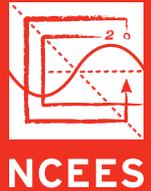


# Licensure EXCHANGE

APRIL 2017

Volume 21, Issue 2



**GEORGE MURGEL, PH.D., P.E.**  
COMMITTEE ON EXAMINATIONS FOR  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS CHAIR



## COMMITTEE FOCUS

### EPE COMMITTEE REVIEWS POLICIES FOR GROUP II EXAMS

THE MOVE TO COMPUTER-BASED TESTING CAUSED NCEES to look at a variety of policies and procedures. New opportunities for the Principles and Practice of Engineering exams, including developing supplied-reference handbooks and incorporating new question formats, brought new challenges. These challenges made us take a fresh look at how we develop Group II exams.

NCEES exams are separated into two types, known as Group I and Group II. NCEES is responsible for all of the exam development for Group I exams. This includes funding travel for exam development volunteers, psychometric services, and the publication of sample exams. Group II exams are the 11 small-volume exams that NCEES offers once a year. For these, NCEES partners with technical societies. These societies assist with exam preparation and share the cost of developing the exams.

Last year, the president charged the Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures and the Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers to review the possibility of assuming the responsibility for all of the Group II exam development activities.

The committees considered the issue, including the advantages and disadvantages to NCEES and the technical societies, and decided that making the change is feasible. This year, the EPE Committee has continued to study the issue, including developing a potential transition plan.

#### Current system

For each Group II exam, NCEES is currently financially responsible for housing the item bank; typing the exam items; formatting, editing, and printing the exams; securing psychometric services for exam development and scoring; and providing an exam development engineer to work with the committee and attend exam development meetings. As part of its preparations to move the PE exams to computer-based testing, in recent years NCEES has also funded one meeting at NCEES headquarters per year for 15 exam volunteers for each Group II exam to work on CBT-related tasks.

The 11 technical societies provide the subject-matter experts for exam development. They also publish a sample exam and fund the travel expenses for the exam development committee chair to attend the two EPE committee meetings per year.

#### New concerns

The work to transition PE exams to CBT raised some important questions. As Group II societies developed supplied references to allow for closed-book exams, we wondered, Who is liable for the content of the supplied references? Can the society sell the reference handbook, or does it have to be available free of charge for examinees preparing for the exam? Who is liable if there is an issue with an exam item—NCEES or the society providing the exam development volunteers? There is new technology and resources to be used with exam development for

*continued on page 6*

# ENFORCEMENT BEAT



**RICK HUETT**

ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND SURVEYORS  
INVESTIGATOR

## Be mindful of your credentials

HOW DO YOU FEEL WHEN YOU SEND A COMPLETED SET of design plans out of your office? Good? Relieved that the design aspect is out for permitting? Hopefully, you feel great about bringing the project to that stage, but it is important to protect your professional credentials after you submit your designs. As we have experienced in Alabama, not everyone who has access to your credentials is going to treat them in a legal or ethical manner.

In January 2015, the Alabama board received a complaint that alleged a metal building company had provided design plans for the construction of a church in south Alabama that contained the signature and professional engineer seal of an individual who was unaware of the project. The board had previously conducted an investigation from a different complainant regarding the same company; that investigation ultimately resulted in the metal building firm being found guilty at a hearing and assessed monetary penalties. This new allegation was similar to the previous complaint, but as the investigation began, it soon became apparent that this was not going to be typical.

Early in the investigation, information appeared to indicate that the professional identities of multiple professional engineers had been used without their knowledge to construct several metal buildings in Alabama. The investigation revealed that credentials from engineers in Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Georgia had been used surreptitiously to construct metal buildings in Alabama without their knowledge.

After completion of the investigation, a hearing was held. Ten charges were presented against the individual and his firm. The investigation and the hearing revealed that the individual would contract with an engineer or a metal building manufacturer to provide a set of sealed design plans. The individual would then produce design plans for other projects and place the professional identity of that engineer on those plans without his knowledge. The individual used this process to construct several metal buildings for churches in various locations throughout Alabama.

Early in the investigation, information appeared to indicate that the professional identities of multiple professional engineers had been used without their knowledge to construct several metal buildings in Alabama.

After the hearing, the individual and his firm were found guilty on all counts. The hearing order required him to pay a \$25,000 penalty to the Alabama General Fund and to pay the board \$5,243 for the cost of the hearing. The order also required the individual to cease and desist all acts that constitute the practice of engineering.

