

Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation

Responsive. Innovative. Transparent. Efficient.



Division of Professional Regulation: *Design Unit*

The Design Unit of the Division of Professional Regulation is responsible for maintaining the public health, safety, and welfare and to be subject to regulation and control in the public interest. Each Profession is governed by its respective Act that merits the confidence of the public, and that only qualified persons shall be authorized to engage in the practice of that profession in the State of Illinois.

The Design Unit oversees the Licensing and Registration for:

- ◆ Architecture
- ◆ Professional Land Surveying
- ◆ Professional Engineering
- ◆ Structural Engineering
- ◆ Professional Design Firm

Did you know?

Illinois licenses Professional Engineers and Structural Engineers separately. There is no overlap of licensure. Each profession has separate and distinct requirements for education, examination and experience.

A Professional Engineer in Illinois cannot offer or perform any Structural Engineering services and a Structural Engineer can only offer Structural Engineering services.

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Retirement Announced!

M. David Brim, Design Licensing Manager to retire.

After 28 years of service and dedication for the State of Illinois, M. David Brim, Design Licensing Manager notified the Department of his intent to retire, effective December 30, 2016.

Brim stated that, "I have enjoyed assisting with the licensing of design professionals and ensuring that the Board's recommendations and interpretations are conveyed to the Department and applicants in a clear and precise manner." He went on to say that, "I feel honored to be a part of the creation and subsequent amendments to the four design Profession Acts and Administrative Rules over the past 11 years. I believe that the public's interest is being well served by these laws."

M David also said that, "having the addition of an intelligent and forward thinking Assistant Design Licensing Manager the last few years has been invaluable."

Brim's assistant, Kyle Lazell, has brought new enthusiasm and insight to the Department for ways of streamlining departmental procedures, use of standardized forms and thinking ahead for potential changes in the design professions.

Each of the four design profession Boards (Architect, Professional Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer and Structural Engineer Boards), congratulated M. David Brim on his retirement at their most recent Board meetings.

Members of each Board conveyed their appreciation for his steadfastness to the laws of Illinois and for being an knowledgeable resource of historical information for the design professions.

M. David stated that he looks forward to spending time with his wife at their new home, fishing, reading and working on his various hobbies.

From all of us, Thank you for your service to the Department, the Design Boards and the public.

Farewell and best wishes on your transition to retirement!



POINT OF INTEREST

DESIGN FIRM RENEWAL

Professional Design Firms are set to renew on 4/30/2017.

Make certain that your Design Firm has a valid email address listed with the Department to receive the renewal notice email when available. If you are unsure, please email the department with a valid email account and we will update your information.

Email: FPR.PRGGROUP02@illinois.gov

FILE A COMPLAINT ONLINE

Help us protect the public.

Complaints against any individual or entity regulated by the **Division of Professional Regulation** may be filed by contacting the Complaint Intake Unit.

To file a complaint, please use:

[Online Complaint Form](#)

Have Questions?

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



Design Profession Trivia



Q: Can a Professional Engineer in Illinois sign/seal Structural Engineering drawings?

A: No.

Pursuant to Section 5 of the Structural Engineering Practice Act, any project in Illinois that is structural in nature must be signed/sealed by a licensed Structural Engineer.

"Structural" may include but is not limited to: Foundations, Towers, Bridges, Retaining Walls, Load/Seismic calculations, Columns, Girders, etc. all require a licensed Structural Engineer in Illinois.

DESIGN BOARD SPOTLIGHT:

Structural Engineer



We make sure you're on firm foundation!

As of 2017, Structural Engineers have been licensed in Illinois for **100** years.

While a great number of things have changed over the years; education, experience and examinations to name a few, a core foundation of the law remains. To ensure that suitable and competent individuals are involved with the design and analysis of design that are structural in nature to make certain that the health, safety and welfare of the public are being served.

Illinois is different from many other states and jurisdictions in that a separate law was created to govern the requirements for Structural Engineering. In many other states, a Professional Engineer may perform structural services. In Illinois, only a licensed Structural Engineer may offer or perform structural analysis or design services.

A Professional Engineer in Illinois cannot perform any structural services, doing so is a violation of the Illinois Structural Engineering Practice Act.



Want to serve on a Board?

The office of citizen is the highest office in the land. One of the best ways to participate in our democracy is by serving on a state board, commission or committee.

These groups advise Illinois' state agencies and organizations on a wide range of issues that affect public policy and welfare.



Current Board Openings:

Professional Engineering Board
Public Member

Link:

[Board Member Application Form](https://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/DPR/Lookup/LicenseLookup.aspx)



Frequently Asked Questions:

To assist potential applicants for examinations and/or licensure, the Department has created an F.A.Q. document for each design profession to address the most common questions the Department receives.

Architecture : click [here](#)

Professional Land Surveyor : click [here](#)

Professional Engineering : click [here](#)

Structural Engineering : click [here](#)

Many basic functions available online.

To better serve our applicants and licensees, several important functions may be found on the Department website to ensure quick and accurate interaction with the Department.

License Look-up -

<https://ilesonline.idfpr.illinois.gov/DPR/Lookup/LicenseLookup.aspx>

License Renewal (during renewal period) -

<https://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/Renewals/defaultSSL.asp>

Update your contact information-

<https://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/applications/LicenseReprint/Verify.aspx>

Download a license -

<https://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/Applications/GetMyLicense/select.asp>

Review the Code Enforcement Manual -

http://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/forms/DPR/Design_Code_Manual.pdf

Review the requirements for Professional Design Firm Registration -

<https://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/Applications/GetMyLicense/select.asp>



Upcoming Board Meetings

We invite the public to attend the open session of our Board Meetings to gain a better understanding of what issues are prevalent in the respective professions.

January:

Structural Engineer – January 11, 2017 – Springfield
Professional Engineer – January 12, 2017 – Springfield
Land Surveyor – January 13, 2017 – Springfield
Architect – January 19, 2017 – Springfield

Monthly Discipline Report

You may review the latest monthly discipline report here:

<http://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/News/Disciplines/DiscReports.asp>

Update your Contact Information

To receive Department renewal notices, verify your information here:

[Change Your Address](#)

Continuing Education

Visit the following sites for resources on available Continuing Education courses for your renewal requirements.

Architecture

www.aiaill.org
www.alatoday.org

Professional Land Surveyor

www.iplsa.org

Professional Engineering

www.illinoisengineer.com

Structural Engineering

www.seaoi.org

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