NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE
Title 110 – Board of Engineers and Architects

CHAPTER 2; ENGINEERING

2.1 Required Documents

2.1.1 Every individual seeking licensure shall submit a completed application to the board, accompanied by the filing fee established by the board.

2.1.2 The applicant shall provide official proof of education requirements of his or her college record.

2.1.3 References

2.1.3.1 For enrollment application as an engineer intern, three of the five references must be character references.

2.1.3.2 For licensure as a professional engineer by examination, an applicant must submit five references, three of whom shall be professional engineers having personal knowledge of the applicant's engineering experience.

2.1.3.3 For licensure as a professional engineer by experience, an applicant must submit five licensed engineer references.

2.2 Education Requirements

2.2.1 Candidates for the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination (FE) and the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination (PPE) are required to:

2.2.1.1 Hold a degree or have senior standing in a curriculum leading to an engineering degree from an engineering program accredited by the ABET, or meet the NCEES Education Standard.

2.2.1.2 ABET accreditation is required for engineering programs not later than two years after issuance of the degree.

2.2.1.3 Those holding degrees from programs not accredited by ABET must establish that their education meets the NCEES Education Standard by submitting it to a board approved evaluation service for analysis.

2.2.1.3.1 Deficiencies defined by the evaluation service may be corrected by taking coursework related to the deficiency in a post-secondary institution offering ABET accredited engineering programs or as otherwise acceptable to the board.

2.2.1.3.1.1 Coursework from post-secondary education institutions that are not ABET accredited will be acceptable if the course(s) are approved by an ABET school to be "transferable." A letter from the ABET accredited institution may be required for substantiation.

2.2.1.3.1.2 Passing scores will be accepted in college level exams given by approved third parties including College Board Exams (CLEP) in subjects related to the deficiency or as otherwise acceptable to the board.

2.2.1.3.1.3 With Board approval, up to nine semester credit hours of deficiency in general education may be removed for applicants who have obtained a college degree from an institution whose primary language of instruction is not English.

2.2.1.3.2 Once the deficiencies are removed, the board will consider the education as satisfying the Board's education requirement.

2.2.1.3.3 The board may defer action on deficient applications until these education requirements have been met.

2.3 Experience

2.3.1 Candidates for the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination (PPE) shall have not less than four years of work experience acceptable to the board, except as provided in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 81-3451(2)(c).

2.3.2 Work experience for applicants may start immediately following graduation from a four-year or equivalent engineering program.

2.3.3 Work experience gained as a part of the curriculum and shown on the transcript; for example, “Co-op Experience” will be credited toward the requirement for licensure based on the time actually worked, but not to exceed six months.

2.3.4 Successful completion of graduate study leading to the Masters degree in engineering, which has followed a baccalaureate degree in engineering, may be used for credit for one year's experience. If the Ph.D. in engineering is completed under the same conditions, two year's total experience may be credited. The two year's credit includes the one year for the Masters degree. If the Ph.D. is obtained without the Masters degree, the credit for experience will be two years.

2.3.5 The board will consider engineering experience performed outside the United States when it is deemed that such experience is gained under a licensed professional engineer from a NCEES jurisdiction, or it is determined upon reasonable investigation by an engineer board member, of materials provided by and at the expense of the applicant, that such experience was performed under circumstances comparable to the standards for engineering in the United States.

2.3.6 Experience must be progressive on engineering projects to indicate that it is of increasing quality and requiring greater responsibility.

2.3.7 Only work of an engineering nature which follows graduation from a professional program is creditable.

2.3.8 Experience must not be obtained in violation of the E&A Act.

2.3.9 Experience gained in the armed services, to be creditable, must be of a character equivalent to that which would have been gained in the civilian sector doing similar work. It is expected that the applicant serve in an engineering or engineering-related group.

2.3.10 Experience should be gained under the supervision of a licensed professional engineer or if not, an explanation should be made showing why the experience should be considered acceptable.

2.3.11 For sales experience to be creditable, it must be demonstrated that engineering principles were required and used in gaining the experience.

2.3.12 Engineering teaching experience to be creditable must be at an advanced level in a college or university offering an engineering curriculum of four years or more that is approved by the board.

2.3.13 Experience gained in engineering research and design projects by members of an engineering faculty where the curriculum is approved by the board is creditable.

2.3.14 Experience may not be anticipated. The experience must have been received at the time of the application.

2.4 Examinations

2.4.1 The Examinations used by the board to determine eligibility for licensure shall be the current NCEES Fundamentals of Engineering Examination (FE) and the Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination (PPE), as accepted by the board.

2.4.1.1 The board will follow NCEES policy on scheduling and retaking examinations.

2.4.1.2 The board will determine applicant eligibility and forward eligibility information to NCEES.

2.4.1.2.1 Once an applicant has been approved to take either the FE (Fundamentals of Engineering exam) or the PE (Principles and Practice of Engineering exam), they remain qualified to retake that same examination for five years. The five years shall commence on the date of the first scheduled exam after the applicant has been approved.

