 557 licensees for CPD compliance.

Below are summaries of action on closed cases which resulted in either informal or formal disciplinary action by the Board:

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS IN OTHER STATES AGAINST LOUISIANA LICENSEES: Ten Louisiana professional engineers who were disciplined in other states were sent letters of warning/concern for matters that did not warrant additional Board action.

FELONY CONVICTION: A Louisiana P.E., Jose Barnes, pled guilty to a felony in the United States District Court, for the Northern District of Texas on August 1, 2000. The Board took action against the licensee wherein the licensee signed a Consent Order agreeing to the revocation of his license.

PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING WITH AN EXPIRED LICENSE: A Louisiana P.E., Mr. Chris B. Guidry, admitted to the Board that he had unintentionally practiced engineering in Louisiana for two years while his license was expired. Mr. Guidry immediately renewed his expired license and agreed to a Consent Order in lieu of a formal disciplinary hearing wherein he was assessed a \$200.00 fine, administrative costs of \$200.00 and printing of a summary of this matter in this publication by name.

OTHER ACTIONS: The Board received formal affidavits of complaints against two unlicensed individuals for violations of unlicensed practice and two licensed professional land surveyors for violations of the minimum standards for property boundary surveys. The Board's investigation of unlicensed practice disclosed no violation of the Board's Laws and Rules. The Board's investigation of minimum standards violations disclosed very minor violations and the licensees were sent letters of warning/concern.

THE UNLICENSED PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING/LAND SURVEYING BY FIRMS: The Enforcement Section of the Board identified 37 firms that were

offering and/or practicing engineering and land surveying without proper licensure during the year of 2003. These firms have all since become licensed with the Board.

ITEMS OF INTEREST ON CPD REQUIREMENTS: All licensees who fail to renew their license before their expiration date must submit a Professional Development Hour Activity Log with their late Renewal Invoice. In addition to the normal renewal fee, the licensee will be charged a late renewal fee which is 50% of the normal renewal. If the renewal is over 120 days late, the licensee must submit an Application to Renew an Expired Professional License, a Professional Development Activity Log, documented proof of the 30 hours of Continuing Professional Development and a fee of \$165.00.

LAPELS

New Registrants: for the Period of October 21, 2003 – January 26, 2004

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Aguilar, Mark J.
Anastos, Chris H.
Anderson, Neil O.
Andrews, James A., Jr.
Angelle, Jeremy R.
Armendinger, Robert N.
Arnold, Leonard E., Jr.
Banker, Jeffery W.
Bayles, Douglas J.
Begley, Maryella
Bernard, John R.
Boesch, Gerald S., Jr.
Boice, Corey L.
Bonaventure, David A.
Brandstetter, Charles P. IV
Brian, Clinton A.
Brown, Brook W.
Buckel, Thomas H.
Burks, Shannon L.
Cantey, Kye F.
Cardon, Lee J.
Chau, Kit
Chen, Lawrence L.
Cinco, Moises A.
Clancy, James S.
Clark, Daniel C.
Close, Scott D.
Cole, Cory J.
Crooks, Jerry D., Jr.
Culross, Rene' A.
Daffin, Lynette V.
Darby, Michael M.
Davis, Charles W.
Davis, Leslie L.
Decker, James F.
DeHarde, Thomas J.
Develle, Scott E.
Disher, Christopher B.
Dougan, Brian K.
Doyle, Michael D.
Edmonds, Keith
Einsel, David A.
Erikson, Lloyd R. III
Falbe, Winchester R.
Falkner, Michael J.
Fernandez, Christopher P.
Flores, Ramon H.
Franklin, Jerrod K.
Fratta, Dante O.
Fulton, Thomas B.
Fuselier, Craig J.
Geoffroy, Grady P.
Gohari, Jalal
Grant, Donald W., Jr.
Griffin, Brian P.
Gros, Brent C.
Hall, Andrew R.
Hall, David J.
Hammond, Gretchen S.

