



# Exam Qualifications Committee Meeting Report

April 22, 2024 | 1:30 p.m.  
Teams Meeting (virtual) & Olympia (in-person)

**Committee:** James Wengler, PLS, Chair  
Marjorie Lund, PE, SE  
Michael Harney, PE

**Support staff:** Ken Fuller, PE, Director  
Kris Horton, PLS, Deputy Director  
Vonna Cramer, Licensing Lead  
Shanan Gillespie, Regulatory Program Manager  
Elizabeth Lagerberg, AAG  
Mackenzie Wherrett, Executive Assistant  
Greg Schieferstein, Communication & Outreach Manager  
Bryce Dickison, Administrative Assistant

**Guests:** Corryn Greenwalt (via Teams)

## Discussion topics:

- Foreign Experience PE App
  - From the UK  
The committee reviewed experience from the UK for an applicant applying for the PE exam and it was approved.

- PLS State Exam & On-Site Exam results

Staff provided the results of the March 2024 State PLS examination.  
44 took the exam, 27 passed for a 61% pass rate.

Staff provided the results of the March 2024 On-Site Licensing examination.  
14 took the exam, 2 passed for a 14% pass rate.

The committee recommends the Board approve the results of the March 2024 exams.

- Decoupling

The committee discussed decoupling of experience from exams and how Washington State is one of the few states that does not decouple the experience and exams (allowing individuals to take the exam without the required experience).

The committee reviewed a list of WACs and RCWs that may need to be changed if the Board was to decide to decouple the experience from the exams. They also reviewed maps showing which states are decoupled for the PE and PLS. Mr. Wengler asked if NCEES only looks at ABET approved degrees when applicants sign up for the PLS or LSIT exams.

Ms. Lund discussed a spreadsheet from the packet showing states that responded to questions about decoupling. It was discussed that with a lot of states decoupling the

experience from the exams, the Board may need to change how experience is looked at, and what qualifies as experience towards licensure. No decisions were made.

The committee determined that it will be up to the EQC to recommend decoupling to the Board because it would require a legislative change. However, they are not ready to make recommendations to the Board at this time.

**Action item:** Staff to contact NCEES to see how they allow applicants to sign up for the LSIT and PLS exams and if they only let ABET approved surveying degree graduates take the exam.

**Action item:** Mr. Wengler to talk to state representatives at the Western Zone meeting in May about how decoupling is working in their state.

- Exam Policy review

The committee members stated they would like more time to review the draft policy. They requested that staff work with Mr. Hendrickson to address his comments, and then send a current version to the committee prior to the June meeting. Mr. Wengler requested that the committee review the policy at an in-person meeting prior to the June meeting.

**Action item:** Staff to meet with Mr. Hendrickson in Vancouver to address his comments.

**Action item:** Staff to schedule a meeting in-person prior to the June meetings to work on the draft policy.