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**Standards for Licensure as a Model Law Surveyor**

NCEES approval date: September 24, 2009  
ANSI approval date: October 27, 2009

National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying  
P.O. Box 1686 (280 Seneca Creek Road), Clemson, SC 29633-1686

**Standards for Licensure as a Model Law Surveyor**

Sponsored by:  
**National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)**

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**Abstract**

This standard specifies the criteria for defining competency in the practice of surveying and includes specifications for uniformity in requirements for education, experience, and examination for candidates to attain surveying licensure as a Model Law Surveyor. The standard provides the recommended procedures and assessment tools necessary for a uniform licensure process of qualifying professional competency in surveying practice to assure public health, safety, and welfare.

NCEES, a nonprofit organization, develops and promulgates standards in surveying practice and licensure as a public service. This standard defines best practice, provides a benchmark for public safety in surveying practice, and aids in facilitating licensure among jurisdictions. NCEES cannot be held liable or accountable for individual performance by practicing surveyors or for the implementation of the standards.

The standard set forth by NCEES is protected by the Copyright Act of 1977 and is the property of NCEES. NCEES will provide copies of the standard free of charge via the NCEES Web site ([www.ncees.org](http://www.ncees.org)) after its approval by ANSI.

This standard is subject to revision and must be reviewed every five years in accordance with ANSI Essential Requirements and the NCEES Standards Development Procedures Manual approved by ANSI August 8, 2007.

**Keywords**

ABET	Model Law Surveyor	Registered surveyor
FS	NCEES	SI
Licensed surveyor	Professional Surveyor	SIT
Licensure	PS	

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## **Standards for Licensure as a Model Law Surveyor**

### **1.1 Scope, purpose, need, and application**

The scope of the standard covers the requirements for a Model Law Surveyor. These standards have been vetted by the surveying community and are used to assess candidate qualification for professional licensure which includes a combination of education, experience and technical examination. It is the intention of NCEES to formalize these standards via the ANSI process.

The purpose of the standard is to provide guidance for uniform measures of competency as a Model Law Surveyor in the practice of surveying for protection of the public. The standard is structured to facilitate adoption by regulatory bodies at the state, territory, and federal levels. Uniformity of guidelines is needed in surveying practice to better assure the public that persons engaged in the making of geometric measurements and gathering related information pertaining to the physical or legal features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above, on, or below the earth while providing, utilizing, or developing the same into survey products such as graphics, data, maps, plans, reports, descriptions, or projects (or any other project that requires surveying training and education); or locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, or retracing property lines or boundaries of any tract of land, road, right of way or easement are qualified to do such work. Because surveying services and their products are used by the public, it is important that the regulatory community seek comity in standards to provide uniformity in criteria for the practice of surveying to protect the public and its trust of surveying systems. The standards are applicable in all surveying practice settings. The widespread adoption of such uniform standards will promote public safety and simplify cross-boundary and multi-jurisdictional licensure of surveyors.

### **1.2 Specifications**

This standard specifies the criteria for a Model Law Surveyor. Such criteria provide for the public safety in the practice of surveying and include standards for uniformity in the education, experience, and examination requirements of candidates for surveying licensure. The standard provides the recommended procedures and criteria for demonstrating professional competency in surveying practice. Research conducted by NCEES clearly indicates that these specifications, which consist of a combination of education, experience, and examination, are needed to complete the requirements for competency in surveying practice.

The standard specifies that to practice the profession of surveying as a Model Law Surveyor, the following minimum requirements must be met by each individual who is a candidate for licensure.

#### **Education**

A candidate must graduate from a Surveying Engineering or similarly named program accredited by the Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET (EAC/ABET) or a Surveying or similarly named program accredited by the Applied Science Accreditation Commission of ABET (ASAC/ABET). ABET, Inc., is the nationally recognized accrediting organization for engineering, surveying, and technology curricula.

## **Examinations**

A candidate must pass the NCEES [Fundamentals of Surveying \(FS\)](#) examination and the NCEES [Principles and Practice of Surveying \(PS\)](#) examination and any required state-specific examination as defined in the *NCEES Model Rules*.

## **Experience**

A candidate must complete acceptable surveying experience as defined in the *NCEES Model Rules*.

After completing the requirements above, a candidate is eligible for licensure by a jurisdictional licensing board. Once the candidate is granted licensure, he or she may use the distinguished designation Professional Surveyor, or P.S.

## **Model Law Surveyor Designation**

Once an individual has obtained licensure in at least one jurisdictional licensing board, he or she is eligible for the designation Model Law Surveyor. To maintain Model Law Surveyor status, the individual must maintain a record clear of disciplinary action.

## **2. Referenced publications**

Users of the standard are to reference the latest editions of the following NCEES documents for updates and specifications: *Model Law*, *Model Rules*, *Manual of Policy and Position Statements*.

These publications are produced by NCEES and are available for download from its Web site ([www.ncees.org](http://www.ncees.org)); by writing to NCEES at P.O. Box 1686, Clemson, SC 29633-1686; or by phoning NCEES at 800-250-3196.

## **3. Definitions**

**NCEES:** The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying is a national non-profit organization composed of engineering and surveying licensing boards representing all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. NCEES is the ANSI-approved standards development officer (SDO) for standards in the field of professional credentialing in engineering and surveying.

**ABET:** ABET is a national non-profit organization composed of professional and technical societies that provides educational accreditation in the professional disciplines of applied science, computing, engineering and technology

**Licensure:** The process of qualifying persons for practice as mandated by individual jurisdictional law and in legally recognized professions

**Professional Surveyor:** The designation legally signifying a person who has been duly licensed by a U.S. jurisdiction to offer or provide surveying services to the general public

**Model Law Surveyor:** The designation signifying a person who has been qualified through this standard and who has obtained licensure as a Professional Surveyor in at least one jurisdiction

**4. Metric**

The metric system is used in the majority of assessments referred to in this NCEES standard. NCEES standards will use the metric system where it is compatible with the systems in effect that govern the practice of surveying.

**5. Review**

The ANSI Standards Task Force of NCEES has reviewed this standard and determined that it is technically sound and valid for publication to interested parties.

**6. Codes**

There are no codes required as reference for users of this standard.