

# Idaho Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Approved June 7, 2018

**Board/Commission Members:** Glenn Bennett, PLS; Raymond J. Watkins, PE; Dusty Obermayer PLS; George Wagner, PE; George Murgel PE, PhD; John Elle, PE, PLS; John Tomkinson – public member.

**Board/Commission Composition:** *Four (4) licensed PEs; Two (2) licensed PLSs; one (1) public member, Idaho Code 54-1203*  
<https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1203/>.

The Idaho Board of Professional Engineers was created by an act of the Legislature in 1939 under Title 54, Chapter 12. Engineers were originally licensed by the department of law enforcement, and Idaho licenses were issued beginning in 1919. The 1939 act created a 5-member board appointed by the governor from engineers and surveyors residing in the state for the purpose of issuing licenses to engineers and surveyors who were qualified to practice. In 1978, engineers were no longer authorized to practice land surveying without meeting the minimum requirements of education, examination and experience. At the time, some engineers who were practicing land surveying were allowed to grandfather as licensed land surveyors. In 2015, one engineer was added and one land surveyor was added to make a 7 member board. In 2016 the governor passed a law that removed one engineer and added a public member.

The primary obligation of the board is to protect public health, safety and welfare by ensuring those individuals and companies who practice are competent and ethical. Not all engineers are licensed. Idaho has an “industrial exemption” which means only those engineers who are directly involved in projects that affect public health, safety and welfare are required to obtain a license. This means those who work in industry in a manner that is internal to the company usually do not require a license. For instance, mechanical engineers who work on printers at Hewlett Packard do not need professional engineering license because their work has no effect on public health safety and welfare. Conversely, engineers who work on infrastructure such as roads and bridges must be licensed as their work has an impact on public health safety and welfare. Beginning in FY 2018, Idaho has 7476 actively licensed engineers of which 2389 reside in the state. All land surveyors must be licensed as all their work directly affects public welfare and property with 653 total active licensees of which 289 reside in Idaho. The board issues Certificates of Authorizations (COA) to business entities who offer engineering or land surveying services to the public to ensure those offering professional services are staffed with professionally qualify licensees. Business entities with active COAs total 1,758 of which 394 have an Idaho office address.

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Criminal convictions are considered in licensure or certification applications, but are examined on a case-by-case basis. Felony convictions are considered misconduct by board rule. Misdemeanor convictions are not considered misconduct by rule. Conviction may result in license denial if related to ethical practice of engineering or land surveying. The proximity in time of a conviction may be a factor for licensure.

Active duty military licensees are exempted from paying renewal fees per 67-2602A Idaho Code. They are also exempted from completing continuing professional development per board rule when deployed.

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Index of Statute, Rule, and Policy Requirements for Licensure and Renewal

		Statute I.C. §	Rule IDAPA 10.01.01	Policy	Application	Time from Complete Application to Final Action	Basis to Deny or Not Accept Application	Basis to Refuse Renewal	Fees IDAPA 10.01.01 011	Cost per applicant or licensee	
						Range	Average				
PE or PLS License	Issuance Requirements by Examination	54- 1212 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SEC1212/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SEC1212/</a>	017 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>		PE or PLS by Exam  <a href="https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm">https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm</a>	2 Days	2 Days	I.C. § 54-1212 & 54-1214; IDAPA 10.01.01.016 & 017 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>		I.C. § 54- 1213; <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SEC1213/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SEC1213/</a>	\$ 2 5 6
	FY 2017 73 issued			Staff Approval for MLE/MLS & COA Applications					IDAPA 10.01.01. 011 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>		