Once the order was issued, the board contacted news media in the state to make the public aware of the potential problems with buildings constructed by the individual. The various news media ran several segments on the story and were instrumental in increasing public awareness of the potential safety concerns with buildings constructed by the individual.

The board also submitted the investigative information to district attorneys in the two southernmost counties of Alabama. Both district attorneys' staff met with the board's investigator and assigned the case to their investigative staff. The board's investigator was included when the agencies served search warrants on the individual's premises and provided valuable information to assist the search for documentary evidence. The search warrants revealed quite a bit of information that the board was not able to obtain during its investigation.

After the search warrants were served, the individual was arrested and charged with 44 felonies in Mobile County. At his bond hearing,

*continued on page 5*

## MEMBER BOARD BRIEF



### STEVEN MATTHEWS

NCEES CHIEF TECHNOLOGY OFFICER AND COMMITTEE ON MEMBER BOARD ADMINISTRATORS STAFF LIAISON

## E3 by the numbers

THE LAUNCH OF OUR CUSTOMER MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, E3, in June 2016 brought something new to our organization. For the first time, our customers, internal staff, and member boards have one system tied to all NCEES services. That includes exam registration, study materials, exam scoring, credentials evaluations, CPC tracking, license and exam verifications, enforcement tracking, and NCEES Records. Customers using any of these services can now access all of them through their MyNCEES account with one username and password, instead of keeping track of separate logins for each system.

We've made a number of improvements based on customer and member board feedback since the June launch. Now that we are firing on all cylinders, I want to share some statistics about the volume and type of user activity that moves through the system on a daily and monthly basis.

### User activity

NCEES staff, member boards, and customers using any of the organization's various services now use the E3 system. These groups log into distinct interfaces that display services relevant to them.

- On a monthly basis, 61 distinct NCEES staff members use the E3 system. We currently have 72 staff members, so about 85 percent are interacting with this system.
- There are 560 distinct users from our 70 member boards on average each month. There have been more than 800 total distinct member-board users since the launch.
- An average of 45,000 distinct customers access E3 every month. More than 142,000 customers have logged into E3 since the launch.

### Education transcripts

The new system allows customers to have their official transcripts sent to NCEES after they graduate. NCEES uses this information to verify the education portion of the profile.

An average of 45,000 distinct customers access E3 every month. More than 142,000 customers have logged into E3 since the launch.

Once education entries are marked as verified with a transcript, PDFs of the official transcripts are made available to all member boards.

Customers whose degree requires a credentials evaluation are notified much earlier in the process, and completed evaluations are available to all boards without the customer having to pay transmittal fees as they did in the old system.

- We have received more than 50,000 transcripts for Records and credentials evaluations since the launch and have verified and uploaded more than 40,000 transcripts for roughly 25,000 customers.

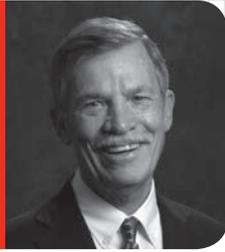
### Work experience reviews

The new system allows customers to submit their work experience for review whenever they are ready; they do not have to wait to enter the full four years' details. Once submitted, each entry goes through a two-step review process: an NCEES experience review consultant who is licensed as a professional engineer or surveyor, as applicable, reviews the experience and provides feedback to the customer if it is inadequate. A second internal reviewer evaluates the experience as well to ensure that it is adequate and progressive.

- Since June, 23,000 experience reviews have been completed.
- An average of 225 new or revised entries are submitted for review each day.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT



**DANIEL TURNER, PH.D., P.E., P.L.S.**  
NCEES PRESIDENT

## Board Presidents Assembly is highly successful as an information exchange

NCEES CONVENED THE 2017 BOARD PRESIDENTS Assembly February 3–4 at the Airport Hilton Hotel in Atlanta, Georgia. This meeting is held every two years so that board presidents, member board administrators, NCEES staff, and the NCEES board of directors can review and discuss current and future Council initiatives.

This year, representatives of 58 state licensing boards (83 percent of all boards) were present, along with 6 NCEES board of directors members and 11 staff members. The total of 119 attendees reflects the growing importance of the topics discussed during this meeting. It has become a way for all involved to understand and fine tune ongoing programs and to identify new initiatives to best serve our profession and the state boards that oversee licensure.

Lance Kinney, Ph.D., P.E., chair of the Committee on Member Board Administrators, led a meeting for MBAs on Friday. The 45 attendees heard presentations and briefings from NCEES program directors and project managers on key topics like the NCEES customer management system (E3), Records, board profiles, and actions by the MBA Committee to address its charges. These subjects directly affect the workload and efficiency of operations of state boards, and the MBAs generated good questions and suggestions in response to the presentations.

On Saturday, board presidents joined MBAs and other board staff for the Board Presidents Assembly. This was another occasion when participants were interested in the presentations and fully engaged. It started with a review of the board of directors' state-visit program, where board members and senior staff visit state board meetings, at the request of the boards. We learn from them, and they learn from us (a win-win situation). A third of state

boards have requested visits, and about half of those visits have been completed. State boards can request a visit by contacting NCEES Chief Executive Officer Jerry Carter.

Next, BPA participants received the treasurer's report, an extended briefing on NCEES examinations, and an overview of the key points from the previous day's MBA meeting. This was followed by an update on the capabilities of the E3 system, including examinee registration, Records, credentials evaluations, exam verification, Enforcement Exchange, and the CPC Registry. The final presentation was about NCEES' excellent ongoing outreach initiatives.

The floor opened to questions and open discussion, which lasted for more than an hour at the end of the meeting. Clearly, the participants were interested in the topics discussed and wanted more information.

This was one of the best meetings of a volunteer organization that I have attended. Thinking back, there seem to have been several reasons. First, the credit starts with NCEES. Our meetings always have good workspace, good hotel rooms, good food and drink, and good agendas tailored to the attendees. Top-level staff members are always present to explain issues and answer questions. All of this enhances participation, two-way communication, progress, and personal reward of attendees. Second, the attendees at this meeting were interested in the topics and fully engaged in vetting and discussing them. This provided new perspectives and new opportunities. Finally, there were lots of people taking notes and lots of smiles during the meeting. My best "well done" to NCEES and to every speaker.

# NCEES opens 2017 Surveying Education Award

AS PART OF ITS CELEBRATIONS FOR NATIONAL Surveyors Week, NCEES launched the 2017 cycle of the NCEES Surveying Education Award on March 21. The award recognizes surveying/geomatics programs that best reflect NCEES' mission to advance licensure for surveyors in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

NCEES invites surveying/geomatics programs to compete for

- A \$25,000 grand prize
- Up to three \$15,000 prizes
- Up to three \$10,000 prizes

All submissions and supporting documentation must be received by NCEES on or before May 31, 2017. The 2017 award recipients will be notified after July 1.

For competition details, as well as information on the 2016 award winners, visit [ncees.org/surveyingaward](http://ncees.org/surveyingaward).



*Surveying degree programs across the country are invited to compete for the NCEES Surveying Education Award, including a \$25,000 grand prize. NCEES introduced the annual competition in 2016 to assist with surveying programs' efforts to promote the importance and value of licensure.*

## ENFORCEMENT BEAT

*continued from page 2*

it was discovered that he was currently on probation for a different matter. The judge denied him bond and placed him in jail to serve the remainder of his probationary period.

The Baldwin County District Attorney presented the county's investigation to the grand jury, and the individual was indicted on eight felony counts for his actions in Baldwin County.

Thankfully, the previous case is not the norm. But 2016 is referred to as the "Year of the Metal Building" by the Alabama investigative staff. The investigators worked on several cases involving metal buildings, and two of those may cause you additional concern.

In those two investigations, allegations were made that the structure (metal building or carport) did not meet the permitting requirements for the location where it was to be constructed. In both cases, a metal building firm had previously contracted with a licensed professional engineer to provide the design for a metal building or carport. The engineers both acknowledged they provided a design to the metal building firms.

In both cases, the metal building company submitted a design drawing to an approving authority for a project to be located in Alabama. Since the structures were to be constructed in an area of the state that had higher windload requirements, the designs were not adequate.

The engineers were not consulted prior to the firm sending copies of their design plans to the approving authority. In one of the investigations, the design drawings submitted by the metal building firm contained the seal of a different state where the professional engineer was licensed, not his Alabama seal.

In closing, please be mindful of how and where you transmit documents that contain your signature and professional seal. You may also want to consider developing a process that would include a strongly written agreement with your client, especially those involved with prototypical or standard designs like metal buildings, to clearly spell out what can and cannot be done with your signature and seal. The ultimate goal, as always, is the protection of the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

## COMMITTEE FOCUS

*continued from cover*

CBT—all of which are housed at NCEES headquarters in South Carolina. Therefore, NCEES wanted to consider whether it should assume full financial responsibility for exam development and the associated liability for Group II exams.

This is similar to the arrangement for Group I exams. NCEES maintains close relationships with technical societies, and these societies assist in recruiting volunteers. However, NCEES organizes the exam development meetings and holds them at NCEES headquarters, funds the volunteers, and assumes the liability. To stay connected, many Group I technical societies fund a volunteer to be part of the exam development committee and fund a technical society representative to attend EPE meetings.

### Moving forward

The EPE Committee reviewed the advantages and disadvantages of making this change. Bringing all exam-development activities to NCEES headquarters would increase exam security and improve consistency in exam preparation. Committees could make better use of resources, including exam development software. NCEES would have more control over the consistency of the supplied references.

Technical societies would benefit financially because they would save costs for exam development. They would continue to have input and recommend volunteers to serve as subject-matter experts, but they would be able to use NCEES facilities and resources, and NCEES would assume liability for the accuracy of the supplied references.

Technical societies might lose some exam development volunteers because of changing administrative factors, such as new meeting times and locations. They also might lose revenue from sample exams, but they could develop and sell their own exam preparation materials if they choose.

After careful consideration, the EPE Committee recommended to the board of directors that NCEES assume financial responsibility for Group II exams. NCEES would assume current society costs for content reviews to update specifications, travel for the chair to attend EPE meetings, and standard-setting studies to determine passing scores. The net annual savings would be about \$25,000

Bringing all exam-development activities to NCEES headquarters would increase exam security and improve consistency in exam preparation. Committees could make better use of resources, including exam development software. NCEES would have more control over the consistency of the supplied references.

for each technical society. The combined cost to NCEES for the 11 Group II exams would be about \$275,000 per year.

EPE recommends a staggered implementation for this plan—with NCEES assuming responsibility for the development of Group II exams in the fiscal year prior to an exam's CBT transition date. We have a timeline for CBT transition of all PE exams now, beginning with the PE Chemical exam in January 2018 and the PE Nuclear exam in October 2018, so we are able to plan for the changes to Group II exams.

As part of the transition plan, EPE recommended that NCEES start funding two exam committee meetings per year to Clemson, beginning with the 2017–18 budget cycle. This is an increase from the single currently budgeted meeting. Meeting at NCEES headquarters allows the committees to actually work in their exam bank to clean out unnecessary back-up data and work on their supplied reference. Meeting more frequently would allow the committees to further their progress on these tasks.

The EPE Committee submitted this plan for consideration at the board of directors February meeting. The board approved it. The next step is to negotiate a memorandum of understanding with each technical society, terminating the existing contract with NCEES and laying out the terms and conditions of the transition. This includes assigning the copyrights for supplied references to NCEES and deciding who will produce the sample exams. Agreements will vary by society.

The Group II technical societies are—and will continue to be—instrumental to the success of these exams. We are grateful for their support and look forward to continuing to work with them in the future.

# NCEES prepares for first computer-based PE exam

THE APRIL 2017 EXAM ADMINISTRATION ENDS AN ERA for the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) Chemical exam: NCEES is offering the exam for the last time in pencil-and-paper format. The organization will then turn its attention to final preparations for the first administration of the exam via computer-based testing (CBT). Registration opens June 19, with the first CBT appointments beginning January 2, 2018. The exam will be offered year-round at approved Pearson VUE test centers.

## Exam format, specifications

The PE Chemical exam format will be linear-on-the-fly testing (LOFT), in which examinees each have a unique set of exam questions that are similar in difficulty. The same format is used for the Fundamentals of Engineering and Fundamentals of Surveying exams, which have been offered in CBT since 2014, and the Principles and Practice of Surveying exam, which has been offered in CBT since 2016.

