

# NM Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors Newsletter

**The Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors  
would like to welcome Glen Thurow, PS as Board Chair**



**G**len has been licensed since 1991 and is currently the owner of Land Links Consulting Service, a surveying and geospatial development firm in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Prior to his current position he was vice-president for Geographic Coordinate Data Base development at Premier Geospatial, Inc. and oversaw projects in the development of the Cadastral National Spatial Data Infrastructure. Glen has also taught

surveying and Geographic Information Systems courses at the Central New Mexico Community College and is a former chair of the Surveying Engineering Industrial Advisory Committee to the surveying program at New Mexico State University. He is a past-president of the New Mexico Professional Surveyors and was honored as the NM Surveyor of the Year in 2003. He served as the state lobbyist for NMPS from 2000 to 2006. Glen was also the NSPS governor for New Mexico from 2009 to 2014. He was one of the founding directors of the New Mexico Professional Surveyors Educational Foundation and is still active as an educator with the NSPS Certified Survey Technician program.

Glen Thurow, PS, CFedS



## **Perry Valdez**

Acting Executive Director

## **Glen Thurow, PS**

Board Chair

## **Ronald Bohannon, PE**

Board Vice-Chair

## **Karl Tonander, PE**

Board Secretary

### **Professional Engineers Committee**

**Karl Tonander, PE**  
PE Chair

**Ronald Bohannon, PE**  
**Rola Idriss, PhD., PE**

**Paul Brasher, PE**

**Julie Samora, PE**

**Joshua Skarsgard, Esq.**  
Public Member

### **Professional Surveyors Committee**

**David Cooper, PS**  
PS Chair

**Clifford Spirock, PS**

**Glen Thurow, PS**

**Augusta Meyers**  
Public Member

## ***New Security Feature for our Wall Cards***

Our board has been working with Rob Newlin, Director of State Printing, on updating and modifying our pocket and wall cards using a new holographic seal to improve its security features. This will help prevent forgery and any type of manipulation to the certificate. This halo-graphic seal will give the certificates a more professional look adding a shiny silver colored seal, but



**Perry Valdez, acting executive director and Rob Newlin, printing director  
touring the State Printing facility warehouse**

most of all, will be cost effective for us to print compared to the older certificates now in use. We are planning on using these certificates at the beginning of the new fiscal year and our office is very excited about rolling out the certificates to our licensees.

## **Would you like to submit an article?**

Did you know that you can earn up to 10 PDHS for submitting an article to our newsletter that contributes to the technical or professional education or the competency of your field of practice. If you would like to submit an article , please e-mail it to:

[samantham.romero02@state.nm.us](mailto:samantham.romero02@state.nm.us) . You will receive a response with the date of release for the newsletter in which your article will be posted. If you have any questions or concerns regarding content please contact us at 505.476.4565

NMAC 16.39.2.8 Subsection (D) (10), (E) (6)

Submission requirements :

- Your article submission should be between 250 to 600 words.
- The content of your article should be directly related to the engineering or surveying profession, exceptions are news updates that could effect licensees, the board, or national requirements.
- The board and board staff reserve the right to refuse to publish and or credit PDHs for articles that are found to not meet these requirements.



# Model Law change brings timing of PE exam into focus

**DECOUPLING ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE** from the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exam has been debated for a few years. Some states already allow candidates to take the PE exam early. The requirements for early testing vary among those state boards that allow it, ranging from requiring no experience to a minimum number of years after graduation to no experience on the condition of meeting certain qualifications. In 2014, NCEES member boards voted to remove from the *Model Law* the requirement that the four years of progressive engineering experience had to be earned before taking the PE exam. The majority of licensing boards do not allow early taking of the PE exam at this time, but with the recent change to the *Model Law*, various boards are considering how they want to deal with the issue for their jurisdictions.

State boards that are reassessing the experience requirement are exploring how their decision may impact their licensees when seeking licensure by comity in another state. The impact may be minimal, if any, since all boards agree that four years of experience in engineering are required for obtaining licensure no matter when the exam is taken.

## Professional exam before professional experience?

The PE exam is considered by most to be a professional practice exam that tests candidates' engineering knowledge beyond the classroom setting. Will candidates who have not begun their career be able pass the exam? Following from that, two questions come to mind: first, what is the PE exam testing—is it testing relevancy based on experience or academic knowledge—and second, if the PE exam is taken prior to obtaining any experience, is the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam necessary? These are questions to consider since some candidates may attempt the PE exam right after the FE exam. I believe the response to these questions would not change the PE exam or make the FE exam obsolete.