2.4.1.3 The board will accept the examination result as determined by NCEES and will report the result to the applicant.

2.4.1.4 If there is any alleged improper behavior on the part of an applicant, the board will investigate the allegation and take appropriate action.

2.4.1.5 An applicant must have passed the Examination(s) in accordance with the NCEES pass/fail standards current at the time the applicant took the examination.

2.4.1.6 For security reasons, items in the examination will not be available for review by the examinee. Examinees have the right to review or challenge failed examination(s) through the board.

2.4.1.7 After a fourth or subsequent failure of either engineering examination, the candidate shall present the board with evidence of having acquired additional relevant formal learning before being reexamined. Such candidates shall be eligible for examination annually. Relevant formal learning means coursework consisting of at least two semester credit hours at the undergraduate or graduate level in the knowledge areas identified as failed in the NCEES diagnostic report. The coursework must be acceptable at, or transferrable to, an institution that offers ABET-accredited engineering programs. Online coursework is acceptable. Examination preparatory classes, continuing education offerings, and individual study do not satisfy the formal learning requirement.

2.4.1.8 Except for U.S. military personnel serving on active duty, the Board will not proctor FE or PPE examinations for applicants who reside outside Nebraska, or allow an applicant who resides in Nebraska to have their FE or PPE examinations proctored in another jurisdiction.

2.4.2 The Fundamentals of Engineering Examination (FE) as accepted by the board.

2.4.2.1 Passage of the FE examination is required of all applicants unless it has been passed in another jurisdiction~~; and~~

~~2.4.2.2 An examinee will be required to take the FE exam in his or her educational discipline when offered; all other disciplines will take the general engineering section~~.

2.4.3 The Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination (PPE) as accepted by the board.

2.4.3.1 The PPE examinations are given in disciplines offered by NCEES.

2.4.3.2 An examinee will be permitted to sit for the PPE exam in a discipline different from that of his or her FE examination on the basis of experience as approved by the board.

2.4.3.3 An examinee will be permitted to sit for the PPE exam in a discipline different from that of his or her education upon verification of four years of work experience acceptable to the Board in the discipline of examination.

2.4.3.4 The board reserves the right to not examine in certain disciplines offered by NCEES or to examine in specialized branches of engineering not offered by NCEES.

2.4.4 The Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination (PPE) in Structural Engineering as accepted by the board.

2.4.4.1 Professional Engineers who have passed the sixteen-hour NCEES Structural Engineering examination, or its equivalent as defined by NCEES, shall be eligible for licensure as a Professional Structural Engineer.

2.4.4.2 The sixteen-hour Structural examination shall consist of two 8-hour components: the Vertical Forces (gravity/other) and Incidental Lateral component and the Lateral Forces (wind/earthquake) component. A candidate may sit for each component in separate exam administrations but must receive acceptable results on both components within a 5-year period. Receiving acceptable results on only one 8-hour component shall not be sufficient for licensure in structural engineering or any other engineering discipline.

2.4.5 The Nebraska E&A Act Exam as accepted by the board.

2.4.5.1 An examination on the Nebraska E&A Act and practice ethics must be passed before a professional engineer can be licensed to practice in Nebraska.

2.4.5.2 The purpose of the examination is to ensure that applicants are familiar with the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act and the ethics of practicing engineering. This is an open book examination administered by the board.

2.4.5.3 After a second or subsequent failure of the Nebraska E&A Act Exam, the candidate may be required to acquire additional learning before being reexamined. Such candidates shall be eligible for examination every thirty days.

2.5 Enrollment and Licensure

2.5.1 Enrollment as an Engineer Intern (E.I.)

2.5.1.1 Upon request, a candidate will be enrolled as an Engineer Intern when they complete the following:

2.5.1.1.1 Passage of the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) Examination; and

2.5.1.1.2 Proof of graduation from an ABET accredited engineering program or satisfying the NCEES Education Standard.

2.5.2 Licensure as a Professional Engineer (P.E.)

2.5.2.1 When the board has determined that an applicant for licensure has satisfied the licensure standards set forth herein, the board shall issue a certificate of licensure containing the licensed applicant's name, license number and Discipline of Practice.

2.5.2.2 Certificates of Licensure issued to Professional Engineers will be inscribed with the discipline in which the individual is licensed to practice.

2.5.2.2.1 Those licensed in multiple disciplines will be issued certificates in each.

2.5.2.2.2 Engineers will submit a separate application for each discipline.

2.5.2.2.3 Verification of discipline may be provided by NCEES record or written documentation of PE examination discipline.

2.5.2.3 Professional Architectural Engineer

2.5.2.3.1 Professional Engineers licensed on the basis of Architectural Engineering education, experience, and examination shall be designated Professional Architectural Engineers.

2.5.2.3.2 Professional Architectural Engineers shall be considered qualified to design engineering systems commonly associated with buildings. They shall not practice or offer to practice architecture.

2.5.2.4 Professional Structural Engineer (S.E.)

2.5.2.4.1 Professional Engineers licensed on the basis of structural engineering education, experience, and examination shall be designated Professional Structural Engineers and may use the designation S.E. with their name.