General Guidelines for Exams

Education, experience, and examinations are required for licensure as a professional engineer or professional surveyor. There are two avenues for licensure as a professional engineer or professional surveyor in Ohio—by examination or by applying for registration by comity based on an active registration in good standing in another state or U.S. territory. These instructions are for individuals preparing to take the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) or Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) examinations.

Effective January 2014 the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) and Fundamentals of Surveying examinations will be offered exclusively through computer-based testing at Pearson Vue Select testing centers located throughout Ohio. The NCEES fundamentals exams will no longer be offered in the paper and pencil exam format. Below are instructions for taking the NCEES fundamentals exams in Ohio.

Guidelines for Taking the NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Examination

If you are a:

1. Graduate of an EAC ABET accredited engineering curriculum of four years or more or currently enrolled in your final year (last two semesters or equivalent) of an EAC ABET accredited engineering curriculum

2. Graduate of an ETAC ABET accredited engineering technology curriculum of four years or more or currently enrolled in your final year (last two semesters or equivalent) of an ETAC ABET accredited engineering curriculum

You may register for the FE examination directly through NCEES at ncees.org.

Make sure that when you register with NCEES that you indicate that you would like them to send your grade to the Ohio Board.

Once you receive a passing score on the NCEES FE examination, and have graduated from one of the programs listed in 1 or 2, you may submit an EI application and official college transcript to the Ohio Board to receive an Engineer Intern (EI) designation and EI certificate from
the Ohio Board. Applications for EI status will be available online in January 2014.

If you are not a graduate of a program listed in 1 or 2 above you must submit an application to the Ohio Board in order to obtain approval to take the NCEES FE examination. In addition to 1 and 2 above, Ohio accepts the following degrees leading to registration as a professional engineer:

3. Graduate of an engineering curriculum of four years or more accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB).

4. Graduate of an engineering curriculum of four years or more from a college or university from outside of the United States that has been evaluated by the Board as equivalent to an EAC/ABET accredited undergraduate engineering program. Applicants falling under this category must first have their undergraduate degree evaluated by NCEES Credentials Evaluations, and a copy of the report sent to the Ohio Board. Any deficiencies cited in the NCEES evaluation must be remedied in accordance with the Board’s policy on degree evaluations before taking the FE examination. FE applications should be submitted to the Ohio Board after the NCEES Credentials Evaluation review is completed.

For graduates of programs listed in 3 and 4, FE applications should be submitted to the Ohio Board at least 120 days before the anticipated testing date.

*If you are not a graduate of an engineering curriculum listed above you are not eligible for examination or registration in Ohio.*

**Guidelines for Taking the NCEES Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) Examination**

If you are a:

1. Graduate of an ASAC/EAC/ETAC ABET accredited surveying curriculum of four years or more or currently enrolled in your final year (last two semesters or equivalent) of an ASAC/EAC/ETAC ABET accredited surveying curriculum

2. Graduate of an EAC/ABET accredited civil engineering curriculum with 16 semester hours or 24 quarter hours of Board-approved surveying coursework – at least six semester hours (or quarter/trimester equivalent) in surveying of land boundaries. The 16 hours must be completed from the list of Board-approved surveying courses before applying for the FS exam.

3. Graduate of a Board approved surveying program at Cincinnati State/Northern KY or Glenville State College (WV)
You must submit an application to the Ohio Board in order to obtain approval to take the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) examination BEFORE registering with NCEES. Once your application is approved by the Board you will receive an approval letter with instructions for registering with NCEES.

Make sure that when you register with NCEES that you indicate that you would like them to send your grade to the Ohio Board.

Once you receive a passing score on the NCEES FS examination, and the Board has received an official transcript indicating graduation from an approved surveying curriculum you will be registered as a surveyor intern (SI).

Applications should be submitted to the Ohio Board at least 120 days before the anticipated testing date.

If you are not a graduate of a surveying curriculum listed above you are not eligible for examination or registration in Ohio.

Registering to take the examinations with NCEES

If you are a graduate of an engineering or surveying program that permits you to register directly with NCEES or your FE or FS application has been approved by the Ohio Board you must register to take the exam at ncees.org. To register with NCEES you must create an account through NCEES’s website and follow the exam registration instructions. You should select Ohio as the state you want to receive your exam results if you are applying for registration in Ohio. You must also schedule a time, date and location to take the exams at a Pearson Vue Select testing center. Once you have completed the exam scores will be released within one week.

For individuals that are approved by the Ohio Board to take the fundamentals exams and must retake the fundamentals exams due to a failing score, you do not need to reapply with the Ohio Board for each reexam.

The NCEES fundamentals exam credit is good for life.

Degree Evaluation.

Applicants for registration in Ohio who have graduated from an engineering program from outside of the United States that is not ABET-accredited must have their education evaluated by NCEES Credentials Evaluations and a copy sent to the Board.

Degrees from Canadian schools accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (CEAB) will be considered the same as ABET degrees. Non-CEAB degrees from Canadian schools are treated the same as foreign degrees and must be evaluated by NCEES.
In order to meet the educational requirement of R.C. section 4733.11 (A(2), the degree must be evaluated by NCEES as meeting the NCEES Engineering Education Standard.

The applicant is responsible for filing the necessary paperwork and fees in order to complete the evaluation of the curriculum.

If an applicant has had their transcripts evaluated by NCEES and the report indicates that there are deficiencies in the curriculum, the deficiencies must be made up before the application will be approved. Coursework must be made up at a college or university that has an ABET-accredited engineering or surveying program. Coursework must be completed in accordance with ABET’s Criteria for Accrediting Programs in Engineering in the United States.

Applicants may make up deficient coursework by passing College Level Examination Programs (CLEP) tests. In order to receive credit for CLEP tests the course must be shown on an official college or university transcript indicating a passing score and full credit awarded.

The Board may, at its discretion, waive the requirement to remediate deficient coursework cited in an NCEES Credentials Evaluations report for applicants who have graduated from an engineering curriculum of four years or more from a college or university from outside of the United States if the applicant is enrolled in, or has graduated, from a master’s or Ph.D. engineering curriculum where the basic B.S. engineering curriculum for that institution is EAC/ABET accredited.