



**Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation**

---

**Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Board**

Candidate Examination Guide for:

# **Professional Land Surveyor**

Effective 1/2023

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation along with The Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Board hope that you will find the following information useful in preparing to take the Illinois Jurisdictional Examination that will lead you toward the path of licensure as a Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Illinois.

Pursuant to Section 1270.20 of the Administrative Rules, passage of the Illinois Land Surveying Jurisdictional Examination (IJ) is required for licensure. **Continental Testing Services, Inc.** (CTS) is designated as the authorized exam administration service for the IJ examination. Apply through [www.continentaltestinginc.net](http://www.continentaltestinginc.net) in order to reserve a seat for the IJ exam. Exam specifications are on page three.

### **REGISTRATION:**

Candidates wishing to sit for the IJ exam must directly register with CTS to schedule your exam. Department pre-approval is no longer required.

### **CHANGE OF ADDRESS:**

If you move after applying to take the IJ examination, you must submit your change of address in writing to:  
**Continental Testing Services, Inc.**  
547 South LaGrange Road  
LaGrange, IL 60525

### **EXAMINATION RESULTS:**

- The IJ examination results should be available within **approximately 6-8 weeks** from the date of the examination. CTS will send your examination results via U.S. Mail once available.
- Once you receive your exam score report, email it to the Department at [FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov](mailto:FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov) and it will be applied to your application.

### **REFRESHER COURSES:**

For information on refresher courses, contact the Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association (IPLSA)  
Phone: 217-528-3053  
Website: [www.iplsa.org](http://www.iplsa.org)

### **FAQ's FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR:**

[https://idfpr.illinois.gov/FAQ/DPR/LS\\_faq.pdf](https://idfpr.illinois.gov/FAQ/DPR/LS_faq.pdf)

## **ILLINOIS LAND SURVEYING JURISDICTIONAL EXAMINATION**

The IJ Exam is a paper and pencil exam and is administered multiple times throughout the year. The Illinois Land Surveying Jurisdictional examination specifications are below.

### **Content Outline**

This is a two-hour, 65-item, **closed** book examination. It is designed to assess each candidate's knowledge of Illinois law, regulations and practices related to public protection issues.

### **The examination covers the following content areas:**

1. Conveyances 6-7 items
2. Plats 8-9 items
3. Federal Instructions & Public Land Survey System 10-11 items
4. Surveys & Legal Descriptions 9-10 items
5. Cities & Counties 4-6 items
6. Records, Recorders, Civil Procedure & Revenue 4-6 items
7. Roads, Bridges & Fences 4-6 items
8. Professions, Occupations & Standards of Practice 2-4 items
9. Special Districts & Natural Resources 2-4 items
10. Canals, Waterways & Drainage 2-4 items

### **Study Materials:**

1. ***2018 Illinois Compiled Statutes & Administrative Rules for the Practice of Professional Land Surveying in the State of Illinois.***  
Published by Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association (IPLSA).  
Available online and as a book on [www.IPLSA.org](http://www.IPLSA.org).
2. ***Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys.***  
(Effective February 23, 2016).  
Available on the NSPS website at <http://www.nsps.us.com/?page=ALTAACSMStandards>
3. ***Manual of Instructions for the Survey of Public Lands of the United States, 2009***  
Available at [https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/Manual\\_Of\\_Surveying\\_Instructions\\_2009.pdf](https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/Manual_Of_Surveying_Instructions_2009.pdf)
4. ***Restoration of Lost or Obliterated Corners, 1883-1974. Reprinted 1977.***  
Available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)
5. ***Wattles, Gurdon H. Writing Legal Descriptions in Conjunction with Survey Boundary Control, 1979.*** Available at [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)
6. ***Webber, Joe D. Early Public Land Surveys in the Northwest Territory and Procedures for the Retracement of Original Government Surveys in Illinois. 1981.***  
Available at [www.iplsa.org](http://www.iplsa.org)