Hays, William M.
Henry, Kirk J.
Hogan, Perry P.
Huval, Jebb L.
Hymel, Steven C.
Inbody, Roger L.
Jacobs, Scott E.
Jeansonne, Michael A.
Jordan, Mark A.
Karkaba, Gassan
Kazerooni, David S.
Killen, Mark A.
Koenig, Ryan C.
Kondakalla, Bhasker R.
Larche, Lucien M.
LeBlanc, Jeffery P.
LeBlanc, Kevin M.
Leonard, Peter B.
Liss, Sheldon
Little, Troy B.
Looby, James P.
MacDonald, Daniel S.
Maiden, John D.
Marques, Paul D.
McFarland, Sean M.
Melcher, Travis C.
Melton, David C.
Mencken, Eric A.
Miller, Paul D.
Miller, Scott W.
Mire, Jeffrey W.
Moffett, Brandon A.
Monroe, William T.
Moore, Herbert E. II
Morenc, Edward P.
Morgan, Christopher K.
Morgan, Mitchell L.
Morrissard, Craig R.
Mullinix, Michael P.
Myers, Robert C.
Nation, Gary W.
Nitschke, Michael D.
Norton, Michael W.
Peck, Scott W.
Pertuit, David A., Jr.
Pinter, Timothy E.
Ponder, Thomas B. II
Poole, Joe P.
Powell, James E., Jr.
Pross, Heidi A.
Qie, Shaohua F.
Rayner, Jo A.
Reasonover, Ronald D.
Rice, Ryan J.
Richards, Travis R.
Roberts, William A.
Rodgers, Kevin E.
Salmons, Timothy R.
Sardar, Mohammed K.
Schaefer, Edward H., Jr.
Schexnaydre, Derrill C.

Sinopoli, Albert L.
Smart, Brian D.
Smith, Thomas A.
Stanley, Debra A.
Stewart, Chad E.
Stierwald, Robert L.
Subramaniam, Ganesh
Suwandhaputra, Handoyo
Tate, Beau J.
Thames, George E., Jr.
Tinsley, William E.
Toth, Janos C.
Touring, David E.
Trast, John M.
Tsihlis, Heather D.
Tullier, Daniel J.
Turner, Ryan S.
Udtha, Praveen K.
Vanderbrook, Kevin C.
Veal, Kimberly S.
Virost, David M.
Vlosich, Paul S.
Walker, Arthur T.
Walker, Helen E.
Wedge, Jennifer A.
Wehmeyer, Mark K.
Weston, Karla E.
White, Lisle S.
Whittington, Ryan L.
Wiseman, John D.
Wolter, Brian T.
Yi, Hong
Zareck, Anthony R.
Zygula, Timothy M.

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

Boone, Glenn L.
Dufrene, Peter J.
Hebert, John M.
Hollister, Dale R.
Kent, John M.
McNease, Sherman K.
Oliver, Chris A.
Phillips, Donald S.
Sargent, David W.

ENGINEER INTERNS

Alonso, Christopher R.
Askegren, Michael D.
Barreiro, Ivan D.
Benson, Barbara C.
Bonadona, Lance J.
Bourg, Melissa D.
Cagle, James A.
Clay, Shakira L.
Constans, Ryan J.
Davis, Dishili S.
de Abreu, Ricardo C.
Eddanapudi, Sairam V.

Ellis, James W. II
Fontenot, Jeremy P.
Fontenot, Steven C.
Good, Maxwell A.
Guillory, David R.
Husser, Dale L., Jr.
Ingram, Charles N.
Johnson, Traci L.
Kieffer, Timothy M.
Lemne, Marius P.
LeSage, Brian P.
Lewis, Gail H.
Matthews, Neil F.
McCaskill, Lacey Y.
McCormick, Chad R.
Mixon, Dusk S.
Owuamanam, Jerome I.
Peeva, Tzvetlena P.
Racca, Byron D.
Schaezler, Ryan N.
Schrenk, Brandon S.
Sun, Lu
Thomas, Mark J.
Vanek, Charles M.
Windom, Olan
Yong, Sai Mun
Zenon, Jeremy
Zhou, Ping

LAND SURVEYOR INTERNS

Couvillion, Jared A.
Lobell, Scott M.
Phillips, Matthew E.
Sargent, Darren B.
Toups, Prosper J. III

ENGINEERING FIRMS

All South Professional Service, Inc.
Amteck of Kentucky, Inc.
Architectural & Engineering Consultants, Inc.
Arkansas Precast Corporation
B & F Engineering, Inc.
Bandini Enterprises, Inc.
Barge, Waggoner, Sumner, and Cannon, Inc.
BGA Engineers, Inc.
Brinjac Engineering, Inc.
C_K Associates, L.L.C.
Chicago Bridge & Iron Company (Delaware)
ClearLinx Design, Inc.
Consolidated Electrical Contractors and Engineers, Inc.
Crescent Engineering Group, L.L.C.

New Registrants: for the Period of October 21, 2003 – January 26, 2004

Criterium_Stein Engineers, LLC
 CSRS, Inc.
 Danny J. Hebert, P.E., L.L.C.
 Downs Consulting, Inc.
 Engineering & Inspection Services, L. L. C.
 ENGlobal Engineering, Inc.
 Frank Thompson and Associates, L.L.C.
 French Engineering, Inc. of Texas
 Glover Engineering L.L.C.
 GRL Engineers, Inc.
 Harris Civil Engineers, LLC
 Heery International, Inc.
 Hill Brothers Construction & Engineering Co., Inc.
 Hill_Huffman Construction & Engineering, LLC
 Hughes Associates, Inc. of Maryland
 Hydralift Amclyde, Inc.
 Lichtenstein Consulting Engineers, Inc.
 Magnum Technical Services, Inc.
 Paladin Consulting Services, Inc.
 Pangean_CMD Associates, Inc.
 Piazza Engineering Incorporated

Post_Tension Slabs, Inc.
 Purdy_McGuire Incorporated
 Robert A. Bouchon, Consulting Engineer LLC
 Salmons, P.C. (A Professional Corporation)
 Shaw Coastal, Inc.
 Southern Earth Sciences, Inc.
 Structural Consultants, LLC
 The Advent Group, Inc.
 The Automation Group, L.P.
 The Benham Companies, Inc.
 The Thacker Group, Inc.
 Utility Support Systems, Inc.
 V. B. Cook Co. Limited
 Vanderbrook Engineering Company, LLC
 Williams Engineering & Technology, Inc.
 Z_Group NDE, L.L.C.

LAND SURVEYING FIRMS

Architectural & Engineering Consultants, Inc.
 Nobles & Associates, L.L.C.

New Calculator Policy for Engineering and Land Surveying Exams

In August 27, 2003, NCEES announced that beginning with the April 2004 exam administration, certain calculators will be strictly prohibited from exam sites.

This is not a new policy. For many years, NCEES policy has prohibited calculators that communicate or that may compromise the security of the examination. Beginning with the April 2004 exam administration, NCEES will strictly enforce the policy.

NCEES will prohibit any calculator with either text editing or communication capabilities. Of great concern is the ability to type in text, store it in memory, and then communicate via wireless or cable connections to another calculator, personal computer, printer, or other electronic device. If a calculator model can be made to communicate through the use of modules, software, and/or other add-on devices, then this calculator is deemed to possess communication capabilities and will be prohibited.

There is no NCEES-approved list, but here are a few calculators we know are acceptable. Please keep in mind that this list is not all-inclusive.

Casio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FX-115 MS PLUS • FX-250 HC 	Hewlett Packard: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HP-9 series <i>(this includes the HP-9g and HP-9s)</i> • HP-30s • HP-32s • HP-33s 	Sharp: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EL-506 VB • EL-520 VB 	Texas Instruments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TI-30 series <i>(this includes the TI-30Xa, TI-30X IIB, TI-30X IIS, TI-34 II, TI-36X Solar, and TI-36X II Solar)</i>
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Calculators with communication or text-editing capabilities will be banned from all NCEES exam sites. These include, but are not limited to, the following calculators:

Casio: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CFX9850+ 	Hewlett Packard: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HP 41 series • HP 42S • HP 48 series • HP 49G 	Texas Instruments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TI-83, TI-83 Plus and TI-83 Plus Silver Edition • TI-85 • TI-86 • TI-89 • TI-92 • TI Voyage 200
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Please keep in mind that this list is NOT all-inclusive. If your calculator has the ability to store a string of text and communicate it in any way, it will not be permitted.

(For more information, visit the NCEES website at www.ncees.org/exams/calculators/#policy)