## Consider the options

Whatever your board's choice on the matter is, there are two existing licensure processes that could work as a foundation: the Kentucky model or the New Mexico model. Kentucky's model allows candidates to apply to take the PE exam without any experience if they have passed the FE exam and met the education requirements. Once candidates pass the PE exam and obtain the required four years of experience, they can apply for licensure. New Mexico's model allows for candidates to apply to take the PE exam after a minimum of two years of experience if they have passed the FE exam and met the education requirement. Once candidates pass the exam and obtain the remaining years of experience, they may apply for licensure.

The change of decoupling the PE exam from experience is a reality in some states, providing a progressive method for advancing licensure. The decoupling change opens the door to the future, where it may lead to automatic approvals to take the FE and PE exams and candidates applying for licensure after meeting all requirements. This is an issue that requires careful consideration and attention to decide the role, and importance, of the FE and PE exams and how best to deal with mobility.

*Story by : Perry Valdez  
Acting Executive Director for the  
New Mexico Board of Licensure for  
Professional Engineers and Professional  
Surveyors*



# Changes to the New Mexico Administrative Code

On March 27, 2015 the Board held a rules hearing to discuss proposed changes to the New Mexico Administrative Code. The Board thoroughly reviewed the rules for over a year. It was their intent to ensure language was cleaned up, that the rules are clear and understandable, and bring the rules up-to-date with the 2012 New Mexico Engineering and Surveying Practice Act.

**The adopted changes are effective as of July 1, 2015.** Below is a summary of these changes:

## **16.39.1 NMAC – Professional Engineering and Surveying – General Provisions**

- Agency address change.
- “Category” and “Branch” definitions added.
- Language clean-up for sections 8, 12, 15 and 17.
- Update to the order of business at meetings

## **16.39.2 NMAC – Continuing Professional Development**

- Agency address change.
- Definition of Ethics Training
- Change in the amount of ethics required for licensure renewal.
- Removal of subscriptions as a PDH credit
- Language clean-up for section 8.

## **16.39.3 NMAC – Engineering Licensure, Disciplines, Applications, Exams, Practice, Seal of License and Endorsements**

- Agency address change.
- Definitions updated.
- Engineering disciplines updated with Software Engineering and Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering
- Consideration for other engineering disciplines.
- Fire Protection discipline section removed.
- Sections 9 and 10 updated regarding the new procedures for NCEES computer based testing.
- Section 11, part A updated with the wording ‘accept work’.
- Modifications to the seal of licensee.
- Update in Section 13 regarding the requirements for endorsement.

## **16.39.4 NMAC – Incidental Practice**

- Agency address change
- Construction value increased to \$600,000

(Continued on next page)



## **Changes to the New Mexico Administrative Code**

### **16.39.5 NMAC – Surveying – Applications, Examinations, Practice of Surveying, Seal of License**

- Agency address change.
- Definitions updated.
- Sections 8 and 9 updated regarding the new procedures for NCEES computer based testing.
- Section 12, a new section added to provide a history of the endorsement requirements from previous years.

### **16.39.6 NMAC – NEW – Licensure for Military Service Members, Spouses and Veterans**

- Provides expedited endorsement licensure to military service members, their spouses, and veterans.

### **16.39.7 NMAC – Misc. – Procedures for Revocation, Suspension, Imposition of Fines, Reissuance of Certificates and Disciplinary Action**

- Language clean up.

### **16.39.8 NMAC – Code of Professional Conduct – Engineering and Surveying**

- Modifications to the code of professional conduct.

**Perry Valdez  
Acting Executive Director for the  
New Mexico Board of Licensure for  
Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors**





## News Article for Boardroom News

### Minimum Standards for Surveying

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One of the activities that the Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors is periodic review of the laws and rules under which the board operates. These include the Engineering and Surveying Practice Act, the Administrative Code, and for the Surveying Committee, the Minimum Standards for Surveying in New Mexico.

Changes to the Engineering and Surveying Practice Act are done through legislative initiative. The Act itself “sunset” every five years with the next termination scheduled for July 1, 2017. The board continues to operate under the Act for an additional year with repeal occurring on July 1, 2018. The Act is reintroduced before then with any modifications deemed appropriate by various stakeholders affected by its provisions.

The Administrative Code and the Minimum Standards are considered “permanent” meaning that they do not periodically sunset like the Act. However, this does not mean that they never change. Recently, the Administrative Code was reviewed and updated during a rules hearing. These changes will manifest themselves in the issuance of a revised code later this year. In a similar fashion, the time has come to review and modify, as appropriate, the Minimum Standards for Surveying in New Mexico. To that end the Surveying Committee is soliciting comments about the current Minimum Standards with suggestions for modification of the existing provisions as well as any new language necessary to augment and enhance the existing standards.

A subcommittee to the Professional Surveying Committee has been formed to review the existing standards all comments collected over the next several months with an anticipated rules hearing to consider the revisions tentatively scheduled for September of this year. A draft document will be published on the board’s website. An official news item will also be published noting the date, time, and place for the rules hearing. Once the draft document is published I would encourage a careful reading of the proposed standards and submitting any additional comments before the hearing. Additional comments will be accepted at the hearing as well.

The surveying subcommittee has already received some comments for consideration but more are needed to ensure that the final standards are clear, comprehensive, and logical. Your input into the process is critical to its success. Please email your comments to: [samantham.romero2@state.nm.us](mailto:samantham.romero2@state.nm.us) or mail to: Sami Romero, Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors, P.O. Box 25101, Santa Fe, NM 87504. If you are editing existing language it would be helpful to strike through the current language and redline additional or new language. A digital pdf copy of the standards is available at the board’s website: <http://www.sblpes.state.nm.us/policy.html>. **All submissions should be received by October 9, 2015 for consideration by the Professional Surveying Committee at their November 5, 2015 meeting with a Rules Hearing date for final consideration set at that time. Additional comments will be considered at the Rules Hearing.**

This is our opportunity to revise and update a document that we will need to live with for years to come. The last revision was in 2007, eight years ago. It will be at least that long, if not longer, before another revision occurs. Let’s get it right.

By Glen Thurow, P.S., CFedS

# Professional Engineers Page

David Montoya — Licensing Manager NMBLPEPS



## *Congratulations PE Examinees 04/17/2015*

<i>James Brandenburg</i>	<i>Linda Wong</i>	<i>Ryan Clapp</i>
<i>David Smith</i>	<i>Julius Heslop</i>	<i>Edward Naidu</i>
<i>Gregory McManigal</i>	<i>William Hudson</i>	<i>Benjamin Hames</i>
<i>Jose Cordoba</i>	<i>Kyle De Herrera</i>	<i>Karla Brawner</i>
<i>Casey Dick</i>	<i>Eric Meyer</i>	<i>Brett McGinty</i>
<i>Evans Sordiashe</i>	<i>Benjamin Ramirez</i>	<i>Derlin Cambell</i>
<i>Partick Purdy</i>	<i>Emile Saint-Lot</i>	<i>Raymundo Olivas</i>
<i>Jessica Crane</i>	<i>Tanner Schmidt</i>	<i>Richard Rychlik</i>
<i>John Berry</i>	<i>Jacob Hays</i>	<i>Audra Gallegos</i>
<i>Logan Shores</i>	<i>Joel Brown</i>	<i>Stephanie Zertuche</i>
<i>Brian Holmes</i>	<i>Zachary Libbin</i>	<i>Shahin Abdollahy-Boroogeni</i>
<i>Anthony Cabrera</i>	<i>Eric Lopez</i>	<i>Eric Stockton</i>

## *Congratulations FE Examinees April—June 2015*

<i>Louis Vigil</i>	<i>Jason Tillotson</i>	<i>Linnett Jose</i>
<i>Amanda Rose</i>	<i>Francesco Martinez</i>	<i>Christopher Armstrong</i>
<i>Phillip Gartner</i>	<i>Xiaotian Zhao</i>	<i>Daniel Boyd</i>
<i>Victoria Carr</i>	<i>Dustin Davidson</i>	<i>William Kessler</i>
<i>Timothy Lynn</i>	<i>Alexandrea Dodge</i>	<i>Patrick Ward</i>
<i>Jacob Gurule</i>	<i>Kevin Baumgartner</i>	<i>Corey Bowen</i>
<i>Kyel Newberry</i>	<i>Arturo Regalado</i>	<i>Abram Lane</i>
<i>Franco Buck</i>	<i>Tyler Pratt</i>	<i>Adrian Mora-Delgado</i>
<i>Austin Brown</i>	<i>Brian Ruskauff</i>	<i>Cong Chen</i>
<i>Joseph Sugrue</i>	<i>Isabel Morris</i>	<i>Maxwell Haber</i>
<i>Caleb Mason</i>	<i>Luis Varela-Avila</i>	<i>Joseph Kloeppel</i>
<i>Daniel Wermer</i>	<i>Eric Michalski</i>	<i>Travis Savage</i>
<i>Michael Griswold</i>	<i>Melba Aguilar</i>	<i>Francisco Sanchez</i>
<i>Emma Starrett</i>		



## ***Congratulations New PS Examinees & Licensees***



The New Mexico State Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors would like to thank you and welcome the new Surveyors from the State of New Mexico and from all over the country. We are looking forward to working with you in the future and welcome your services to our beautiful State.