The computer-based PE Chemical exam includes a new testing component: alternative item types. AITs are items other than traditional multiple-choice questions with one correct answer. They could include the following:

- Multiple select (require examinees to select multiple answers)
- Point and click (require examinees to click on part of a graphic to answer)
- Drag and drop (require examinees to click on and drag items to match, sort, rank, or label)
- Fill in the blank (provide a space for examinees to enter a response to a question)

“CBT allows us to introduce alternative item types and ask questions differently if the AIT adds value,” explained NCEES Director of Exam Services Tim Miller, P.E. “We introduced AITs for the PS exam when it moved to CBT in 2016. We plan to expand AITs to the FE and FS exams in July 2017 and to the PE Chemical exam when it moves to CBT in 2018.”

The computer-based PE Chemical exam contains 80 questions. The total appointment time is 9 hours. The actual exam lasts 8 hours; the other hour allows time for administrative tasks, including a tutorial and optional 50-minute break. New specifications have been posted for the PE Chemical exam,

but the actual exam topics have not changed since they were published in April 2011. NCEES changed the order of the topics and added the number of questions for each topic area. The exam specifications are posted online at [ncees.org/exams/PE](http://ncees.org/exams/PE).

The computer-based PE Chemical will be a closed-book exam. A searchable electronic PE Chemical Reference Handbook will be displayed on the monitor during the exam, but no other reference material will be allowed. Examinees can purchase a practice exam for the computer-based PE Chemical exam and download a free PDF of the handbook to use when preparing for the exam.

## CBT transition for other PE exams

For now, all other PE exams will remain pencil-and-paper exams. The PE Chemical is the first PE exam to make the transition, but NCEES is continuing to work toward moving the other PE exams to CBT. The exams, which cover 25 engineering disciplines, are each following their own transition timetable.

## Other exam news

Beginning with the April 2017 administration, the PE Mechanical exam will no longer be a breadth-and-depth exam with a common section and three module options. It will be three distinct exams, with examinees choosing one of the following:

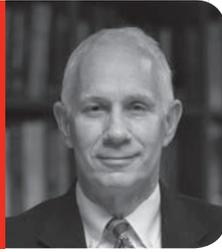
- PE Mechanical–HVAC and Refrigeration
- PE Mechanical–Machine Design and Materials
- PE Mechanical–Thermal and Fluids Systems

The new specifications for these exams are posted online at [ncees.org/exams/PE](http://ncees.org/exams/PE).

The Structural Engineering exam and the PE Civil exam will have revised design standards starting in April 2017. The standards for these exams are posted at [ncees.org/exams/PE](http://ncees.org/exams/PE).

The FE and PE Industrial exams have been renamed “Industrial and Systems.” The Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers, which partners with NCEES to develop the PE exam for the discipline, requested the name changes, and the board of directors approved the request. The specifications for these exams are unchanged.

## HEADQUARTERS UPDATE



**JERRY CARTER**  
NCEES CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

## Lower-volume CBT exams require different format and testing schedule

ONE OF THE MANY NEW TERMS WE HAVE LEARNED in the process of converting NCEES exams to computer-based testing is linear-on-the-fly-testing, or LOFT. So far, all of our computer-based exams use this format: the Fundamentals of Engineering, Fundamentals of Surveying, and Principles and Practice of Surveying exams. The Principles and Practice of Engineering Chemical exam, which will transition to CBT in January 2018, will also be LOFT-based. This format provides every examinee with a different but statistically equivalent test, and all exams are the same length and cover the same topics.

The NCEES Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers and the exam development committees for each of the 25 PE exam disciplines are working to convert all remaining exams to CBT. In considering when various exams could transition, it quickly became obvious that some PE exams could not be offered using LOFT because of their small candidate population.

There is a large range in the candidate population for different exam disciplines. For example, in October 2016, 2,043 candidates sat for the PE Civil Water Resources and Environmental exam, while 35 candidates sat for the PE Nuclear exam. The NCEES psychometricians advised us that LOFT should only be used for exams that are administered annually to at least 450 first-time U.S. candidates. They contend that a testing volume of 450 candidates ensures that we can get reliable estimates of item statistics for most operational items administered during a LOFT window.

To provide the benefits of CBT—including enhanced security, more-consistent testing experience, quicker results, and integrated reference material—NCEES will offer these 13 exams with a different format and different testing schedule.

