



**VIRTUAL/TELECONFERENCE
PROFESSIONAL HYDROLOGIST SECTION
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
HYDROLOGISTS, AND SOIL SCIENTISTS
Virtual, 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison
Contact: Will Johnson (608) 266-2112
August 6, 2025**

The following agenda describes the issues that the Section plans to consider at the meeting. At the time of the meeting, items may be removed from the agenda. Please consult the meeting minutes for a record of the actions of the Section.

AGENDA

1:00 P.M.

OPEN SESSION – CALL TO ORDER – ROLL CALL

- A. Adoption of Agenda (1-3)**
- B. Approval of Minutes of May 13, 2025 (4-6)**
- C. Introductions, Announcements and Recognition
- D. Reminders: Conflicts of Interest, Scheduling Concerns
- E. Administrative Matters**
 - 1) Department, Staff and Section Updates
 - 2) Board Members – Term Expiration Dates:
 - a. Hirekatur, Ann D. – 7/1/2028
 - b. Hunt, Randall J. – 7/1/2012
 - c. Small, John – 7/1/2026
- F. Administrative Rule Matters – Discussion and Consideration (7-17)**
 - 1) Preliminary Rule Draft for GHSS 1 to 4 relating to Licensure and Examinations **(8-16)**
 - 2) Pending or Possible Rulemaking Projects **(17)**
- G. Legislative and Policy Matters – Discussion and Consideration
- H. Deliberation on Items Added After Preparation of Agenda:
 - 1) Introductions, Announcements and Recognition
 - 2) Administrative Matters
 - 3) Election of Officers
 - 4) Appointment of Liaisons and Alternates
 - 5) Delegation of Authorities
 - 6) Education and Examination Matters

- 7) Credentialing Matters
- 8) Practice Matters
- 9) Legislative and Policy Matters
- 10) Public health Emergencies
- 11) Administrative Rule Matters
- 12) Liaison Reports
- 13) Board Liaison Training and Appointment of Mentors
- 14) Informational Items
- 15) Division of Legal Services and Compliance (DLSC) Matters
- 16) Presentations of Petitions for Summary Suspension
- 17) Petitions for Designation of Hearing Examiner
- 18) Presentation of Stipulations, Final Decisions and Orders
- 19) Presentation of Proposed Final Decisions and Orders
- 20) Presentation of Interim Orders
- 21) Petitions for Re-Hearing
- 22) Petitions for Assessments
- 23) Petitions to Vacate Orders
- 24) Requests for Disciplinary Proceeding Presentations
- 25) Motions
- 26) Petitions
- 27) Appearances from Requests Received or Renewed
- 28) Speaking Engagements, Travel, or Public Relation Requests, and Reports

I. Public Comments

CONVENE TO CLOSED SESSION to deliberate on cases following hearing (s. 19.85(1)(a), Stats.); to consider licensure or certification of individuals (s. 19.85(1)(b), Stats.); to consider closing disciplinary investigations with administrative warnings (ss. 19.85(1)(b), and 440.205, Stats.); to consider individual histories or disciplinary data (s. 19.85(1)(f), Stats.); and to confer with legal counsel (s. 19.85(1)(g), Stats.).

J. Deliberation of Items Added After Preparation of the Agenda

- 1) Education and Examination Matters
- 2) Credentialing Matters
- 3) DLSC Matters
- 4) Monitoring Matters
- 5) Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Matters
- 6) Petitions for Summary Suspensions
- 7) Petitions for Designation of Hearing Examiner
- 8) Proposed Stipulations, Final Decisions and Order
- 9) Proposed Interim Orders
- 10) Administrative Warnings
- 11) Review of Administrative Warnings
- 12) Proposed Final Decisions and Orders
- 13) Matters Relating to Costs/Orders Fixing Costs
- 14) Case Closings
- 15) Board Liaison Training
- 16) Petitions for Assessments and Evaluations
- 17) Petitions to Vacate Orders
- 18) Remedial Education Cases
- 19) Motions
- 20) Petitions for Re-Hearing

21) Appearances from Requests Received or Renewed

K. Consulting with Legal Counsel

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CLOSED SESSION

L. Vote on Items Considered or Deliberated Upon in Closed Session, if Voting is Appropriate

M. Open Session Items Noticed Above Not Completed in the Initial Open Session

ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING: TBD, 2026

MEETINGS AND HEARINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, AND MAY BE CANCELLED WITHOUT NOTICE.

Times listed for meeting items are approximate and depend on the length of discussion and voting. All meetings are held virtually unless otherwise indicated. In-person meetings are typically conducted at 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison, Wisconsin, unless an alternative location is listed on the meeting notice. In order to confirm a meeting or to request a complete copy of the board's agenda, please visit the Department website at <https://dps.wi.gov>. The board may also consider materials or items filed after the transmission of this notice. Times listed for the commencement of any agenda item may be changed by the board for the convenience of the parties. The person credentialed by the board has the right to demand that the meeting at which final action may be taken against the credential be held in open session. Requests for interpreters for the hard of hearing, or other accommodations, are considered upon request by contacting the Affirmative Action Officer or reach the Meeting Staff by calling 608-267-7213.