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<p>Issuance Requirements by Comity</p> <p>FY 2017 428 issued</p>	<p>54-1219 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1219/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1219/</a></p>	<p>019 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a></p>	<p>Staff Approval for MLE/MLS &amp; COA Applicants with Non-US Licenses</p>	<p>PE or PLS by Comity <a href="https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm">https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm</a></p>	<p>79 Days</p>	<p>7 Days</p>	<p>I.C. § 54-1212 &amp; 54-1214; IDAPA 10.01.01.016 &amp; 019. <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a></p>		<p>I.C. § 54-1213; <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1213/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1213/</a></p> <p>IDAPA 10.01.01.011 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a></p>	<p>\$ 2 7 7</p>
<p>Renewal Requirements</p> <p>FY 2017 Nearly 4000 renewed</p>	<p>54-1216 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1216/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1216/</a></p>	<p>020 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a></p>			<p>4 days</p>	<p>1 day</p>		<p>I.C. § 54-1220 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1220/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1220/</a>;</p>	<p>I.C. § 54-1216; <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1216/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1216/</a></p>	<p>\$ 2 4</p>

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									<p>IDAPA 10.01.01. 020 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/10/101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/10/101.pdf</a>.</p> <p>10.01.04 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100104.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100104.pdf</a>.</p>	<p>IDAPA 10.01.01. 011 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a></p>	
Intern Certificate	<p>Issuance Requirements</p> <p>FY 2017 98 issued</p>	<p>54-1212 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1212/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1212/</a>.</p>	<p>017 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>.</p>		<p>Engineer or Surveyor Intern <a href="https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm">https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm</a>.</p>	43 Days	4 Days			<p>I.C. § 54-1213; <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1213/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1213/</a>.</p> <p>IDAPA 10.01.01. 011</p>	<p>\$ 2 4 3</p>

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										<a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>	
Renewal Requirements · FY 2017 Over 200 Renewed	54-1216 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1216/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1216/</a>				4 days	1 day			I.C. § 54-1220 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1220/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1220/</a> ;	I.C. § 54-1216 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1216/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1216/</a> .  IDAPA 10.01.01.011 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>	\$ 2 4

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Certificate of Authorization	<p>Issuance Requirements</p> <p>FY 2017 159 issued</p>	<p>54-1235 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1235/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1235/</a>.</p>		<p>Staff Approval for MLE/MLS &amp; COA Applications</p>	<p>COA <a href="https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm">https://ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm</a>.</p>	<p>31 Days</p>	<p>5 Days</p>	<p>I.C. § 54-1235; IDAPA 10.01.01.019.06 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a>.</p>	<p>I.C. § 54-1213 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1213">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1213</a>.</p>	<p>\$ 2 3 6</p>
	<p>Renewal Requirements</p> <p>FY 2017 Over 1500 Renewed</p>	<p>54-1216 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1216/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/Title54CH12/SECT54-1216/</a>.</p>				<p>4 days</p>	<p>1 day</p>		<p>I.C. § 54-1220 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1220/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutesrules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1220/</a>;  IDAPA 10.01.01.06 <a href="https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf">https://adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current/10/100101.pdf</a></p>	<p>I.C. § 54-1216 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1216/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/statutes/rules/idstat/Title54/T54CH12/SECT54-1216/</a></p>

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**Applications and Renewals Denied or Not Acted Upon (Continued) May 19, 2016-May 19-2017**

Refusal to Issue Initial or Comity License or Certificate [Total Number: # 27]

