



Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Division of Professional Licensure
Office of Private Occupational School Education
1000 Washington Street • Boston • Massachusetts • 02118

RE-ADMITTANCE TO PREVIOUSLY FAILED EXAMINATIONS

This bulletin is directed at those candidates who have failed to pass any of the four NCEES sanctioned examinations, namely the “Fundamentals of Engineering Examination” (FE-8 hours) or the “Fundamentals of Land Surveying” (FLS-8hours) or “Principles and Practices of Engineering Examination” (PPEE-8 hours) or the “Principles and Practices of Land Surveying” (PPLS -6 hours) or the Massachusetts state specific examination, “Legal Practices and Massachusetts Law Examination for Land Surveyors” (2 hours).

Fundamentals of Engineering and Fundamentals of Land Surveying Examinations: There are no restrictions on the number of times that an applicant may take the NCEES sanctioned FE or FLS examinations. Arrangements for retaking these examinations are made directly between the testing service and the applicant. *Specific approval of the Board is not required.* Any and all fees and costs involved in taking these examinations are the direct responsibility of the applicant.

Principles and Practice of Engineering Examination, Principles and Practices of Land Surveying Examination, and Legal Practices and Massachusetts Law Examination:

If an applicant fails to take an examination within 36 months after notification of eligibility is received, the application automatically lapses. This does not apply to an applicant actively serving in the armed forces. Applicants *failing* one of these examinations for *the first time* will automatically receive an invitation from the testing service to take the examination a second time at the applicant’s expense.

If an applicant takes an examination, fails to pass and does not take the examination again within 36 months, the application automatically lapses. This does not apply to an applicant actively serving in the armed forces. A lapsed approval must petition the Board to reopen the application. The Board may require additional supplemental documentation before application is reopened.

The Board of Registration of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveying (Board) finalized a significant update to the regulations that govern the practice of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors, 250 CMR. Section 3.06 (8) stipulates: An applicant who failed the PE or PS Exam or one of its components once may take it a *second time* upon paying the required fee.

An applicant who desires to retake the failed exam a *third (or more) time* must make such request in writing after meeting the requirements in 250 CMR 3.06(8)(a) through (d):

- (a) wait one year before retaking the exam;
- (b) submit evidence satisfactory to the Board that the applicant has completed an educational program or obtained additional experience sufficient to improve their chances of passing the exam following the date of the most recent failed exam;
- (c) sit for an oral exam if required by the Board; and
- (d) satisfactorily update their application materials to reflect any changes since the date the original application was submitted.

Increasing amounts of education/experience may be required following each succeeding failed exam. An applicant with multiple failures may be notified by the Board that the application for registration will be denied if the applicant fails the exam one more time.

The applicant is responsible for all fees and other costs associated with the retaking of any of the examinations listed above. The Board must formally approve the request to retake the specific examination. The approval for the next available test is contingent upon the testing service’s ability to accept the additional candidates for that particular examination.

The Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors