Chapter 196-12 WAC
REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

WAC

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DISPOSITION OF SECTIONS FORMERLY CODIFIED IN THIS CHAPTER

196-12-031 Examinations—Modification of examination times. [Filed 12/13/67.] Repealed by WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), filed 12/18/81. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-035 Examination review and request for rescore of examination questions. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 01-09-016, § 196-12-035, filed 4/6/01, effective 5/7/01.] Repealed by WSR 08-11-100, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-040 Reports. [Rule ID, filed 12/26/62.] Decodified as omitted from comprehensive refiling of rule dated 11/15/65 and 8/4/64.

196-12-060 Persons enrolled as E.I.T.s. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 84-04-027 (Order PL 454), § 196-12-060, filed 1/25/84; WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), § 196-12-060, filed 12/18/81; Order PL 224, § 196-12-060, filed 11/5/75; Order 11, § 196-12-060, filed 9/12/68; Rule IIE, filed 11/15/65, 8/4/64; Rule IF, filed 12/26/62.] Repealed by WSR 98-12-052, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-070 Fees. [Order PL 224, § 196-12-070, filed 11/5/75; Order PL 181, § 196-12-070, filed 1/28/75; Order 11, § 196-12-070, filed 9/12/68; Rule IIF, filed 11/15/65; 8/4/64; Rule IG, filed 12/26/62.] Repealed by WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), filed 12/18/81. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-075 Renewal of licenses. [Order PL 224, § 196-12-075, filed 11/5/75; Order PL 181, § 196-12-075, filed 1/28/75; Order PL 176, § 196-12-075, filed 10/15/74.] Repealed by WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), filed 12/18/81. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-080 Branches of registration. [Order PL-129, § 196-12-080, filed 7/27/72; Order PL-115, § 196-12-080, filed 11/24/71; Order 11, § 196-12-080, filed 9/12/68; Rule IG, filed 11/15/65, 8/4/64; Rule IH, filed 12/26/62.] Repealed by WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), filed 12/18/81. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-085 Corporation or joint stock associations. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 88-12-044 (Order PM 738), § 196-12-085, filed 5/27/88; WSR 84-04-027 (Order PL 454), § 196-12-085, filed 1/25/84; WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), § 196-12-085, filed 12/18/81; Order PL 181, § 196-12-085, filed 1/28/75; Order PL-115, § 196-12-085, filed 11/24/71.] Repealed by WSR 98-12-052, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-090 Correspondence. [Order PL-115, § 196-12-090, filed 11/24/71; Order 11, § 196-12-090, filed 9/12/68.] Repealed by Order PL 181, filed 1/28/75.

196-12-100 Limited waiver of the requirement for licensure in structural engineering to design "significant structures." [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-101, § 196-12-100, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.] Repealed by WSR 14-07-106, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-103 Application requirements for waiver of structural license for designing "significant structures." [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-101, § 196-12-103, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.] Repealed by WSR 14-07-106, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-105 Ineligibility for licensing waiver. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-101, § 196-12-105, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.] Repealed by WSR 14-07-106, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

196-12-107 Board review of applications for structural licensing waiver. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-101, § 196-12-107, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.] Repealed by WSR 14-07-106, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035.

WAC 196-12-005 Declaration and purpose. This chapter contains rules and procedures for applications, eligibility and examinations to be licensed as professional engineers.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-005, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04.]

WAC 196-12-010 Registration requirements. The requirements to become licensed as a professional engineer are:

(1) Eight years of experience in engineering work of a character satisfactory to the board.

(a) These eight years must be of broad based, progressive experience to include gaining knowledge and comprehension of engineering subjects and applying engineering principles.

(b) The eight years of experience may be a combination of education and practical work experience. Under selected circumstances a maximum of five years of education (baccalaureate and masters degrees) can be granted toward the eight-year requirement.

