



# Maine PE News

March 2019

Volume 19, Issue 1

## Changes in Statute and Rules

### Board Members:

- Mandy Holway Olver, PE, Chair
- Brent Bridges, PE, Vice Chair
- Clifton Greim, PE
- Joyce Noel Taylor, PE
- Russell G. Martin, PE, Complaint Officer
- Susan M. Lessard, Public Member
- Jude Pearse, PE

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The State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers met recently with a number of representatives of professional engineering organizations and several engineering firms and discussed proposed changes to the statute and rules.

One of the items discussed was the elimination of temporary licensure. After discussing the length of time it takes to receive reciprocal licensure for candidates who apply with or without an NCEES Record, all parties agreed that the processing times were short enough that there is no real need for temporary licensure when weighed against the responsibility to protect the public. The Board determined that it would be appropriate to eliminate temporary licensure and require full licensure for anyone who wants to offer or practice professional engineering in Maine.

The issue of the Board budget was also discussed. As you likely know, the Board receives no money from taxes or the General Fund, and is entirely dependent on the fees paid by licensees to support its budget. While the expenses of the Board have continued to rise, the fees have remained static for years. At the present time, the Board runs an annual deficit that will lead the Board to insolvency within a few years. Therefore the Board will propose the first fee increase in over fifteen years, with annual licensure fees rising from \$40 per year to \$60 per year. Other fees will have corresponding increases, while some fees, such as the fee for a replacement wall certificate, will be eliminated.

A number of housekeeping issues that were in the statute revision that was proposed a year or more ago were also discussed and supported by those present. The proposed statutory revisions can be seen on the Board's home page.

Once the draft of the statute is complete and submitted, it will be presented before the newly created IDEA Committee, which was one of two standing legislative committees created from the former LCRED Committee, and the Committee will schedule a public hearing on that bill at a future date.

The fee change will be handled through rulemaking, and once that rule is posted publicly you will have time to comment on the proposed rule change.

In the meantime, if you wish to make a comment to the board, please feel free to email the board at: [professional.engineers@maine.gov](mailto:professional.engineers@maine.gov).

## FE Exam Results Jan 2018 to Jun 2018

These individuals successfully passed the FE exam between January, 2018 and June, 2018.  
The FE exam is a computer-based examination offered year-round at PearsonVue testing centers.

Christopher Albert	Charles Daigle	Ryan Hayden	Parker Midura	John Seekins
Eunyoung Austin	Jennie Daley	Brianne Hicknell	Matthew Mills	Sydney Seney
Taylor Bemis	Rachel Detwiler	Megan Hooper	Corey Oliver	Brianna Smith
Colin Benson	Emily Doty	Brian Kearsley	Zechariah Palmeter	Ryder Soucy
Rachael Bergeron	Justin DuBois	Bennett Keyes	Michael Paquette	Gregory Standley
Dalton Binette	Connor Dufour	Nicholas Lajoie	Jeffrey Pass	Timothy Storey Jr.
Anthony Boucher	William Eaton	Jeffrey Legere	Zachary Pease	Trent Swengel
Matthew Breuer	Andrew Fleishman	Brandon Lieberthal	Taylor Pepin	Benjamin Theriault
Isiah Brown	Neil Franklin	Cody Lyons	Jorge Perez Armino	Brody Thompson
Beau Burgau	Amy Franklin	Andrew Manzi	Richard Perry II	Mercedes Valdez
Andrew Butler	Adam Fullmer	Paige Martin	Jeremie Pierce	Joseph Varanelli
Jacob Chubbuck	Dylan Gard	Derek Masionis	Christopher Pyke	Ian Wilson
Dillon Clifford	Morgane Gaudissart	Joshua McCauley	Matthew Rabasco	Marcel Young-Scaggs
Justin Cottle	Jacob Gendreau	Evan McLean	Evan Raymond	
Victoria Courchaine	Joshua Gordon	Garvey Melmed	Benjamin Robichau	
Bridget Cullen	Jeffrey Graveson	Nicholas Messina	Samuel Rock	

