

PROFESSIONAL AND OCCUPATIONAL STANDARDS

Firm—a domestic or foreign firm, partnership, association, cooperative, venture, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership, or other entity.

Fraud, Deceit, or Misrepresentation—intentional deception to secure gain, through attempts to deliberately conceal, mislead, or misrepresent the truth with the intent to have others take some action relying thereupon, or any act which provides incorrect, false, or misleading information, upon which others might rely.

Gross Incompetence—as used in R.S. 37:698(A)(2), shall mean the practice of engineering or land surveying by a licensee who is either incapable of exercising ordinary care and diligence or who lacks the ability and skill necessary to properly perform the duty he/she undertakes. (The practice of engineering in an area other than that in which the licensee has been issued a license will not be considered as evidence of gross incompetence, provided the licensee is otherwise qualified by education or experience.) Examples of practice which the board may consider to constitute gross incompetence include but are not limited to:

- a. the undertaking of assignments other than those for which the licensee is qualified by education or experience in the specific technical fields involved; or
- b. the affixing of the licensee's signature or seal to any engineering or land surveying plan or document dealing with the subject matter in which the licensee lacks competence by virtue of education or experience.

Gross Misconduct—as used in R.S. 37:698(A)(2), shall mean the practice of engineering or land surveying by a licensee who performs any acts, causes any omissions or makes any assertions or representations which are fraudulent, deceitful, or misleading, or which in any manner whatsoever discredits or tends to discredit the professions of engineering or land surveying. Gross misconduct as used herein shall also include any act or practice in violation of the board's rules of professional conduct or use of seals.

Gross Negligence—as used in R.S. 37:698(A)(2), shall mean the practice of engineering or land surveying by a licensee characterized by the licensee's lack of reasonable care, precaution, or attention to the health, safety, or welfare of others, which could result in injury or damage to life or property or financial loss. Examples of practice which the board may consider to constitute gross negligence include, but are not limited to:

- a. the preparation of an incomplete or inaccurate engineering or land surveying plan or document that is below acceptable standards, which is released for construction or other lawful purposes, and which could result in financial loss, damage or injury; or
- b. failure of the licensee to exercise reasonable diligence and care in providing professional services, which could result in financial loss, damage or injury.

NCEES Model Law Engineer—an individual who meets the minimum requirements of licensure law and:

- a. is a graduate of an engineering curriculum accredited by EAC/ABET, or the equivalent;
- b. has passed the fundamentals of engineering examination using the NCEES cut score;
- c. has a specific record of an additional four years of progressive experience on engineering projects following graduation;
- d. has passed the principles and practice of engineering examination using the NCEES cut score; and
- e. has a current NCEES record on file.

NCEES Model Law Surveyor—an individual who meets the minimum requirements of this act and is a graduate of an EAC/ABET engineering curriculum, RAC/ABET curriculum, or the equivalent.

Person—an individual or firm.

Practice of Engineering—

a. practice of engineering is defined in R.S. 37:682. The board recognizes in the design of buildings and similar structures that there is overlap between the work of architects and engineers. It is recognized that an architect who has complied with all of the current laws of Louisiana relating to the practice of architecture has a right to engage in some activities properly classifiable as professional engineering insofar as it is necessarily incidental to his/her work as an architect. Likewise, it is recognized that the professional engineer who has complied with all of the current laws of Louisiana and is properly licensed has the right to engage in some activities properly classifiable as architecture insofar as it is necessarily incidental to his/her work as an engineer. Furthermore, the architect or the professional engineer, as the case may be, shall assume all responsibility for compliance with all the laws or ordinances relating to the designs or projects in which he/she may be engaged;

b. teaching of engineering design and the responsible charge of the teaching of engineering design shall be considered as the practice of engineering. Educational programs accredited by EAC/ABET ensure the minimum quality requirements for the teaching of engineering design. Thus, the teaching of engineering design courses and the responsible charge of the teaching of engineering design courses must be conducted by professional engineers or by engineering faculty in an EAC/ABET accredited engineering curriculum. These unlicensed engineering faculty members are exempt from licensure by the board only for the purpose of teaching of engineering design courses and the responsible charge of the teaching of engineering design courses in an EAC/ABET accredited engineering curriculum and may not otherwise practice or offer to practice engineering in the state of Louisiana as defined by R.S. 37:682 without being licensed by the board.