(2) Obtaining a passing score on the fundamentals-of-engineering (FE) examination or be granted a waiver of the examination;

(3) Obtaining a passing score on the principles and practice of engineering examination;

(4) Obtaining a passing score on the board's law and ethics examination;

(5) Be of good character and reputation; and

(6) Payment of applicable fees.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 14-07-106, § 196-12-010, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14; WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-010, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-010, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 98-12-052, § 196-12-010, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98; WSR 88-12-044 (Order PM 738), § 196-12-010, filed 5/27/88; WSR 87-13-005 (Order PM 606), § 196-12-010, filed 6/4/87; WSR 84-04-027 (Order PL 454), § 196-12-010, filed 1/25/84; WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), § 196-12-010, filed 12/18/81; Order PL 224, § 196-12-010, filed 11/5/75; Order PL-129, § 196-12-010, filed 7/27/72; Order 11, § 196-12-010, filed 9/12/68; Rule IIA, filed 11/15/65; Rule IIA, filed 8/4/64; Rule IA, filed 12/26/62.]

WAC 196-12-011 Application requirements. All applications for the professional engineer (PE) examinations must:

(1) Be received at the board's address with the applicable fee by:

(a) January 15 for the April exam administrations;

(b) July 31 for the October exam administrations.

(2) Be completed and submitted on forms provided by the department.

(3) Include the names and addresses of five references, three of which must be licensed engineers having personal knowledge of the applicant's character and reputation.

(4) Be supported by documents such as:

(a) Official college transcripts, showing all grades and degrees;

(b) Completed experience verifications; and

(c) Any applicable verifications of licensing and/or examination records from other licensing jurisdictions.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-011, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.]

WAC 196-12-012 Reexamination requirements. All applicants who fail to pass an examination or do not appear at the scheduled examination time may request, in writing, an opportunity for reexamination. The request must be received in the office of the board with applicable fee by January 15th for the April exam administrations or July 31st for the October exam administrations.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-012, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.]

WAC 196-12-020 Work experience records. The following criteria will be used in evaluating an applicant's experience record:

(1) Work experience will be approved based on a demonstration of competency and progressive responsibility in the analysis, synthesis and evaluation of engineering concepts and data, under the direct supervision of a person authorized by chapter 18.43 RCW or other applicable statute to practice engineering. Under the general guidance and direct supervision of an authorized professional, the applicant must be in a position of making independent judgments and decisions in the following experience areas:

(a) Formulating conclusions and recommendations;

(b) Identifying design and/or project objectives;

(c) Identifying possible alternative methods and concepts;

(d) Defining performance specifications and functional requirements;

(e) Solving engineering problems;

(f) Interacting with professionals from other areas of practice;

(g) Effectively communicating recommendations and conclusions;

(h) Demonstrating an understanding and concern for energy/environmental considerations, socioeconomic impact, and sustainability of resources.

(2) The branch of structural engineering requires specialized work experience to protect the public safety. To be eligible to take the structural license examination, an applicant must have at least two years of progressive responsibility in structural engineering experience. These two years of structural experience are in addition to the eight years of engineering experience required to be registered as a professional engineer and must be documented in the application in accordance with subsection (1) of this section. The structural engineering experience must be supervised by a licensed professional engineer in the branch of structural engineering or a licensed professional engineer with substantial structural engineering work experience.

(3) Engineering teaching may be considered satisfactory experience up to a maximum of two years.

(4) Applied research is considered satisfactory experience when it meets the following conditions:

(a) The research must be conducted under the guidance or supervision of a licensed engineer. For the purposes of this subsection, guidance or supervision means being cognizant of all applicable aspects of the work and a reviewer of all applicable reporting documentation.

(b) The principal result(s) of the research are in a published report or a recognized engineering journal article in which the applicant is the first author or the work is adequately documented and available to the board upon request.

(5) For military engineering experience to be considered acceptable, it should be similar to engineering experience that would be gained in a nonmilitary environment as defined in subsection (1) of this section, and such experience must be verified.

(6) Any work experience gained without the supervision of a professional engineer authorized to practice under chapter 18.43 RCW or an individual authorized by another statute to practice engineering, or any work experience gained in any other situation which violates the provisions of chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW or Title 196 WAC will not be counted toward the statutory experience requirement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-020, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-020, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 02-01-071, § 196-12-020, filed 12/14/01, effective 1/30/02; WSR 98-12-052, § 196-12-020, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98; WSR 92-01-101, § 196-12-020, filed 12/17/91, effective 1/17/92; WSR 87-13-005 (Order PM 606), § 196-12-020, filed 6/4/87; WSR 84-04-027 (Order PL 454), § 196-12-020, filed 1/25/84; WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), § 196-12-020, filed 12/18/81; Order PL-115, § 196-12-020, filed 11/24/71; Rule IIB, filed 11/15/65; Rule IIB, filed 5/26/65; Rule IIB, filed 8/4/64; Rule IB, filed 12/26/62.]

WAC 196-12-021 Education experience records. Official transcripts must be sent to the board's office for full education experience credit.

(1) A baccalaureate degree in engineering in a program accredited by the engineering accreditation commission (EAC) of the accreditation board for engineering and technology (ABET) is equivalent to four years of required experience. Satisfactory completion of each year of such an approved program is equivalent to one year of experience.

(2) A baccalaureate degree in an engineering technology program accredited by the technology accreditation commission (TAC) of ABET, is equivalent to three years of required experience. Satisfactory completion of each year of such an approved program is equivalent to three-fourths of one year of experience.

(3) An approved four years in a non-ABET accredited engineering program will be given a maximum of three years of experience.

(4) No more than one year may be granted for postgraduate engineering courses for those applicants having earned degrees in accordance with subsections (1), (2), or (3) of this section.

(5) A baccalaureate degree in a nonengineering program will be given a maximum of two years of experience.

If the degree is followed by a graduate degree in engineering from a school that has an ABET accredited undergraduate program in the same discipline as the graduate degree, a maximum of four years of experience may be granted for this combination of education.

(6) An associate degree in engineering from an approved program may be equivalent for up to two years of experience.

(7) Education gained over time where no degree is conferred will be granted no more than two years of experience. For the purpose of this subsection, education over time means: One or two classes taken at a time, often at different schools; seminars; workshops; and classes taken through industry and the military. In order to determine the appropriate amount of experience, this type of education will be compared to college coursework in a baccalaureate of engineering technology degree program.

(8) The board may approve engineering degree programs from other countries.

(a) A number of foreign degree programs are included in mutual recognition agreements entered into by ABET with other accrediting authorities. Applicants with a degree from one of these programs will be evaluated in accordance with subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

(b) Applicants having engineering degrees from programs in countries that are not ABET accredited will be required to have their transcripts evaluated by a transcript evaluation service approved by the board. This evaluation will be performed at the applicant's expense, and the applicant will be responsible for submitting all necessary information to the evaluation service. The board will use the evaluation to determine if the foreign degree is equivalent to an ABET accredited degree. If the board determines that the degree is equivalent, experience will be granted in accordance with subsection (1) or (2) of this section. If the board determines that the foreign degree is not equivalent to an ABET accredited degree, then a maximum of three years of experience will be granted in accordance with subsection (3) of this section.

(c) An applicant with an undergraduate degree from a foreign program that is not ABET accredited, can waive the requirement for a degree evaluation if they have a graduate degree in engineering from a school that has an ABET accredited undergraduate engineering degree program in the same discipline as the graduate degree. No more than four years of experience will be granted for this combination of education.

(9) Any other education will be taken into account and evaluated on its merits.

(10) Work experience gained between semesters or quarters or during summers while enrolled in an approved curriculum will be considered part of the educational process. No more than one year of experience will be granted for one calendar year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 14-07-106, § 196-12-021, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14; WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-021, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08.]

WAC 196-12-030 Principles and practice of engineering examination. The principles and practice of engineering examination is given at times and places as approved by the board. A professional engineer with a current registration in the state of Washington that is seeking to become licensed in an additional branch of engineering must pass the principles and practice examination for that additional branch.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 14-07-106, § 196-12-030, filed 3/19/14, effective 4/19/14; WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-030, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-030, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 02-01-071, § 196-12-030, filed 12/14/01, effective 1/30/02; WSR 01-09-016, § 196-12-030, filed 4/6/01, effective 5/7/01; WSR 98-12-052, § 196-12-030, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98; WSR 93-01-081, § 196-12-030, filed 12/15/92, effective 1/15/93; WSR 84-04-027 (Order PL 454), § 196-12-030, filed 1/25/84; WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), § 196-12-030, filed 12/18/81; Order PL-129, § 196-12-030, filed 7/27/72; Order PL-115, § 196-12-030, filed 11/24/71; Order 11, § 196-12-030, filed 9/12/68; Rule IIC, filed 11/15/65, 8/4/64; Rule IC, filed 12/26/62.]

WAC 196-12-045 Comity registration of applicants qualified in other jurisdictions. Licenses will be issued by comity only in the branches of engineering offered by the board. Applicants for registration as a professional engineer by comity must:

(1) Complete an application on forms provided by the board and be accompanied by the appropriate fee.

(2) Hold a currently valid license in a board recognized licensing jurisdiction in a state, territory, possession, district, or foreign country.

(3) Have been qualified to meet minimum requirements for licensure as determined by the board that adequately measures the fundamentals and principles and practice of engineering.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-045, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-045, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 98-12-052, § 196-12-045, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98.]

WAC 196-12-050 Waiving the fundamentals-of-engineering examination. Applicants requesting a waiver of the fundamentals of engineering examination must:

(1) Have a baccalaureate or masters degree in an approved engineering program;

(2) Have completed a minimum of twelve years of board approved engineering experience after graduation; and

(3) Not have failed the NCEES fundamentals of engineering examination within the last ten years.

Applicants with a PhD from a program approved by the board may request a waiver of the fundamentals of engineering exam.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-050, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-050, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 98-12-052, § 196-12-050, filed 5/29/98, effective 7/1/98; WSR 93-01-081, § 196-12-050, filed 12/15/92,

effective 1/15/93; WSR 92-01-101, § 196-12-050, filed 12/17/91, effective 1/17/92; WSR 84-04-027 (Order PL 454), § 196-12-050, filed 1/25/84; WSR 82-01-064 (Order 81-10), § 196-12-050, filed 12/18/81; Order PL 181, § 196-12-050, filed 1/28/75; Order PL-121, § 196-12-050, filed 5/3/72; Order ELS 7001, § 196-12-050, filed 5/18/70; Order 11, § 196-12-050, filed 9/12/68; Rule IID, filed 11/15/65, 8/4/64; Rule IE, filed 12/26/62.]

WAC 196-12-055 Permit for temporary practice. Any nonresident engineer who intends to practice engineering in the state of Washington must provide the board with the following before starting any work:

(1) A completed application with applicable fees.

(2) Dates work is to be started.

(3) Name and address of client.

(4) Description and location (address) of project.

(5) Name and contact information for local permitting authority.

Plans, specifications, and reports prepared by the nonresident engineer must be signed, dated, and stamped with their professional seal. A copy of the permit issued by this board shall be attached to the engineering documents submitted for approval or building permit.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-055, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-055, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04.]

WAC 196-12-065 Retired status. A professional engineer having reached the age of sixty-five and having discontinued active practice as a professional engineer may be eligible for retired status. "Active practice" is defined as exercising direct supervision and control over any professional engineering activity as defined in RCW 18.43.020(5).

(1) Request for retired status. Upon approval, a request for retired status will be granted effective the next scheduled renewal date.

(2) A licensee on retired status may:

(a) Retain the board issued wall certificate of registration;

(b) Use the title retired professional engineer;

(c) Work as an engineer in a volunteer capacity, provided that the retired licensee does not create an engineering document or use their seal;

(d) Provide experience verifications and references for persons seeking registration;

(e) Serve as an instructor;

(f) Provide services as a technical expert before a court, or in preparation for pending litigation, on matters directly related to engineering work performed by the licensee;

(g) Serve in a function that supports the principles of registration and/or promotes the profession of engineering, such as members of commissions, boards or committees;

(h) Serve in an engineering capacity as a "good samaritan." The state laws governing such activity are RCW 38.52.-195 and 38.52.1951 and chapter 18.43 RCW.

(3) A licensee on retired status must not:

(a) Perform any engineering activity, as provided for in RCW 18.43.020(5), unless the activity is under the direct supervision of a licensed professional engineer with an active registration in Washington;

(b) Act as the designated engineer for a corporation or limited liability company;

(c) Apply their professional engineers seal to any plan, specification, plat or report.

(4) Certificate of registration reinstatement. A retired licensee may resume active engineering practice with payment of the current renewal fee.

(5) Exemptions. A licensee is not eligible for retired status if their license to practice is under board ordered sanction. This exemption exists until the sanctions have been lifted or satisfied by the board.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.43.035. WSR 08-11-100, § 196-12-065, filed 5/20/08, effective 7/1/08. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.43 and 18.235 RCW. WSR 04-04-001, § 196-12-065, filed 1/21/04, effective 2/21/04.]