



# NCEES

*advancing licensure for  
engineers and surveyors*

## Vision

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The vision of NCEES is to provide leadership in professional licensure of engineers and surveyors through excellence in uniform laws, licensing standards, and professional ethics in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public and to shape the future of professional licensure.

## Mission

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The mission of NCEES is to advance licensure for engineers and surveyors in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

This mission is supported through its member boards, board of directors, staff, board administrators, and volunteers by:

- Providing outstanding nationally normed examinations for engineers and surveyors
- Providing uniform model laws and model rules for adoption by the member boards
- Promoting professional ethics among all engineers and surveyors
- Coordinating with domestic and international organizations to advance licensure of all engineers and surveyors

## 2–3 YEAR PLANNING HORIZON

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### ***Outcome-Focused Goals, Objectives, and Metrics***

The following represents the organization’s goals for the next two to three years. These goals are outcome-oriented statements that define what will constitute NCEES’ future success. The achievement of each goal will move the organization toward the realization of its envisioned future. The objectives reflect the broad range of directions that will be undertaken to change existing conditions in order to achieve the goal.

#### **Constituent Advocacy**

NCEES will support the activities of the member boards to promote the development of quality standards for the licensure of the engineering and surveying professions.

#### **Education, Examinations, and Experience**

Education standards for entry into professional practice and for continued licensure will continually evolve to reflect minimum requirements for the protection of the public.

#### **Public Awareness and Growth of Licensure**

The general public and other key stakeholders have a greater understanding that engineering licensure and surveying licensure are essential to safeguarding public health, safety, and welfare. Outreach activities will continue to demonstrate the value of licensure, which will result in continued growth in the number of licensed engineers and surveyors.

#### **International**

The NCEES examinations will increasingly be used outside the United States as an outcomes assessment tool to assist in determining minimum competency and to better brand NCEES’ position as a global thought leader with respect to licensure.

#### **Organizational Governance**

NCEES’ governance systems, processes, and structure will facilitate active and effective engagement of all member boards.

## **CONSTITUENT ADVOCACY**

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NCEES will support the activities of the member boards to promote the development of quality standards for the licensure of the engineering and surveying professions.

### **Priority Objective**

1. Direct activities/services that sustain the duties of the member boards in licensing the professions.

#### **Strategies**

- a. Update and maintain all NCEES governance documents to reflect current-day practice. *High priority*
- b. Maintain the relevancy and defensibility of the NCEES examinations. *High priority*
- c. Promote the use of the NCEES Law Enforcement Exchange. *High priority*
- d. Continue to serve as a resource to member boards on domestic and international matters related to licensure.
- e. Enhance NCEES technologies and processes to aid in effective communication among member boards and to better facilitate mobility.

#### **Metrics**

- The NCEES *Model Law* and *Model Rules* are reviewed and amended accordingly (at least biennially).
- A Professional Activities and Knowledge Study (PAKS) is conducted a minimum of every five to seven years on each examination to comply with national testing standards, and exams statistics are reviewed during each exam committee meeting.
- Ninety percent of all member boards post enforcement actions on the NCEES Law Enforcement Exchange by 2018.
- Seven to 10 member boards will use the NCEES Records information for a candidate's application for initial licensure or comity licensure within two years of the release of the revised E3 customer management system. (2018)

## **EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND EXAMINATIONS GOAL**

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Education, experience, and examinations standards for entry into professional practice and for continued licensure will reflect continually evolving minimum requirements for the protection of the public.

### **Priority Objective**

1. Lead the dialogue on the appropriate education required for initial licensure.

#### **Strategies**

- a. Continue the dialogue with professional and technical societies related to engineering and surveying education reform.
- b. Develop a new practice-oriented pathway to satisfy the new position statement on future education requirements for initial engineering licensure.

### **Second Priority Objective**

2. Promote and assist with the uniform adoption and application of NCEES guidelines for continuing professional competency (CPC).

#### **Strategies**

- a. Partner with professional and technical societies to promote NCEES CPC guidelines.
- b. Support the Committee on Member Board Administrators in the goal to develop common standards for CPC and a long-term strategic plan for more effective mobility.

### **Secondary Objectives**

3. Increase NCEES' ability to anticipate and define future educational needs.

#### **Strategies**

- a. Continue participation in and engagement with ABET. *High priority*
  - b. Establish a way to be notified when member boards change education requirements (board profile). *Medium priority*
4. Enhance the quality of experience review for Council Record holders by external third-party reviewers.

### **Metrics to be reviewed**

- NCEES representatives are nominated to ABET board and commissions annually.
- Each member board reviews and updates its respective board profile on MyNCEES/Member Resources within the next 12 months. (2017)
- An online ethics course is available on the NCEES website. (2018)
- Twenty-five percent of NCEES member boards provide comments to ABET regarding proposed revisions to EAC criteria 3 and 5. (2017)
- Experience as qualified for Council Record holders is accepted by all member boards.

## **PUBLIC AWARENESS AND GROWTH OF LICENSURE**

The general public and other key stakeholders have a greater understanding that engineering licensure and surveying licensure are essential to safeguarding public health, safety, and welfare. Outreach activities will continue to demonstrate the value of licensure, which will result in continued growth in the number of licensed engineers and surveyors.

### **Priority Objectives**

1. Increase awareness of licensure and the value of licensure to the public and key stakeholders.
2. Increase the understanding of the value of licensed engineers and surveyors by academia, students, corporations, government, and the general public. Consider actions that the Council can pursue to increase the population and diversity of candidates taking the NCEES examinations.

