



IDFPR
Illinois Department of
Financial and Professional Regulation
Division of Professional Regulation

LICENSE QUALIFICATIONS FOR:

Professional Geologist (196)

Effective: 6/2018

Revised: 10/2025

READ ME FIRST

The Division of Professional Regulation hopes that you will find the below useful in successfully applying for licensure in the State of Illinois. Carefully review this information as it will assist you in applying for your license and eliminate any processing delays.

Important:

- An application is active for three years from the date of receipt by the Department.
- Before contacting the Department, please review our FAQs for answers to most questions. (<http://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/About/FAQ.html>)
- If your question is not addressed in our FAQ's, please contact the department at 1-800-560-6420 or email us at FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov

LICENSE QUALIFICATIONS

EDUCATION:

Applicant must have a degree in geology from an accredited college or university with a minimum of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours of course credits in geology, of which 24 semester or 36 quarter hours must be in upper-level courses in subject areas such as the following:

- Structural Geology
- Stratigraphy
- Paleontology
- Geomorphology
- Mineralogy
- Terrain Analysis/Remote Sensing
- Environmental Geology
- Economic Geology
- Petrology
- Geophysics
- Field Geology
- Glacial Geology
- Engineering Geology
- Hydrogeology
- Sedimentology

If the specific 24 semester or 36 quarter hours in upper-level courses are deficient, the Division may, upon recommendation by the Board, allow substitution of professional experience as a geologist.

The applicant must provide verification of a minimum of 10 years of professional experience (six in addition to the required four) which may be substituted for 10 semester or 15 quarter hours of the deficient upper-level coursework.

At least two of the ten years shall have been under the supervision of a licensed professional geologist, or, before July 1, 2000, a licensed professional geologist or engineer.

EXAMINATION:

- Illinois administers the ASBOG examination.

EXPERIENCE:

A minimum of four years of professional experience in the practice of geologic or directly related work is required. All experience must have been acquired after conferral of the bachelor's degree.

- An applicant will receive one year of credit for 1500 hours of experience.
- A maximum of one year experience may be credited to applicants possessing a graduate degree in geology if the courses are not used to satisfy the education requirements.
- A maximum of one year experience may be credited to full-time faculty members who teach upper-level courses in a geology program that meets the criteria in 68 Ill. Adm. Code 1252.40.
- **At least 2 years of professional experience must be gained under the supervision of an Illinois licensed professional geologist or a geologist licensed in another jurisdiction having substantially equivalent licensure requirements as Illinois.**

REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS:

An official transcript showing conferral of the geology degree (and any other degrees being claimed) must be uploaded during the application process.

EXPERIENCE:

- Applicant must submit the VE-GEO form for your experience to verify a minimum of four years (6000 hours) of professional experience in the practice of geologic or directly related work.
- A separate form for each supervisor/place of employment must be completed by the supervisor and uploaded during the application process.

The form is available here:

<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idfpr/renewals/apply/forms/ve-geo.pdf>

EXAMINATION:

- A certification/verification showing passage of the ASBOG from the jurisdiction where you passed the exam, emailed directly to FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov

For Endorsement applicants only:

- A certification/verification from the current and original jurisdictions of licensure, must be emailed directly to FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ONCE LICENSED

- All Geologist licenses expire on March 31st of each odd-numbered year, regardless of issuance date.
- It is your responsibility to update your contact information including email address with the Department to ensure that you receive all courtesy renewal email reminders and other notifications.
- A sample of the seal and requirements are available here:
<https://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/068/06801252ZZ9996aR.html>.