## Congratulations to those who passed the April 2018 SE Exam

Jonathan Ellowitz

## Congratulations to those who passed the April 2018 PE Exam

Mohamadtaqi Baqersad	Caleb Frederick	Ian Messier	Brian Steele
Drew Bessette	Nickole Gagne	Wilfred Morin	Peter Stockless
Mark Boucher	Antonio Garcia-Palencia	Sam Newsom	Collin Stuart
Robert Brandow	Brendan Gates	Thomas Nosal	Phillip Szottfried
Tyler Brown	Rychel Gibson	Andrew Novak	Kevin Tomberlin
Owen Chaplin	Joshua Gildert	Joel Parent	John Zito
Jason Churches	Michael Hross	McKenzie Parker	
Ariel Davidson	Anish Kayiparambil P.	Zachary Rich	
Latif Ebrahimnejad	Matthew Kramer	Peter Roberts	
Alan Farrington	Douglas Labranche	Erik Rodstrom	
Amber Ferland	Johnathan Malloy	Billy Roy	
Lauren Flanders	Leanna Martin	Asa Sproul	



Approved seal format

## NCEES Record program helps licensure mobility

The NCEES Record program was developed to facilitate the movement of licensure from one jurisdiction to another. Licensees who maintain an NCEES Record can benefit from an expedited licensure process in most jurisdictions. In Maine, for example, the Board office can turn around a licensure application with an up-to-date NCEES Record in most instances within two or three days. In the alternative, an application submitted entirely by the licensee can take as long as the longest response time from one of your references, or your university Record's Office, or the supervisor from that job you had a few years ago who may or may not have moved on.

As professional engineering becomes increasingly multi-jurisdictional, it is helpful for licensees to have a way to gain licensure in additional jurisdictions quickly and without replicating the entire application process.

Any licensee can create a Record at no cost. There is no longer an annual fee to maintain the Record. There is an initial fee of \$175 charged for the first time you ask NCEES to transmit your record to another jurisdiction, and a \$75 fee for each subsequent time. That is typically less expensive than the time it would take you to gather your transcripts, exam results, experience record and references on your own.

Before you transmit your Record to a new jurisdiction, you will have the opportunity to review it, to make sure all of the information is current, and thereby avoid unnecessary delays to licensure.

The Record contains the information that most jurisdictions will need to process your licensure application. Your education, examinations, experience, and references are all included in the Record. The MLE and MLSE designations let boards know that your qualifications meet the licensure standards outlined in the Model Law. A few jurisdictions have additional requirements, such as specialized testing for earthquakes or cold weather, which would need to be done in accordance with their requirements at the time of application.

Any licensee can create an NCEES Record by logging into NCEES with your NCEES ID number. Most licensees are able to complete their initial Record within a month or so. Those who are just starting out and are not yet licensed should also consider entering all of their information into an NCEES Record, since more and more states are allowing the Record to be used for an application for original licensure.

## Reminder to Review Statute and Rule

“I didn’t know I needed to do that” is a frequent response when we remind licensees of a duty that is clearly established in statute or Rule. We understand that licensees are busy, so we would like to remind licensees of a couple of issues that crop up repeatedly.

1. Licensees need to notify the Board office of any change in contact information within 10 days of the change. That includes changing jobs, moving a residence, or changing phone or email. If you don’t get a renewal reminder be-

cause you did not change your email address, and then are practicing without a license, you can cause yourself great inconvenience. Contact information can be changed by accessing the database through the account established when you last renewed your license.

2. Licensees need to notify the Board of any criminal conviction within 30 days of final adjudication. Please be aware that reads conviction, not arrest, and that final adjudication includes the appeal

deadline.

3. Licensees are required to notify the Board of any discipline in any other jurisdiction within 30 days of final action. Again, that does not mean a pending complaint, nor does it include dismissals. We only need to see actual discipline, which would likely be revocation, suspension, or a Consent Agreement. A letter of reprimand is not discipline. Please include the final decision and the order, so that we know what the discipline

is based on. If the Board needs additional information, we will reach out to you.

4. Licensees doing business with the public must post a copy of their license in a location that is accessible to the public. Since you can print a copy of your license at any time it should not be too difficult to put a copy of your license in a frame and mount it someplace where clients may see it, like the conference room or reception area. It does not need to be posted in a window.

## Introducing Our Newest Board Member, Judith R. Pearse, PE



Judith “Jude” Pearse is a licensed professional engineer in Maine and a Professor of Electrical Engineering Technology at the University of Maine, where she has taught for the past 16 years. Her teaching areas include Digital Communications, Programmable Logic Controllers, Microcontrollers, Engineering Economics, and Project Management.

