

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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QR Code

QR Enhanced License Certificates Offer Tech Safeguards

In an effort to increase transparency and provide the public with a quick and easy method to verify the authenticity of a professional's certificate of licensure, the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR) is now including a unique quick response (QR) code for all professions within the Divisions of Professional Regulation and Real Estate. When the QR code is scanned using a QR reader application from any mobile device, the latest license information from IDFPR's database will be displayed, including licensure status. The QR code announcement is the latest from IDFPR in their ongoing efforts to modernize the state's regulatory agency.

"Smartphone technology has revolutionized our lives and how we access information on a daily basis," said Bryan A. Schneider, IDFPR Secretary. "By utilizing the QR code on our certificates of licensure, we afford consumers an easy and efficient way to ensure the validity of our licensed professionals."

All license certificates issued by IDFPR before 7/19/2016 that do not contain the unique QR code are still considered valid. Users can access and print new certificates with a QR code anytime by accessing online eLicense search functionality from the IDFPR website at <https://www.idfpr.illinois.gov/Applications/GetMyLicense/login.asp>.

For more information on IDFPR, please visit their website at: www.idfpr.illinois.gov. Follow IDFPR on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) to stay current on the latest from the state's regulatory agency.

Below is a sample of what a QR Code may look like.



POINT OF INTEREST

Licenses in Renewal

The following professions are currently in renewal and set to expire on November 30, 2016.

Architect

Professional Land Surveyor

Structural Engineer

You may renew your license online at the department website here:

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

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: What year did Professional Land Surveyors become registered in Illinois?

A: 1937.

The practice of land surveying includes surveying, preparation of boundary descriptions and measuring the area of any portion of the earth's surface.

DESIGN BOARD SPOTLIGHT:

Professional Land Surveyor

We survey the land and ensure you aren't out of bounds.

Professional Land Surveyors are instrumental in performing a variety of services to ensure proper and specific measurements are being listed on project plans as well as listing boundary descriptions, to name a few.

The requirements to become a licensed Professional Land Surveyor in Illinois have changed over the years, however, the heart of what the profession involves remains the same; commitment to excellence, expertise and knowledge. Advancement in examination types and content are routinely updated and modified to better enable applicants to complete the exams in a timely and effective manner so as to start their career as a Professional Land Surveyor.

To that end, The Principles and Practice of Land Surveying (PS) Examination is now a computer-based examination and offered year-round. Examinees may attempt an exam one time per testing window and no more than three times in a 12 month period, which begins with the first exam attempt. Computer-based exams are offered in testing windows during the following months: January-March, April-June, July-September and October-December.

Please note, The Illinois Jurisdictional Examination is currently offered as a paper and pencil exam only. This examination is offered four times a year during the following months: January, April, July and October.

The specific requirements to be approved to sit for the examinations can be found on the Department's website here:

[Section 1270.5 Application for Professional Land Surveyor-in-Training by Examination](#)
[Section 1270.10 Application for Licensure as a Professional Land Surveyor by Examination](#)

Updated Application Instructions and Forms.

The Department continually strives to find ways to streamline the process for individuals to apply for examination and/or licensure.

One way of accomplishing this is by routinely reviewing and updating the application instructions and other forms to ensure that the most accurate and effective information is being presented to the perspective examinee/licensee.

The Department has recently updated the instructions for each of the four Design profession applications. In addition, application instructions for the Professional Design Firm have been updated along with a new Design Firm application.

Candidate Examination Guides have been updated for the Land Surveyor, Professional Engineer and Structural Engineer professions.



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
Licensed Member

Links:

[Board Member Application Form](#)
[State of Illinois Appointments](#)

Frequently Asked Questions:

To assist potential candidates 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](#)



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.

November:

Architect Board – November 3, 2016 (Springfield)

Structural Engineering Board – November 16, 2016 (Springfield)

Professional Engineering Board - November 17, 2016 (Springfield)

Land Surveyor Board – November 18, 2016 (Springfield)

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

DESIGN Times

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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](#)

IDFPR

320 West Washington St
Design Unit - 3rd FL
Springfield, IL 62786

Email:

fpr.prfgroup02@illinois.gov **Web:**

www.idfpr.illinois.gov