	Application/ Identification Number	Statutory Basis	Factual Summary (optional)
1	PLS-AR-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Denied – insufficient education
2	PE-UT-1	54-1214	Denied – multiple PE exam failures
3	PE/PLS-CA-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Denied PLS – insufficient education, PE license issued
4	PE-IA-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Denied – missing FE exam
5	PE-MT-1	54-1214	Denied – multiple PE exam failures
6	PLS-ID-1	54-1212, IDAPA 10.01.01.017	Denied – insufficient education
7	PLS-CA-2	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending work samples & education info
8	PE-CA-2	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional education
9	PE-GA-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending FE examination
10	PLS-MT-2	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional education
11	PLS-CA-3	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending transcripts & work samples
12	PLS-LA-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending transcripts & work samples
13	PE-MD-1	54-1214	Continued – pending additional education, exam failure
14	PE-UT-2	54-1214	Continued – pending additional education, exam failure
15	PE-WA-1	54-1214	Continued – pending additional education, exam failure
16	PE-MI-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional education
17	EI-ID-1	54-1212, IDAPA 10.01.01.017	Continued – pending additional education, foreign educ
18	EI-ID-2	54-1212, IDAPA 10.01.01.017	Continued – pending additional education, foreign educ
19	PE-WY-1	54-1214	Continued – pending additional education, exam failure
20	PE-NY-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional education
21	EI-ID-3	54-1212, IDAPA 10.01.01.017	Continued – pending additional education, foreign educ
22	PE-CAN-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional experience verification
23	PE-ID-1	54-1212, IDAPA 10.01.01.017	Continued – pending additional experience for exam
24	PE-UK-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending verification of exam & education
25	PE-AZ-1	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional education, foreign educ
26	PE-CA-3	54-1219, IDAPA 10.01.01.019	Continued – pending additional education, foreign educ
27	PE-UK-2	54-1214	Continued – pending additional education, exam failure



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Refusal to Renew License [Total Number: # 1]

	License/ Identification Number	Statutory Basis	Factual Summary (optional)
1	L-13699	54-1222, 54-1234, 54-1212, 54-1220	Practicing on Expired License, et. al.

**Disciplinary Actions (past 5 years)**

Case No	Date of Final Action	Action Taken	Statutory Basis	Factual Basis (optional)
FY17.13	8/1/17	Reprimand \$2,500 fine	54-1220	Failure to report discipline in another state, et. al.
FY17.12A	11/17/17	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	Failure to properly record a survey
FY17.07	3/16/17	Reprimand \$2,500 fine	54-1220	Standard of Care, et. al.
FY17.06	6/8/17	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	Standard of Care, et. al.
FY17.05	3/16/17	Reprimand \$750 fine	54-1220	Plat & monument violations
FY17.04	3/16/17	Reprimand \$2,500 fine	54-1220	Incorrect/missing ROS, CPF, notice of discrepancy
FY17.01	3/16/17	Reprimand \$500 fine	54-1220	Failure to respond to Board inquiry
FY16.09-54	10/27/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-53	11/8/16	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-52	10/24/17	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-51	11/16/16	Revocation	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-48	11/8/16	Admonish \$1,000 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance, failure to respond
FY16.09-46	11/16/16	Revocation	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-44	1/24/17	Admonishment \$1,000 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance, failure to respond
FY16.09-43	11/16/16	Suspension	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-42	10/31/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-39	11/16/16	Suspension	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance

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FY16.09-35	10/24/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-34	10/24/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-33	10/13/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-32	9/26/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-31	10/13/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-28	10/31/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-27	10/13/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-26	11/16/16	Suspension	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-24	11/16/16	Revocation	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-23	11/16/16	Revocation	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-21	11/8/16	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-20	12/12/16	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-18	12/23/16	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-17	8/18/17	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-16	10/31/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-15	11/8/16	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-14	1/24/17	Admonishment \$1,000 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance, failure to respond
FY16.09-11	11/8/16	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-6	10/27/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-5	10/17/16	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-4	10/14/16	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY16.09-3	11/16/16	Suspension	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY16.07	6/13/16	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	Reciprocal Standard of Care
FY15.21	1/28/16	Admonished	54-1220	Misconduct
FY15.09	11/6/14	Admonished \$250 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY15.08	4/10/15	Reprimand \$500 fine	54-1220	Misconduct, failure to respond
FY15.06.03	3/2/16	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	Failure to set monuments, et. al.
FY15.06.02	8/3/15	Admonishment \$250 fine	54-1220	Failure to tie two PLLS corners