Thirteen PE exams routinely fall below the suggested threshold of 450 first-time users per year:

- Agricultural and Biological
- Architectural
- Control Systems
- Electrical and Computer: Computer
- Electrical and Computer: Electrical and Electronics
- Fire Protection
- Industrial and Systems
- Metallurgical and Materials
- Mining and Mineral Processing
- Naval Architecture and Marine
- Nuclear
- Petroleum
- Software

To provide the benefits of CBT—including enhanced security, more-consistent testing experience, quicker results, and integrated reference material—NCEES will offer these 13 exams with a different format and different testing schedule.



*NCEES is preparing for the next wave of computer-based testing: the PE exams. For the 13 low-volume exams, NCEES will use linear-fixed format and offer the exams one day per year at Pearson VUE test centers across the United States.*

These exams will use linear-fixed format (LFF), which means that all the candidates taking an exam will have the same questions. Unlike our LOFT-format exams, which are offered year-round, these exams will be offered one day per year, which we call single-day testing events. The EPE Committee has recommended and the NCEES board of directors has approved offering these exams each October once converted to CBT. Eleven of the 13 exams are currently offered only one day per year in their pencil-and-paper format, but using CBT will provide a quicker results turnaround and allow for a more precise psychometric model.

These 13 PE exams will not all be offered on the same day in October. NCEES will work with Pearson VUE to identify dates that distribute our examinees to ensure that these test centers have adequate seats to accommodate all candidates for a specific exam. Using zip code analysis, Pearson VUE will hold seats until 60 days before the testing day at test centers in areas that traditionally have a high volume of candidates for one of these 13 exams. This will help ensure that testing centers such as Houston, Texas, where there is a large concentration of petroleum and control systems engineers, will have adequate seating to accommodate single-day testing for those exams. Contingency dates will be selected in case an unexpected issue prevents testing at a specific test center.

NCEES now has a 6-year transition plan for all PE exams. The first of the 13 low-volume exams to transition to the CBT linear-fixed format will be the PE Nuclear exam. At its February meeting, the NCEES board of directors approved an EPE recommendation that the first administration of the computer-based PE Nuclear exam be set for October 19, 2018. As the remainder of these low-volume exams are converted to CBT, single-day testing dates for each exam will be selected in October.

These dates will be published in the *NCEES Security and Administrative Procedures Manual*, which will be updated annually by staff and affirmed by the board of directors. NCEES will publicize the testing dates well in advance of registration deadlines and will provide regular communication to all member boards once dates have been set.

I strongly encourage member boards to check the NCEES website or with NCEES staff to confirm that information is accurate and up-to-date before posting information about exam dates online or distributing related information to exam candidates.

With the PE exams moving to CBT over the next 6 years, we will have an evolving mix of pencil-and-paper and computer-based exams. And the introduction of LFF format exams will bring a new format and testing schedule. It is important for NCEES and member boards to work together to provide accurate information to examinees.

## MEMBER BOARD BRIEF

*continued from page 3*

- NCEES is currently using 10 external licensed P.E./P.S. experience review consultants. Licensed NCEES staff are assisting as needed to keep up with the load.

### Reference and employment forms

Our old system relied heavily on paper forms and postal mail to get reference forms completed and work experiences signed off on by supervisors. There was a lot of manual scanning and processing as well as long wait times for customers. The new system has made these forms fully automated and electronic. When a customer sends a request to a reference or supervisor, the forms are now regularly completed and become part of his or her NCEES Record within the same day.

- More than 70,000 online reference forms have been completed since the launch, averaging 430 each day.
- Just under 20,000 online employment forms have been completed by supervisors signing off on customer work experiences, averaging 132 each day.

### License and exam verifications

The NCEES Record and some exam approval models rely on having customers' verified exam and/or license information tied to their accounts. The new system makes several improvements on the old verification process because the information is now tied to the customer's MyNCEES account. This allows boards to take advantage of features such as using the NCEES exam scoring system to autoverify exam results, saving both boards and customers time. Additionally, once a state licensing board adds older exams and licenses to a customer's account, the information is permanently tied to that account. The board does not have to fill out manual verifications over and over.

- There are 61 boards currently participating in the NCEES license and exam verification system.
- State boards have already completed more than 48,000 verifications in the new system.
- Approximately 5,400 are currently pending board completion. In many cases, this is due to customers' delay in paying boards that still require payment for verification.

- Only 98 of these verifications have linked enforcement action, which is a very low percentage given the total completed.

