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Standards for Licensure as a Model Law Engineer

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National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying
P.O. Box 1686 (280 Seneca Creek Road), Clemson, SC 29633-1686

Standards for Licensure as a Model Law Engineer

Sponsored by:
National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)

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Abstract

This standard specifies the criteria for defining competency in the practice of engineering and includes specifications for uniformity in requirements for education, experience, and examination for candidates to attain engineering licensure as a Model Law Engineer. The standard provides the recommended procedures and assessment tools necessary for a uniform licensure process of qualifying professional competency in engineering practice to assure public health, safety, and welfare.

NCEES, a nonprofit organization, develops and promulgates standards in engineering practice and licensure as a public service. This standard defines best practice, provides a benchmark for public safety in engineering practice, and aids in facilitating licensure among jurisdictions. NCEES cannot be held liable or accountable for individual performance by practicing engineers or for the implementation of the standards.

The standard set forth by NCEES is protected by the Copyright Act of 1977 and is the property of NCEES. NCEES will provide copies of the standard free of charge via the NCEES Web site (www.ncees.org) after its approval by ANSI.

This standard is subject to revision and must be reviewed every five years in accordance with ANSI Essential Requirements and the NCEES Standards Development Procedures Manual approved by ANSI August 8, 2007.

Keywords

ABET	Licensed engineer	Professional Engineer
EI	Licensure	Registered engineer
EIT	NCEES	Model Law Engineer
FE	PE	

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Standards for Licensure as a Model Law Engineer

1.1 Scope, purpose, need, and application

The scope of the standard covers the requirements for a Model Law Engineer. These standards have been vetted by the engineering community and are used to assess candidate qualification for professional licensure. It is the intention of NCEES to formalize these standards via the ANSI process.

The purpose of the standard is to provide guidance for uniform measures of competency as a Model Law Engineer in the practice of engineering for protection of the public. The standard is structured to facilitate adoption by regulatory bodies at the state, territory, and federal levels. Uniformity of guidelines is needed in engineering practice to better assure the public that persons engaged in the work of evaluating, planning, designing, building, or updating roads, bridges, buildings, vehicles, public transportation systems, wastewater systems, utilities, communication systems, or industrial or consumer products (or any other project that requires engineering training and education) are qualified to do such work. Because engineering services and their products are used by the public, it is important that the regulatory community seek comity in standards to provide uniformity in criteria for the practice of engineering to protect the public and its trust of engineering systems. The standards are applicable to all disciplines of engineering and in all practice settings. The widespread adoption of such uniform standards will promote public safety and simplify cross-boundary and multi-jurisdictional licensure of engineers.

1.2 Specifications

This standard specifies the criteria for a Model Law Engineer. Such criteria provide for the public safety in the practice of engineering and include standards for uniformity in the education, experience, and examination requirements of candidates for engineering licensure. The standard provides the recommended procedures and criteria for demonstrating professional competency in engineering practice. Research conducted by NCEES clearly indicates that these specifications, which consist of a combination of education, experience, and examination, are needed to complete the requirements for competency in engineering practice.

The standard specifies that to practice the profession of engineering as a Model Law Engineer in any discipline, the following minimum requirements must be met by each individual who is a candidate for licensure:

Step 1: Graduation

The first step is graduating from an ABET-accredited engineering program at a college or university. ABET, Inc., is the nationally recognized accrediting organization for engineering and technology curricula.

Step 2: FE examination

The first examination in the licensure process is the NCEES [Fundamentals of Engineering \(FE\)](#) examination. After passing this examination, the candidate is classified as an intern, known as Engineer Intern (EI) or Engineer-in-Training (EIT).

Step 3: Work experience

After passing the FE examination, the licensure candidate must gain four (4) years of acceptable experience under the supervision of a professional engineer, and that acceptable experience must involve increasing levels of responsibility.

Step 4: PE examination

After passing the FE exam and meeting and documenting the required experience, the candidate is eligible to take the second examination in the licensure process, the NCEES [Principles and Practice of Engineering \(PE\)](#) examination. This examination is given in a variety of engineering disciplines.

After completing all four steps in the engineering licensure process a candidate is eligible for licensure by a jurisdictional licensing board. Once the candidate is granted licensure, he or she may use the distinguished designation Professional Engineer, or P.E.

Step 5: Model Law Engineer Designation

Once an individual has obtained licensure in at least one jurisdiction by satisfying steps 1 through 4, he or she is eligible for the designation Model Law Engineer.

2. Referenced publications

Users of the standard are to reference the latest editions of the following NCEES documents for updates and specifications: *Model Law, Model Rules, Manual of Policy and Position Statements*.

These publications are produced by NCEES and are available for download from its Web site (www.ncees.org); by writing to NCEES at P.O. Box 1686, Clemson, SC 29633-1686; or by phoning NCEES at 800-250-3196.

3. Definitions

NCEES: The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying is a national non-profit organization composed of engineering and surveying licensing boards representing all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NCEES is the ANSI-approved standards development officer (SDO) for standards in the field of professional credentialing in engineering and surveying

Licensure: The process of qualifying persons for practice as mandated by individual jurisdictional law and in legally recognized professions

Professional Engineer: The designation legally signifying a person who has been duly licensed by a U.S. jurisdiction to offer or provide engineering services to the general public

Model Law Engineer: The designation signifying a person who has been qualified through this standard and who has obtained licensure as a Professional Engineer in at least one jurisdiction

4. Metric

The metric system is used in the majority of assessments referred to in this NCEES standard. NCEES standards will use the metric system where it is compatible with the systems in effect that govern the practice of engineering.

5. Review

The ANSI Standards Task Force of NCEES has reviewed this standard and determined that it is technically sound and valid for publication to interested parties.

6. Codes

There are no codes required as reference for users of this standard.