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FY15.06.01	3/19/15	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	Failure to file CPFs timely on survey, et. al.
FY14.20	6/7/14	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY14.18	9/4/14	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY14.17	8/8/14	Admonishment \$250 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY14.16	6/7/14	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY14.15	2/3/15	Revocation	54-1220	Default, CPD non-compliance
FY14.14	7/17/14	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY14.13	6/24/14	Admonishment \$250 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY14.12	3/5/14	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	Failure to file CPFs timely on survey
FY14.04	11/6/14	Reprimand \$2,500 fine	54-1220	Indiscriminate Criticism
FY14.03	2/11/14	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	Reciprocal, standard of care
FY14.02	2/10/14	Admonishment \$2,500 fine	54-1220	Misrepresentation
FY14.01	9/16/13	Admonishment \$100 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY13.18	11/15/13	Revocation	54-1220	Reciprocal, standard of care
FY13.16	9/1/13	Voluntary Retirement	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY13.15	9/16/13	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	CPD non-compliance
FY13.14	11/15/13	Reprimand \$500 fine	54-1220	CPD non-compliance, failure to respond
FY13.10	9/9/15	Admonishment \$500 fine	54-1220	Misrepresentation
FY13.09	2/5/13	Revocation	54-1220	Reciprocal, misrepresentation
FY13.07	2/5/13	Voluntary Surrender	54-1220	Reciprocal, sealing work not in responsible charge
FY11.11	8/17/16	Revoke, stayed by Court	54-1220	<a href="https://ipels.idaho.gov/forms_pubs/08-17-16FinalOrderSIGNED.pdf">https://ipels.idaho.gov/forms_pubs/08-17-16FinalOrderSIGNED.pdf</a>

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**Law, Rule, or Policy Changes or Attempted Changes in Last 5 Years to Eliminate Barriers to Entry**

Session	Legislation	Summary
2018	S1252 <a href="https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/S1252/">https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2018/legislation/S1252/</a>	Reduces barriers: repeals multiple exam failure provision removes requirement for 4-years of experience prior to examination
2016	S1285a.	Authorizes faculty licensure without examinations
2016	10-0101-1601 <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2016/interim/adminrules/1001011601G15.pdf">http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2016/interim/adminrules/1001011601G15.pdf</a> .	Updated survey education making it easier for licensure; faculty licensure rule defining process for applications
2015	S1063 <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/legislation/S1063.pdf">http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/legislation/S1063.pdf</a> .	Updates definition of Land Surveying; improves ways to meet minimum experience requirements
2015	S1079 <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/legislation/S1079.pdf">http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/legislation/S1079.pdf</a> .	Allows engineers and surveyors to take the fundamentals examination without prior approval by the board when they are ready
2015	10-0101-1501 <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/interim/adminrules/1001011501G42.pdf">http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/interim/adminrules/1001011501G42.pdf</a> .	Aligns engineering education minimums with national rule for improved mobility of licensure with other states.
2015	10-0101-1502 <a href="http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/interim/adminrules/1001011502G12.pdf">http://legislature.idaho.gov/wp-content/uploads/sessioninfo/2015/interim/adminrules/1001011502G12.pdf</a> .	Rule change to align with 2015 law changes improving examination and experience requirements for licensure

The board has worked with higher education institutions to coordinate the requirements of licensure and certification. The law was changed in 2016 to allow engineering faculty at Idaho universities to obtain a restricted licensed without the requirement of passing a technical examination for those holding a Ph.D. degree. This reduces a barrier to entry for engineering faculty.

The law was changed in 2015 to reduce the barrier to entry by expanding the definition of land surveying to include nearly all the land surveying work toward meeting the 4-year experience requirement. The prior law only considered boundary land surveying as meeting the

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required experience. There is still a minimum of 2-years of boundary surveying required but the new law should reduce in half the time it takes to obtain surveying experience for licensure.

