

## **STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

**BRENT M. BRIDGES, PE, CHAIR**

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*Reference: Policy Area: 07 Umbrella: 02 Unit: 322 Citation: T0032 M.R.S.A., Sect.: 000001301*

*Average Counts-All Positions: 1.438 Legislative Count: 1.00*

### **PURPOSE:**

The State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers protects the public by establishing and maintaining professional standards for the regulation of the practice of engineering in Maine. The Board is authorized to examine qualifications of applicants and certify Engineer Interns and license Professional Engineers in Maine; to renew licenses upon receipt of required fees; to maintain a roster of all licensees; to make rules not inconsistent with state laws relating to professional engineers; to investigate complaints of alleged violations of such laws and rules; to conduct hearings; to subpoena witnesses and evidence; and to institute disciplinary action as warranted.

### **ORGANIZATION:**

The Board has seven members. The Governor appoints five Professional Engineers and one public member for staggered five-year terms. The seventh board member is the Chief Engineer of the Maine Department of Transportation, who serves ex-officio. Board members elect a chair and a vice-chair from their membership each year.

The Board maintains membership in the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). Board members and staff participate in NCEES activities and serve on national committees with other member boards from all fifty states, the District of Columbia, and four U.S. territories. NCEES members promote reciprocal licensure and help assure minimum standards of competence to practice. Board members also maintain membership in professional engineering societies. These efforts keep the Board informed of trends in the engineering profession.

### **PROGRAM:**

As of June 30, 2023, there were 7469 professional engineers licensed in Maine. Of that total, 2031, or 27%, are Maine residents.

During FY23, 539 candidates were licensed as professional engineers: 90 qualified for original licensure through examination. 449 qualified for licensure by comity with other jurisdictions. The 443 comity applicants (98.6% of comity applicants) who submitted an NCEES Record with their application received an expedited approval process because their credentials are reviewed and verified in advance by NCEES to a standard that meets or exceeds the standards required under Maine law.

Professional qualifying examinations are administered under an agreement between the Board and the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). All computer-based testing (CBT) format exams are administered in Maine at the Pearson Vue Test Centers in Westbrook and Bangor.

The Principles and Practices of Engineering Exam (PE) and the Structural Exam (SE) are qualifying exams for professional engineering licensure. The Fundamentals of Engineering Exam (FE) is the qualifying exam for engineer intern certification.

The final administration of the NCEES SE examinations in paper format will be held in regional locations through the US in October 2023. No paper SE examinations were administered in Maine in FY23.

Beginning in 2024, the SE exam will be offered in computer-based testing (CBT) format in 4 separate 4-hour component parts, which can be taken individually over a span of up to 5 years. A passing score is achieved only after a candidate has received an acceptable result on all 4 component parts.

Since January 1, 2022, the NCEES PE exams are only offered in computer-based testing (CBT) format. Major exams are offered year-round, while minor exams (those with a limited examinee pool) are offered on a single date in either April or October.

PE Exam results for FY23 are as follows:

PE exam candidates: 170                      PE exam candidates passing: 104 (61%)

The FE exam is administered year-round through computer-based testing (CBT) at Pearson Vue Test Centers. Applicants apply for Engineer Intern Certification after passing the FE exam and graduating from an approved degree program.

FE Exam results for FY23 are as follows:

FE exam candidates: 240                      FE exam candidates passing: 126 (52.5%)

Board meetings were held on these dates during FY23: August 18, 2022; November 17, 2022; January 19, 2023; March 23, 2023; and June 15, 2023.

**LICENSES:**

Professional Engineer License  
Engineer Intern Certification

**PUBLICATIONS:**

"Roster of Professional Engineers" \$10.00 (printed) - available free online.  
"Title 32, Revised Statutes of Maine, Chapter 19, Engineers"  
"02-322 C.M.R. Ch. 1-6"  
"Newsletter" - Electronic - emailed to all licensees and available free online.