Mrs. Pearse joined Bath Iron Works after completing her Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1986. There she worked on shipboard electrical systems until being promoted to Project Engineer. After leaving BIW in 1989, Jude started her own company, Robash Unlimited. With a staff of 5, she provided training services, computer consulting, LAN installation and maintenance and Oracle database and SQL programming services to a variety of companies throughout Maine until 1995. While doing so, Jude received her Master of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering ('96) from the University of Maine and also served as a Teaching Associate in UMaine’s Department of Electrical Engineering.

Jude Pearse was then employed by Animated Images (Ai) of Camden, Maine, a software company catering to some of the largest apparel firms in the world. Employed initially as a software trainer, Jude was eventually promoted to Vice President of Ai’s Client & Technical Services Group, where she managed 7 offices in the US and worldwide and,

with her staff, was responsible for over \$2.5 million in sales. When Ai was acquired in 2001, Jude became a contract Project Manager for Bowdoin College’s web redesign project until its completion. At that time, Jude joined the University of Maine’s Electrical Engineering Technology (EET) Program, where she has not only taught, but served as Department Coordinator for 8 years and as Interim Director during the 2015-2016 academic year. Jude was also awarded UMaine’s 2010 Presidential Outstanding Teaching Award.

On a personal level, Jude enjoys teaching and working with students to help them recognize their abilities and achieve their goals, and her bond with many of them continues after they graduate. To that end, she became a notary public in 2018 at the request of two EET alumni to have her marry them and has since performed marriage services for two other alumni and a current EET student.

Most important, Jude lives in Hope (as should we all) with Tim, her husband of 19 years, and their 16-year-old son, Joshua, who is her favorite student of all.

# NCEES PE Exam Conversion Schedule

NCEES is converting all PE exams and the SE exam to computer-based testing. Some exams will be offered year-round, and others with a smaller testing population will only be offered on a single date nationwide. The current conversion schedule is below, and may change. The most significant challenge to conversion is the volume of reference materials, which accounts for the Civil and Structural exams taking longest.

**ALREADY CONVERTED TO CBT** (These exams are no longer available on paper. CBT exams are taken at one of the two PearsonVue testing centers in Maine.)

2018	PE Chemical	Year-round
	PE Nuclear	Single-day – October 15, 2019
2019	PE Environmental	Year-round
	PE Petroleum	Single-day October 15, 2019

**PENDING CONVERSION TO CBT:**

2020	Year-round	PE Mechanical: HVAC and Refrigeration PE Mechanical: Machine Design and Materials PE Mechanical: Thermal and Fluids Systems
	Single-day (date TBD)	PE Fire Protection PE Industrial and Systems
2021	Year-round	PE Electrical and Computer: Power
	Single-day (date TBD)	PE Agricultural and Biological PE Electrical and Computer: Computer Engineering PE Electrical and Computer: Electronics, Controls, and Communications PE Mining and Mineral Processing
2022	Single-day (date TBD)	PE Architectural PE Control Systems PE Metallurgical and Materials PE Naval Architecture and Marine
2023	Year-round	PE Civil: Construction PE Civil: Geotechnical Year-round PE Civil: Structural Year-round PE Civil: Transportation Year-round PE Civil: Water Resources and Environmental Year-round
2024	TBD	Structural exam (SE)

# Change in Credential Policy

The State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers voted on January 17, 2019 to alter its policy relating to the use of job titles that include the term “engineer.” This policy change applies only to individuals who are graduates of an approved degree program who are working under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer.

Representatives of professional societies and several engineering firms in Maine met with the Board on January 17 to discuss the issues of credentialing and job titles for their employees. After lengthy discussion, the Board voted to change the policy.

The Board’s vote now permits engineering graduates working under the supervision of a licensed PE to use job titles that convey their engineering expertise. Individuals who have graduated from an approved degree program, such as an accredited engineering or engineering technology program, who work under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer, may now use titles that describe their engineering discipline, such as “Civil Engineer,” “Electrical Engineer,” “Mechanical Engineer,” or “Structural Engineer” as well as work-related titles such as “Project Engineer,” “Resident Engineer,” “City Engineer,” “Engineer Manager,” “Engineer I,” “Engineer II,” “Engineer III” or the like. Those who are licensed as professional engineers have always been permitted to use such titles.

Individuals who are not licensed as professional engineers, do not hold an approved degree, or who are not working under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer, are not permitted to use such titles because of the potential to confuse the public. This prohibition continues current policy that the use of those terms by someone who is not a licensed professional engineer or working under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer could lead the public to think the person is authorized to practice or to offer to practice professional engineering. That would constitute unlicensed practice and would violate Maine law.