### **Strategies**

- a. Continue outreach events/activities in concert with the annual meeting as appropriate. Expand the Member Resources area of the NCEES website to include a toolkit to assist member boards in legislative efforts.
- b. Continue to promote the value of licensure through AAES and professional/technical societies.
- c. Continue participation in and funding for representatives to the Future of Surveying effort led by NSPS.

### *Academia/Students*

- a. Use the information gleaned from the Emerging Leaders program to better understand impediments to licensure and the motivation for individuals to pursue licensure.
- b. Promote licensure to faculty educated outside the United States.
- c. Increase the opportunities for engineering and surveying students to be presented information regarding the value of licensure. (Way to engage board members and other volunteers)
- d. Increase the exposure of students to professional practice.

### *Corporate/Government/Public*

- a. Explore alternative methods of measuring experience in order to qualify for licensure.
- b. Seize opportunities to promote the value of licensure.
- c. Monitor key areas through options like Google Analytics, Meltwater, etc., to monitor the NCEES brand reputation and audience engagement online.

### *Member Boards*

- a. Facilitate the process to assist member boards that decouple experience as a requirement to take the PE exam. Provide data and support for decoupling the experience requirement from the exam requirement.
- b. Encourage member boards to notify NCEES immediately regarding legislation or issues that could affect the regulatory environment.

## **Secondary Objective**

2. Educate the public on roles of professional engineers and surveyors.

### **Strategies**

- a. Explore additional opportunities to promote engineering, surveying, and licensure to the audiences defined in the integrated marketing plan, i.e., DiscoverE, Family Day, and National Surveyors Week.
- b. Pursue opportunity to chair Engineers Week for 2018.

### **Metrics**

- Tool kit to assist member boards with legislative actions and crisis communication is developed and available as a resource to all member boards via the NCEES website by October 1, 2017.
- At least one outreach activity is conducted in concert with the ASCE Dream Big project to promote the value of licensure. (2017)
- Integrated marketing plan is updated to incorporate feedback from the Emerging Leaders program and to include additional outreach efforts for promoting licensure to engineering and surveying faculty. (2017)
- Plan is formalized to offer free credentials evaluation to faculty who graduated from foreign programs to facilitate licensure. Track and measure number of faculty who exercise this option. (2018)
- Track and measure results for candidates allowed to take the PE exam prior to obtaining four years of progressive engineering experience. (ongoing)
- Conduct workshop at ASEE annual meeting to educate faculty educated outside the United States on the licensure process and to promote licensure. (2017)
- Develop and conduct Webinars with NSBE and NAESC on the value of licensure and the process for becoming licensed. (2017)

## **INTERNATIONAL GOAL**

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The NCEES licensure standards will increasingly be used outside the United States as an outcomes assessment tool to assist in determining minimum competency and to better brand NCEES' position as a global thought leader with respect to licensure.

### **Priority Objective**

1. Promote the use of the NCEES fundamentals exams as outcomes assessment tools to all foreign programs that attain ABET accreditation for engineering and surveying programs.

### **Secondary Objective**

2. Promote the use of the NCEES PE exam for use in determining minimum competency.
3. Continue engagement and leadership role with the International Engineering Alliance (IEA).

### **Strategies**

- a. Educate member boards on the need and value of international comity.
- b. Increase NCEES' participation in the activities of internationally based engineering licensure organizations.
- c. Facilitate international agreements between member boards and international entities that make requests.
- d. Co-host the 2017 IEA meeting in Alaska in June 2017.
- e. Determine the potential for NCEES examinations to be used as an assessment tool for members of the Fédération Internationale des Géomètres (FIG—The International Federation of Surveyors)

### **Metrics**

- Track international examination statistics.
- Within one year (2017), NCEES will develop and implement a plan to promote the use of the fundamentals examinations as an outcomes assessment tool to all foreign EAC/ABET-accredited programs that have an existing Pearson VUE testing center in the area.
- Patty Mamola will be elected chair of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) in 2017.
- FIG and the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS) are engaged in discussions and a determination has been made about the use of NCEES exams for FIG candidates. (2018)

## **ORGANIZATIONAL GOVERNANCE GOAL**

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NCEES' governance systems, processes, and structure will facilitate active and effective engagement of all member boards.

### **Priority Objectives**

1. Increase leadership identification and development opportunities.

#### **Strategies**

- a. Continue to assign mentors at zone meetings and annual meetings.
- b. Promote and educate member boards about the leadership process and leadership opportunities.
- c. Provide synopsis of paths to leadership to provide a clearer understanding for people interested in pursuing leadership positions.
- d. Explore more opportunities for younger/newer members to engage in volunteer/leadership opportunities
- e. Promote the role of member boards within the organization of NCEES.

2. Maintain financial support of delegates to attend Council meetings.

#### **Strategy**

- a. Continue to provide funding as approved in the budget process for members to attend NCEES meetings.

### **Secondary Objective**

3. Increase effective participation of members and member boards to increase national engagement.

#### **Strategies**

- a. Explore opportunities to engage younger professionals in the work of NCEES.
- b. Increase effective engagement by member boards at NCEES meetings.
- c. Investigate possible barriers to member board engagement with NCEES.

### **Metrics to be reviewed**

- Evaluate results from 2016 survey regarding impediments for members to assume leadership roles in NCEES and provide recommended actions. (2017)
- Each zone vice president assigns annually a mentor to all new attendees at each zone meeting.
- By 2017, develop and include information concerning paths to NCEES leadership positions in all messaging and orientation information provided to new members and to be available on the Members Resources portion of the NCEES website.
- Leadership visits are conducted with 30 member boards. (2018)