An acute shortage of licensed land surveyors in Idaho has led the board to work with Idaho State University and their surveying program staff to improve course offerings via distance learning or online, and work toward building mentoring options and apprenticeships for those who cannot move to Pocatello for their education. A Department of Labor Sector Grant to increase student enrollment for existing survey technicians is being pursued in cooperation with industry and professional associations. This grant will assist those working as survey technicians to obtain the required education needed for professional licensure without moving to Pocatello and while continuing to work for their existing employer.

In order to modernize licensure, a new process for receiving all applications for licensure or certification online was completed in 2018. Also, a new option was added in 2018 to simplify initial licensure by accepting the use of a National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) record. This makes it easier and quicker to obtain an initial license.

### **Assessment of Public Interest**

The licensing provisions are in the public interest as engineers and land surveyors provide services that directly impact the public health, safety and welfare. The laws and rules establish minimum competency standards of education, examination, and experience for obtaining and retaining a license. The public, the executive director and other licensees file complaints that are investigated and addressed with disciplinary actions when necessary. The licensees regulated by the statutes and rules are on record as supporting the current licensing framework as effective for the intended mission and do not want changes that lower the standards for competency. Licensing of these professions has occurred for nearly 100 years. There is a longstanding public recognition for the need to ensure competency and accountability for those providing services the public relies on for safe infrastructure and other products and services, along with ethical business practices. Licensees are expected to continuously update their skills and stay current with the state of the practice as technology, codes and standards change each year. This is in the public interest as it relates to competent practice.

## **Recommendations for Improvement, Modification, or Elimination of Requirements**

The board has adopted the national model standards for initial licensure. This means applicants who attain a 4-year degree in engineering or surveying, and have passed the two national competency examinations, along with the minimum 4-years of experiences can be licensed in Idaho and virtually in any other state by comity. The board has delegated to the staff to issue licenses to nearly all who meet the model standard which occurs within days of receiving a completed application. In addition, Idaho has a unique provision of law that gives the board the discretion to waive prescriptive requirements of education and examination for licensees with 8 or more years of licensed practice that also do not have any criminal or disciplinary history on their record. This provision provides flexibility needed to validate that if someone has not proven to be incompetent after 8 years of licensed practice in another state, they may be licensed in Idaho without having to meet the current standards. This flexibility enables many competent practitioners to become licensed upon a review by the board. Few other states have this provision.

**Recommendations for improvement, modification or elimination of licensure or renewal requirements within the department or agency's jurisdiction.** Specifically, identify: (1) suggestions on requirements for initial licensure that can be eliminated; and (2) suggestions on requirements for renewal that can be eliminated.

The board actively evaluates the utility of existing laws and rules each year. As such, updates are proposed to the legislature on an annual basis to ensure the legal framework for licensure is current and relevant. Extensive changes to the existing laws and rules therefore are not proposed at this time.

- (1) The board proposed and the legislature adopted the repeal or change for provisions of law in 2018 to improve initial and comity licensure.
  - a. Repeal the provisions of 54-1214, Idaho Code, that results in applications being denied or not acted upon due to multiple professional examination failures.
  - b. Decoupling of the examinations from experience – meaning applicants may take examinations without first meeting the 4-year minimum experience requirement.
  - c. Implement a rule change in 2019 that aligns the rule with the intent of the law changes above.

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- (2) The current renewal process is now online and easy unless disciplinary actions are involved due to complaints or misconduct or the licensee or certificate holders renew late. Those who renew late are required to demonstrate compliance with the continuing professional development rule. Changes considered include:
- (3)
- a. A rule change is proposed to allow business entities to "discontinue" a certificate when no longer conducting business in Idaho – which will prevent the accumulation of late fees and payment of renewal fees. Instead of continuously renewing, requesting to discontinue will be permanently available by rule. The permanent rule change to accomplish this is proposed for adoption by the 2019 legislature.
  - b. A new rule change is being considered that allows continuing professional development credit to those licensees who mentor students or interns.
  - c. The legislature may want to consider adding military spouses to the provisions of 67-2602A, Idaho Code, to exempt them from the payment of renewal fees while their spouse is in active duty and deployed.