Maine enacted legislation regulating the profession of engineering in 1935 to safeguard the life, health and property of Maine citizens. (See 32 M.R.S.A. § 1251 *et seq.*). Under the plain language of the Maine statute, before an individual can perform or offer to perform professional engineering services in the State of Maine, they must be licensed as a professional engineer or exempted from licensure. See 32 M.R.S.A. § 1351.

As defined in statute, the “[p]ractice of professional engineering means any professional service, such as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, design or responsible supervision of construction in connection with any public or private utilities, structures, buildings, machines, equipment, processes, works or projects, wherein the public welfare or the safeguarding of life, health or property is concerned or involved, when such professional service requires the application of engineering principles and data.” 32 M.R.S.A. § 1251 (3).

The Board’s prior interpretation of the statute was that any person who occupied a position that performed or offered to perform services consistent with the statutory definition of professional engineering who was not licensed as a professional engineer and who used the term “engineer” in a title or job description could be perceived by the public to be practicing professional engineering, and therefore the Board restricted the type of language that could be used to describe their job functions.

However, representatives of the professional societies and engineering firms pointed out that they were at a



## Change in Credential Policy (cont.)

disadvantage in the market because they could not accurately communicate the skill level of their employees. Since the terms “Professional Engineering” and “Professional Engineer” are protected in the statute, but the terms “engineering” and “engineer” are not, the companies argued that there were others who could legitimately refer to themselves as “engineers” or promote their engineering abilities and not run afoul of the statute, but that they themselves would run afoul of the Board’s interpretation of statute simply by accurately stating the level of education and experience of the engineers they employ who are not yet licensed.

In addition, they argued that because an exemption to the statute permits an unlicensed person to perform professional engineering tasks under the direction of a professional engineer, that this policy change is not inconsistent with the statute. The supervising professional engineer bears full legal responsibility for all engineering work done under their supervision, and must assure that it is done to the required standards; therefore, the public safety is not compromised by the change. The Board found the argument persuasive, and voted in favor of the change.

The two credentials granted by the State of Maine are: Professional Engineer (PE) licensure; and Engineer-Intern (EI) certification. Please note that Maine does not grant a separate Structural Engineer (SE) credential, therefore it is not used in Maine. If, however, you have an SE credential from a discipline-specific jurisdiction that you desire to include on your website, business card or letterhead, best practice would be to include the jurisdiction where the credential is held. Example: Hank Hankson, PE (ME, NH), SE (IL).

This format is also strongly advised as a best practice for firms with multiple licensees. Each licensee should be listed with their jurisdiction(s) of licensure: Jane Smith, PE (ME, MA, VT); Kevin Crandle, PE (ME, NH); Samantha Shiner, EI (ME); Bill Taylor, EIT (MA). This avoids improperly implying licensure or inadvertently offering services in a jurisdiction in which they have not been licensed or certified.

In Maine, the appropriate credential for those certified but not yet licensed is Engineer-Intern or EI. Maine statute was revised in 1995 and the Engineer-in-Training or EIT designation was changed to Engineer-Intern or EI. The EIT designation should no longer be used by engineers certified in Maine. Anyone who is still using the outdated EIT designation may request a replacement Engineer-Intern certificate from the board office at no cost, and should update their business documentation to reflect certification as an Engineer-Intern.

Anyone certified as an EI or EIT outside of Maine should not use that credential on letterhead or a business card without specifying the issuing jurisdiction after the credential. If you wish to use the EI credential in Maine, best practice is to apply and pay the required fee (currently \$10) to obtain reciprocal certification. EI certification is not required for eventual PE licensure in Maine, but it is required to use the EI credential in Maine.

Please also be aware that “FE” is not a credential of any kind and should never be used in relation to your status as a practitioner. The NCEES FE exam is the preliminary national exam covering the fundamentals of engineering and the FE designation is proprietary to NCEES.

If you have questions regarding your use of credentials, please feel free to contact the board office.

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**State Board of Licensure  
For Professional Engineers**

92 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0092

Phone: 207-287-3236  
Fax: 207-287-3239  
Email: [professional.engineers@maine.gov](mailto:professional.engineers@maine.gov)

## Help for Foreign-trained Engineers Seeking Licensure

Portland Adult Education has published an excellent resource for foreign-trained engineers who want to become licensed in Maine. Please feel free to pass along the information or print a copy for anyone who can use this information.

This link to the booklet can be found on the Board website under “Helpful Links.”