

Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Outreach Program & Guidelines

BOARD MISSION

To safeguard life, health, and property, and to promote the public welfare in regards to engineering, land surveying and on-site wastewater system design by assuring:

- *Only qualified applicants are permitted to take the examinations for licensure.*
- *Only competent individuals are granted licensure to practice.*
- *Only licensed individuals are permitted to offer and/or provide service.*
- *Only registered businesses are authorized to provide services to the public.*
- *All applicants, registrants, and licensees maintain a high standard of practice and compliance with applicable statutes, rules, regulations, and ethical standards.*
- *Professional associations, professional societies, educational institutions, other regulatory authorities, and the public are informed of Board activities and the benefits of licensure.*

The Washington Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (Board) accomplishes its mission by exercising its statutory authority and obligation to review and approve applications for licensure, as well as managing, updating and enforcing the rules that govern the practices of engineering, land surveying and on-site wastewater system designing within the State of Washington.

The Board further accomplishes its mission by serving the public through maintaining relationships with its licensees' professional associations and societies; by promoting the benefits of professional licensure to post-secondary educational institutions; by interfacing with other regulatory authorities; and by increasing the public's understanding of laws and rules regulating Washington's licensed engineering, land surveying and on-site professionals.

The Board will establish a budget for the specific purpose of outreach.

LICENSED PROFESSIONALS

A. GOALS

- 1) Disseminating statute and rule changes, activities of the Board and its various committees, and activities of the National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES).
- 2) Providing licensees with an opportunity to attend board meetings and participate in rule making matters.
- 3) Providing licensees' engineering, land surveying, on-site wastewater design and other professional associations and societies with an opportunity to bring industry issues and concerns before and to the attention of the Board.

- 4) Supporting the development of training modules and other ways of disseminating statutory requirements to licensees.

B. METHOD OF SERVICE

- 1) Establish relationships with various engineering, land surveying and on-site wastewater associations and societies.
- 2) Attend and present at society meetings.
- 3) Encourage attendance of licensees at board meetings.
- 4) Provide timely information through the board journal, website, listserv, or social media.
- 5) Being available to participate on association focus groups or panels.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH – INDIVIDUALS ON THE LICENSING TRACK AND POTENTIAL LICENSEES

A. GOALS

Promoting the Board's mission and benefits of professional licensure to students and faculty in post-secondary colleges and universities and others practicing to become licensed.

Providing information and support to individuals who are on the licensing track. The constituents in this group may include students in engineering colleges/civil engineering technology programs/trade schools, engineers-in-training (EITs), land-surveyors-in-training (LSITs), individuals who have earned engineering degrees from outside the US.

B. METHOD OF SERVICE

The Board will seek out opportunities and respond to requests to support and/or participate with the state's post-secondary colleges and universities on engineering and land surveying related matters. Board's support and/or participation could include the following:

- 1) Informational sessions on licensing procedures pertaining to education, examination, and experience for prospective professional land surveyors, engineers and onsite wastewater treatment system designers; provide information on Board activities, licensure and examination process changes, updates to Washington's laws and rules, NCEES news and updates, etc.
- 2) Reaching out to engineering colleges, trade schools, engineering technology programs to encourage licensure and to provide necessary information.
- 3) Making those on licensee track aware of the rules and regulations governing the practice of our professions in Washington State.
- 4) Being a resource to individuals who seek licensure in Washington State either through comity from various licensing jurisdictions within the US or through ABET/non-ABET accredited foreign engineering degrees.
- 5) Being available to participate in Career Fairs and Expos to provide information related to licensure application and exam processes.

OTHER REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

A. GOAL

To interface with City, County and State officials and other regulatory authorities to aid in regulating the practice of engineering, land surveying, and on-site designing.

B. METHOD OF SERVICE (CITY, COUNTY & STATE OFFICIALS)

- 1) Being available to present or speak on the scope of licensed practice, the complaint and disciplinary process, and the laws and rules that govern the practice of engineering; land surveying or on-site designing.
- 2) Providing information to city and county officials and other regulatory authorities to use regarding proper engineering, land surveying or on-site designing practices.

C. METHOD OF SERVICE (OTHER LICENSING BOARDS)

- 1) Collaborating with state licensing boards to enhance business practices related to the licensing and regulation of engineers, land surveyors, and on-site designers.
- 2) Seeking out and responding to opportunities where the Board and other state licensing boards can exchange and share new or improved ideas or business processes/ products and work jointly as members of NCEES committees and sub-committees.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

A. GOAL

To promote the benefits of professional licensure to the general public

B. METHOD OF SERVICE

- 1) The Board and/or staff members will be available to participate in activities or speak on behalf of the Board so as to promote the understanding and value to public safety, health and welfare provided by the engineering, land surveying and on-site wastewater professions.
- 2) Develop a public interface on the board's website and look for opportunities to promote its use.
- 3) Develop material that informs the public of the value of working with licensed professionals and distribute it to municipalities and local authorities having jurisdictions.