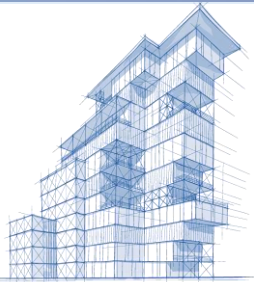


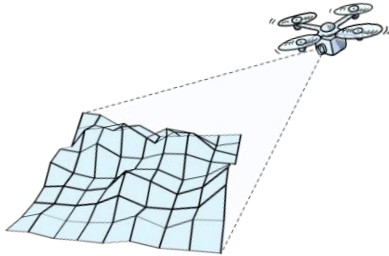


DESIGN Times

A quarterly publication from the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation



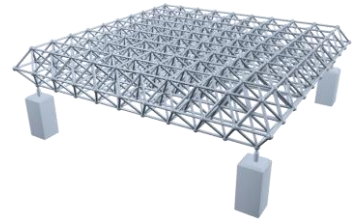
ARCHITECTURE



LAND SURVEYING



PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING



STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING

Issue 34 // Summer 2026

FALL 2026 RENEWALS

As summer ends and fall begins, we turn our attention to renewal time. The renewal window for the **Architect**, **Land Surveyor**, and **Structural Engineer** license opens on **September 1, 2026**.

What You Need to Know

- **September 1, 2026:** Those whose license is active will receive a courtesy email with login details on how to renew.
- **Renewal platform being used:** Those who applied for and received the license using our new CORE system this year will renew the license through that platform. All other licensees will continue to use our legacy system. The email sent to licensees will include information for the appropriate platform to renew through.
- **Certification:** Licensees must certify having completed all required continuing education requirements for the profession. Failure to do so will result in the license not being renewed.
- **Mandatory Renewal:** All active licensees must renew, regardless of when the license was first issued.
- **Expiration Date:** Unrenewed licenses will expire on **November 30, 2026**.

Continuing education requirements:

- [Architect License Renewal CE Requirements](#)
- [Land Surveyor License Renewal PDH Requirements](#)
- [Structural Engineer License Renewal CE Requirements](#)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC – FRAUDULANT WORK FROM ONLINE MARKETPLACE

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation, Division of Professional Regulation, has seen a significant rise in the number of reports of fraudulently sealed architecture, engineering and surveying services being offered through online marketplaces offering freelance services. Examples of these types of websites are Fiverr, Upwork, and others. Some of the postings on these sites for professional work appear to be offered by non-licensed individuals, sometimes located out of the country.

They advertise they can provide professional services and then provide 'signed and sealed work' that bears a fraudulent seal of an Illinois design professional or a completely made-up individual, who was not ever involved in the project. If you choose to use one of these websites to obtain professional services for projects in Illinois, please use extreme caution and take steps to verify the legitimacy of the Illinois design professional prior to moving forward with the transaction.

If you become aware of a situation where unlicensed individuals are offering architecture, engineering, or land surveying services or fraudulent seals/signatures are being used through one of the online marketplace sites, please file a complaint

(<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/admin/dpr/dprcomplaint.html>) with the Department so it can be investigated.

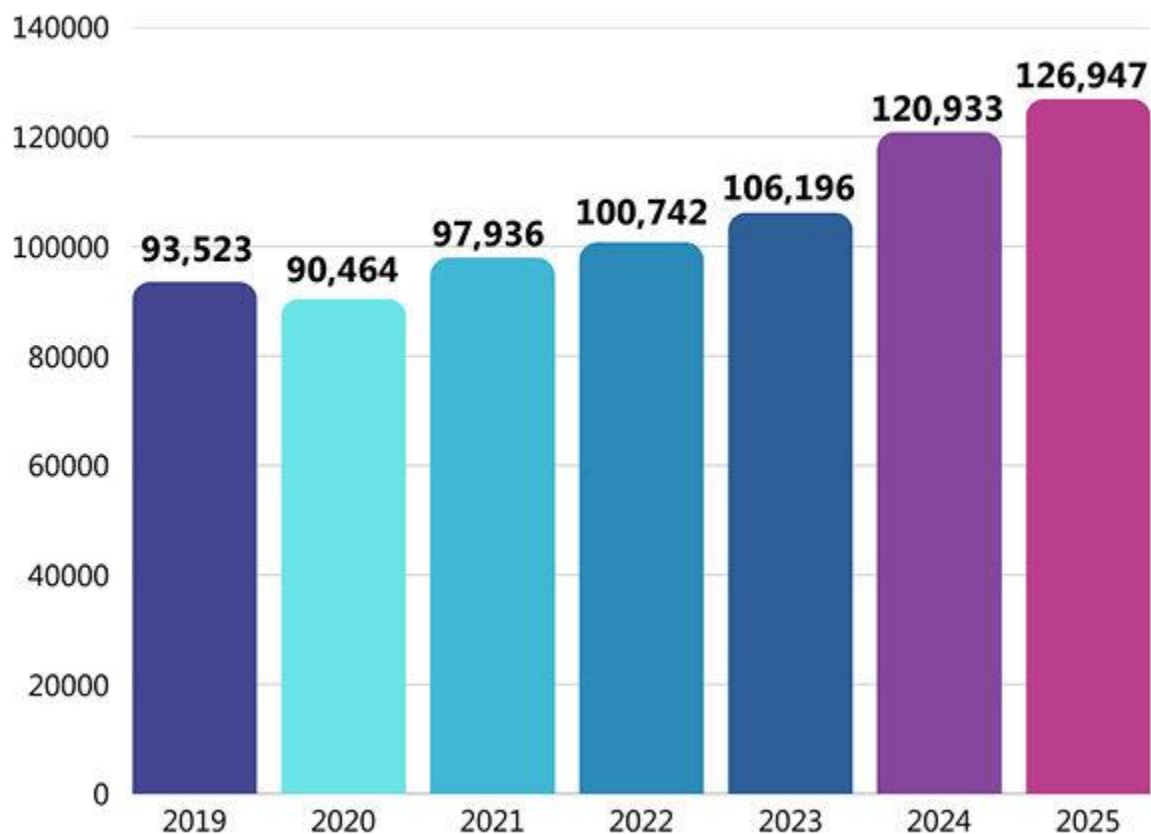
IDFPR ACCOMPLISHMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Record-Setting Number of Licenses Issued

IDFPR issued 126,947 professional licenses in 2025.

- That represents a 5% increase from the previous record (120,933) set in 2024.
- Learn more about the licensing improvements made by IDFPR:
 - [Reimagining Professional Licensing in Illinois \(December 2024\)](#)
 - [Reimagining Professional Licensing in Illinois \(April 2024\)](#)

More Illinois professionals are entering the workforce faster, fueling economic growth and public service.



SEE SOMETHING? SAY SOMETHING.

Help us protect the public.

Each licensee has a responsibility to report violations of your respective practice Act when discovered. This is not an easy task, nor should it be. It is an ethical obligation to report; especially violations that jeopardize the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Complaints against any individual or entity regulated by the **Division of Professional Regulation** may be filed by contacting the Complaint Intake Unit. The complaint may be submitted anonymously if desired. Once the department receives the complaint, it will be submitted to our Enforcement Unit for investigation and prosecution if determined to be warranted.

Please note: Pursuant to Illinois law (20 ILCS 2105/2105-117), all information collected by the Department during an examination or investigation of a licensee, registrant, or applicant is confidential and cannot be publicly disclosed. This includes complaints and any information collected during an investigation. Exceptions to this law exist only for law enforcement, other regulatory agencies with appropriate regulatory interest, or a party presenting a lawful subpoena.

To file a complaint, please use our online complaint form here:

[Online Complaint Form](#)

Have Questions about submitting a complaint or status of your complaint?

Call the Complaint Intake Unit at **312.814.6910**.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Members of the public are invited to attend the open session of Board Meetings to gain a better understanding of the current topics and issues prevalent in the respective professions as well as how the Board works to ensure the health, safety and welfare of the public are being protected.

As unforeseen issues may occur, always check the Department website to ensure that the Board is meeting on the listed date.

Note: members of the public wishing to attend a meeting in-person must request a guest pass to attend the meeting three days prior to the meeting and may do so by emailing fpr.boards@illinois.gov with your Full Name, Board Meeting Name and Meeting Date.

September

Architect Board, 9/16/2026

Professional Land Surveyor Board, 9/29/2026

Professional Engineering Board, 9/23/2026

Structural Engineering Board, 9/22/2026

November

Architect Board, 11/18/2026

Professional Land Surveyor Board, 11/17/2026

Professional Engineering Board, 11/4/2026

Structural Engineering Board, 11/10/2026

MONTHLY ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

Information regarding disciplinary actions taken by IDFPR against unlicensed individuals and licensed professionals and businesses is public record and available on our website. Many of these actions are the outcome of what began as a complaint submitted to the Department.

Recent Enforcement actions are available below.

[January 2026](#)

[February 2026](#)

[March 2026](#)

[April 2026](#)

[May 2026](#)

[June 2026](#)

DID YOU MOVE? CHANGE JOBS?

CHANGE EMAIL ACCOUNTS?

It is your responsibility as a professional to make sure that your contact information is up to date to receive all department notifications and courtesy renewal reminder notices.

Update your contact information by calling 1.800.560.6420.

NEWLY LICENSED?

We recommend that you review the code enforcement manual to ensure that you and your Professional Design Firm are following all applicable requirements as well as find an example to use when you purchase your Illinois seal. Please note that Illinois does not supply a seal or approve any vendors. You may purchase your seal from a vendor of your choice. If it is a reproducible seal (non-embossed) it will be accepted.

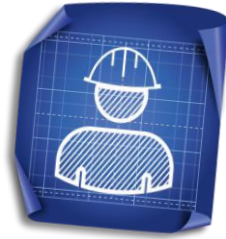
Code Enforcement Manual: [Manual for Code Enforcement Officials and Design Professionals](#)

CE/PDH CREDIT

Reading this newsletter qualifies for credit toward the Illinois Design Profession license renewal requirement for Illinois state statutes and rules. Each newsletter & quiz qualifies for 0.25 Continuing Education hours for Architects and Structural Engineers and 0.25 Professional Development hours for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors.

To receive CE/PDH credit, you must complete the online quiz, achieve a score of 70% or higher, and retain a copy of your quiz score notification for your records.

Access the quiz here: <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/g/REKS62f4U3>



Please let us know how we can serve you better by emailing your comments to us at:

FPR.DesignUnit@Illinois.gov

The material and information contained in this newsletter is for general information purposes only and should not be considered legal advice. You should not rely upon the material or information in the newsletter as a basis for making any business, legal, or other decisions. Information contained herein may not constitute the most up-to-date information. Please consult an attorney to obtain legal advice or interpretation of any applicable laws.

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