

NEWS RELEASE

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NCEES honors Chief Executive Officer David Cox for service

NCEES Chief Executive Officer David Cox, of Greenville, South Carolina, has been awarded the NCEES President's Award for his dedicated service to the organization and the engineering and surveying professions. Cox was recognized August 16, 2024, during the organization's 103rd annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

Cox was named the chief executive officer of NCEES at the organization's 2018 annual meeting. During his tenure as CEO, he has led the organization in several history-making events.

In 1981, NCEES headquarters was built on Clemson University property. After several renovations and expansions, the organization's needs had outgrown the space and the land. Cox led the charge to purchase and renovate the current NCEES headquarters in Greenville, South Carolina. In May 2020, during a worldwide pandemic, the organization moved into its new headquarters.

In 2011, NCEES began the process of transitioning exams from pencil-and-paper format to computer-based testing. In 2014, the first exams were transitioned to CBT. In 2020, under Cox's leadership, the transition plan was accelerated to meet the needs of examinees during the COVID-19 pandemic. In April 2024, the transition of all exams to CBT was completed.

Cox has been committed to addressing threats against licensure's public protections. In 2019, NCEES became a founding member of the Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing, an organization that provides a unified voice for the accounting, architecture, engineering, landscape architecture, and surveying professions. NCEES continues to work with industry partners and member boards to ensure that the professions' current licensure protections remain.

Cox was instrumental in the establishment of the NCEES Foundation, which launched in March 2024. The Foundation was established to further support the organization's mission initiatives as well as to consolidate and formalize funding requests and financial contributions.

Under Cox's leadership, the development of a mutual recognition agreement between the United States and the United Kingdom came to fruition in 2024. The MRA is intended to provide a more direct path for licensed engineers to practice in each country.

Cox previously served as executive director of the Kentucky State Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors from 2001 to 2018. During this time, he was also active in the work of NCEES. He served 10 terms on the organization's Committee on Finances, including two as chair. He also served as a member of the Committee on Member Board Administrators, the Advisory Committee on Council Activities, the Governance Task Force, and the Licensure Qualifications Oversight Group. In 2014, NCEES awarded him the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of his contributions to the organization and the professions of engineering and surveying.

Cox holds a bachelor of science degree in accounting from the University of Kentucky and is licensed as a certified public accountant in Kentucky.

ABOUT NCEES

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying is a nonprofit organization made up of engineering and surveying licensing boards from all U.S. states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Since its founding in 1920, NCEES has been committed to advancing licensure for engineers and surveyors in order to safeguard the health, safety, and welfare of the U.S. public.

NCEES helps its member licensing boards carry out their duties to regulate the professions of engineering and surveying. It develops best-practice models for state licensure laws and regulations and promotes uniformity among the states. It develops and administers the exams used for engineering and surveying licensure throughout the country. It also provides services to help licensed engineers and surveyors practice their professions in other U.S. states and territories. For more information, please visit ncees.org.