New Mexico State University - Harold Foreman Building  
Las Cruces, New Mexico

## **2 Hour PS State Specific Exam June 26, 2015**

Jacob Backowski  
Stanley Drannon  
Robert Lastrapes

Bryan Bunch  
Micah Gustin  
Jesus Lajara

Cody Clark  
Kevin Lane

## **Congratulation PS Examinees April 2015**

Steven Coleman  
Robert Fierro

Cody Clark  
Rene Silvas

Ahmed Elaksher  
Adrian Reyes





# Professional Engineers and Surveyors Page

David Montoya — Licensing Manager NMBLPEPS

The New Mexico Professional Engineer and Surveyor Board would like to congratulate our newest Retirees and thank them for all of their service over the years. Without your service we would not have been able to keep our State growing it's infrastructures, developing lands and so much more...

## Professional Engineer Retirees

<i>Louis S. Karably</i>	<i>Craig E. Watts</i>	<i>Robert F. Daly, Sr.</i>	<i>Gary D. Church</i>
<i>Michael DeWitte</i>	<i>Gregory C. Miller</i>	<i>George C. Allen, Jr.</i>	<i>Robert F. Wells</i>
<i>Edward Ytuarte</i>	<i>Josef Kratochvil</i>	<i>Nicholas C. Jasper</i>	<i>Jack B. Tillman</i>
<i>Thomas D. Ashwill</i>	<i>David R. Brosman</i>	<i>Ronald A. Torgerson</i>	<i>Steven P. Peak</i>
<i>Marvin G. Zimmerman</i>	<i>Robert Greenlee</i>	<i>Peter T. Dzwilewski</i>	<i>Harry J. Ettinger</i>
<i>William Westmoreland</i>	<i>Richard Whitaker</i>	<i>Christian R. Nofsinger</i>	<i>Martin McCarthy</i>
<i>Michael Noland</i>	<i>Joel H. Fenster</i>	<i>Gwinn Hall</i>	<i>Michael Morgan</i>
<i>Thomas Lewandowski</i>	<i>John Littrell</i>	<i>Geoffrey C. Bell</i>	<i>Arthur L. Moss</i>
<i>Regno Arulgnanendran</i>	<i>David Kent Isbell</i>	<i>Melvyn Green</i>	<i>James Wernick</i>
<i>Anthony E. Sill</i>	<i>G. Parker Bell</i>	<i>Philip Fischer</i>	<i>Gary S. Anderson</i>
<i>Francis W. Henri, Sr.</i>	<i>Steven R. Rae</i>	<i>Charles J. Mead</i>	<i>Kevin Ray Glovier</i>
<i>Richard H. Paulk</i>	<i>Alan Wright</i>	<i>Austin L. Vick</i>	<i>Daniel Williams</i>
<i>John G. Kosanovich</i>	<i>John E. Burkstaller</i>	<i>Douglas E. Bell, Jr.</i>	<i>Richard A. Jordan</i>
<i>Robert E. Oxford</i>			

## Professional Surveyor Retirees

<i>George L. Mundell</i>	<i>Gary Dawson</i>	<i>Joseph W. Schmitt</i>	<i>Edward Ytuarte</i>
<i>Victor Topmiller, Jr.</i>			

## Heads Up Notification Announcement



P.O. Box 1686 (280 Seneca Creek Rd.) Clemson, SC 29633 T: (864) 654-6824 NCEES.ORG

The Board of Directors met on February 20 -21, 2015, and reviewed a recommendation from the Committee on Examinations for Professional Surveyors (EPS) to transition the PS exam from pencil-and-paper format to computer-based testing (CBT) format. This is a “Heads-Up” notification and not the 1-year notice required by NCEES Exam Development Policy 9 regarding changes in exam administration procedures or format. Additional information will be communicated later this year.

**The April 2016 exam administration will be the last PS exam offered in pencil-and-paper format.**

- Registration for the computer-based PS exam will begin in mid-2016. More details will be made available at a later date.
- The first available appointments for the PS exam in CBT format will begin October 1, 2016.
- Approvals for PS examinees will be needed year-round, similar to FE and FS examinees.
- The PS exam will be delivered in the same windows as the FS and FE exams.
- Computer-based PS exams will be administered only at approved Pearson VUE testing centers.
- Candidates for a computer-based exam may take the exam only one time per testing window and no more than three times in a 12-month period.
- Effective with the opening of registration in mid-2016, candidates registering to take the PS exam will be required to pay NCEES directly for all exam-related fees. This will be included as a part of the online registration process.
- The PS exam will have 85 operational (scored) items and 15 pretest (nonscored) items with an appointment time of 7 hours, which will include a tutorial, breaks, the exam, and a brief survey at the conclusion of the exam.
- The PS exam will remain closed-book. An electronic supplied reference will be delivered with the exam. No other reference material will be allowed at the test center.
- Examinees will be allowed to bring and use NCEES-approved calculators on computer-based exams.
- A computer-based PS practice exam will be available for purchase after the April 2016 exam administration.