### Records transmittals

Once customers have their NCEES Record in a "ready status," meaning that everything that needs to be entered is present in the system and verified, they are able to request transmittals to an NCEES member board for consideration for comity licensure.

- Almost 15,000 transmittals have been sent to boards since June.
- More than 8,000 customers have requested a Record transmittal in this time.
- We are averaging 2,200 transmittals each month.

### E-commerce

One of the best things about having all of our products and services in one system is that all financial processing happens in one place. Daily reconciliation is more efficient, and it is easier to track down anomalies.

- We currently average more than 10,000 transactions each month in the new system.
- The average order total, including all product and services, is \$206.
- Our busiest day from an e-commerce standpoint was December 12, 2016, when registration opened for the April 2017 pencil-and-paper exam administration. We had 1,208 orders that day, totaling \$364,894 in sales.

Developing and implementing E3 has been a major initiative for NCEES staff. We have relied on input from member boards and customers both before and after the launch, and we will continue to value feedback on this system to ensure it is meeting everyone's needs as well as possible.

## UPCOMING

# EVENTS

### April 6

Credentials Evaluations  
Audit Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### April 7-8

FE Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### April 18-19

PE Fire Protection Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### April 20-22

PE Nuclear Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### April 21-22

PE Civil Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### April 21

PE and SE (Vertical) Exam  
Administration

### April 22

SE (Lateral) Exam Administration

### April 27-29

Northeast/Southern  
Zone Joint Interim Meeting  
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

### April 28-29

SE Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### May 4-7

PE Chemical Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### May 5-6

PE Control Systems  
Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### May 18-20

Central/Western  
Zone Joint Interim Meeting  
Denver, Colorado

### May 19-20

PE Industrial and Systems  
Exam Meeting  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

PE Mechanical Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

### May 21-22

Board of Directors Meeting  
Denver, Colorado

### May 23-24

PE Petroleum Exam Meeting  
Clemson, South Carolina

## MEMBER BOARD NEWS

### ALASKA

Alysia Jones is the new board administrator.

### ILLINOIS PE

Kevin Burke III is a new appointee.  
John Hoffstatter is no longer a member.

### KANSAS

Edward Halloran, William Haverkamp,  
and Joseph Johnson are new appointees.  
George Barbee, Wendy Ornelas, and  
Timothy Sloan are no longer members.

### MISSISSIPPI

Sarah Tracy is a new appointee.  
Terrell Temple is no longer a member.

### NEW MEXICO

Nadir Yilmaz is no longer a member.

### EMERITUS

The board of directors approved the  
following emeritus members at its  
February 2017 meeting. **Colorado:**  
Dan Donegan; **Minnesota:** Lisa Hanni;  
**Tennessee PE:** Hal Balthrop; **Texas PS:**  
William O'Hara

## NCEES OUTREACH

### APRIL 2-5

Engineering Deans Institute,  
Coral Gables, Florida

### APRIL 20-21

ABET Symposium, Baltimore, Maryland

### MAY 20-23

Institute of Industrial and Systems  
Engineers Annual Conference and Expo,  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

### MAY 23-25

Society of Military Engineers Joint  
Engineer Training Conference and Expo,  
Columbus, Ohio

### CORRECTION

The printed version of the February 2017 issue included an incorrect credit for the photograph accompanying "Zones prepare for 2017 interim meeting." The photo was provided courtesy of VISIT DENVER/Bryce Boyer.

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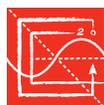
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*The 96th NCEES annual meeting will be held August 23–26 in Miami Beach, Florida. Online registration will open in May.*

## Save the date for 2017 NCEES annual meeting

Registration will open in May for member board members and staff attending the 2017 NCEES annual meeting. This year's meeting will be held August 23–26 in Miami Beach, Florida.

The NCEES annual meeting is the culmination of the Council's work for the year. Delegates will meet to decide key licensure issues and take some time to explore Miami Beach. The agenda offers opportunities to

- Vote on the issues at the business sessions, including the election of a new president-elect and treasurer as well as motions presented by the 2016–17 NCEES committees and task force
- Take part in the technical workshops for professional engineers and surveyors, member board administrators, law enforcement staff, and first-time attendees
- Discuss professional issues at the forums for engineers, surveyors, MBAs, and enforcement staff
- Learn about NCEES and how to navigate the annual meeting at the first-time attendee luncheon
- Network and share ideas with delegates and guests at social events

Invitations to register online will be sent in May.