Practice of Land Surveying—defined in R.S. 37:682. The board recognizes that there exists a close relationship between land surveying and some areas of engineering, with

some activities common to both professions; however, survey work related to property boundaries must be performed under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor. Presented below are guidelines which shall be used as an aid in determining the types of surveying services which may be rendered by professional land surveyors or professional engineers.

a. Surveying and mapping functions which require the establishment of relationships to property ownership boundaries are unique to land surveying and must be performed by or under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor. These functions include:

- i. boundary surveys;
- ii. subdivision surveys and plats;
- iii. public land surveys.

b. Surveying and mapping functions not unique to land surveying must be performed by or under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor whenever they require the establishment of the relationship of property ownership boundaries. Those functions include:

- i. surveys of servitudes (easements) and rights of way;
- ii. surveys of leases;
- iii. topographical surveys;
- iv. surveys for record;
- v. layout surveys for construction;
- vi. hydrographic surveys;
- vii. mine surveys;
- viii. mapping.

c. Surveying and mapping functions which do not require the establishment of the relationship of property ownership boundaries must be performed by or under the responsible charge of either a professional engineer or a professional land surveyor. Such surveying and mapping functions include:

- i. surveys of servitudes (easements) and rights of way;
- ii. surveys of leases;
- iii. topographical surveys;
- iv. surveys for record drawing;
- v. layout surveys for construction;
- vi. hydrographic surveys;
- vii. mine surveys;
- viii. mapping;
- ix. geodetic surveys;

- x. cartographic surveys;
- xi. horizontal and vertical control surveys;
- xii. quantity and measurement surveys;
- xiii. profiles and cross-sections;
- xiv. site grading plans.

d. Professional services which require the application of engineering principles and the interpretation of engineering data must be performed by or under the responsible charge of a professional engineer.

Responsible Charge—defined in R.S. 37:682. It shall mean the direct control and personal supervision of engineering or land surveying service or work, as the case may be.

Seal—a symbol, image, or list of information that may be found in the form of a rubber stamp, computer generated data, or other form found acceptable to the board this is applied or attached to the document in a manner consistent with the board rules on use of seals.

Signature—handwritten or digital as follows:

- a. a handwritten message identification containing the name of the person who applied it; or
- b. a digital representation of a person's handwritten signature.

Under the Responsible Charge of a Professional Engineer—as it applies in R.S. 37:701(C) only, shall mean:

- a. the work performed by a professional engineer, duly licensed under the provisions of this Chapter; or
- b. the work reviewed and approved by a professional engineer, duly licensed under the provisions of this Chapter, who is authorized to direct changes to the engineering work; or
- c. the work performed in accordance with a system of engineering practices approved by a professional engineer, duly licensed under the provisions of this Chapter.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:688.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Transportation and Development, Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors, LR 4:298 (August 1978), amended LR 5:110 (May 1979), LR 7:643 (December 1981), LR 14:449 (July 1988), LR 16:772 (September 1990), LR 17:804 (August 1991), LR 20:901 (August 1994), amended by the Department of Transportation and Development, Professional Engineering and Land Surveying Board, LR 27:1020 (July 2001), LR 30:1704 (August 2004), LR 32:1618 (September 2006), LR 35:1908 (September 2009), LR 38:835 (March 2012), repromulgated LR 38:1030 (April 2012).

Chapter 7. Bylaws

§701. Board Nominations

A. The following guidelines and procedures will be observed in order that timely and prudent advice can be given to the Louisiana Engineering Society and the Louisiana Society of Professional Surveyors with regard to nominees for vacancies on the board.