**HYBRID (IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL)
PROFESSIONAL HYDROLOGIST SECTION
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS, AND
SOIL SCIENTISTS
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 5, 2025**

PRESENT: Ann Hirekatur, Randall Hunt, John Small

STAFF: Will Johnson, Executive Director; Whitney DeVoe, Legal Counsel; Jacob Pelegrin, Administrative Rule Coordinator; Ashley Sarnosky, Board Administration Specialist; and other Department staff.

CALL TO ORDER

Ann Hirekatur, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. A quorum was confirmed with three (3) members present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by John Small, to adopt the Agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF AUGUST 7, 2024

MOTION: John Small moved, seconded by Randall Hunt, to approve the Minutes of August 7, 2024 as published. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Election of Officers

Slate of Officers

NOMINATION: Randall Hunt nominated the 2024 slate of officers to continue in 2025. All officers accepted their nominations.

Will Johnson, Executive Director, called for nominations three (3) times.

The Slate of Officers was elected by unanimous voice vote.

2025 ELECTION RESULTS	
Chairperson	Ann Hirekatur
Vice Chairperson	Randall Hunt
Secretary	John Small

Appointment of Liaisons and Alternates

LIAISON APPOINTMENTS	
Credentialing Liaison(s)	Ann Hirekatur <i>Alternate: Randall Hunt</i>
Education and Examinations Liaison(s)	Randall Hunt <i>Alternate: Ann Hirekatur</i>
Monitoring Liaison(s)	John Small <i>Alternate: Ann Hirekatur</i>
Professional Assistance Procedure (PAP) Liaison(s)	John Small <i>Alternate: Randall Hunt</i>
Legislative Liaison(s)	Randall Hunt <i>Alternate: Ann Hirekatur</i>
Travel Authorization Liaison(s)	Ann Hirekatur <i>Alternate: John Small</i>
Website Liaison(s)	Randall Hunt <i>Alternate: Ann Hirekatur</i>
Screening Panel	Ann Hirekatur <i>Alternate: Randall Hunt</i>

Delegation of Authorities

2025 Delegations

Delegation to Department Attorneys to Approve Prior Discipline

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by John Small, to delegate authority to Department Attorneys to approve an applicant's prior professional discipline which resulted in a forfeiture/fine/other monetary penalty, remedial education, and/or reprimand, that is 10 years old or older, and the previously disciplined credential is currently in good standing. Motion carried unanimously.

Delegation to Department Monitor

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by Ann Hirekatur, to delegate authority to the Department Monitor as outlined below.

1. to grant reinstatement of licensure if education and/or costs are the sole condition of the order and the credential holder has submitted the required proof of completion for approved courses and paid the costs.
2. to suspend the license if the credential holder has not completed Section ordered education and/or paid costs and forfeitures within

the time specified by the Section order. The Department Monitor may remove the suspension and issue an order when proof of completion and/or payment has been received.

3. to suspend the license (or remove stay of suspension) if a credential holder fails to enroll and participate in an Approved Program for drug and alcohol testing within 30 days of the order, or if credential holder ceases participation in the Approved Program without Section approval. This delegated authority only pertains to respondents who must comply with drug and/or alcohol testing requirements.
4. to grant or deny approval when a credential holder proposes treatment providers, mentors, and supervisors unless the Order specifically requires full- Section or Section designee approval.
5. to grant a maximum of one 90-day extension, if warranted and requested in writing by a credential holder, to complete Section ordered continuing, disciplinary, or remedial education.
6. to grant a maximum of one 90-day extension or payment plan for proceeding costs and/or forfeitures if warranted and requested in writing by a credential holder
7. to grant a maximum of one 90-day extension, if warranted and requested in writing by a credential holder, to complete a Section ordered evaluation or exam. Motion carried unanimously. Motion carried unanimously.

Review and Approval of 2024 Delegations including new modifications

MOTION: Randall Hunt moved, seconded by John Small, to reaffirm all delegation motions made in 2024, as reflected in the February 5, 2025 agenda materials, which were not otherwise modified or amended during the February 5, 2025 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: John Small moved, seconded by Randall Hunt, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

**State of Wisconsin
Department of Safety & Professional Services**

AGENDA REQUEST FORM

1) Name and title of person submitting the request: Jake Pelegrin Administrative Rules Coordinator		2) Date when request submitted: 7/25/25 <small>Items will be considered late if submitted after 12:00 p.m. on the deadline date which is 8 business days before the meeting</small>									
3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections: Hydrologists Section											
4) Meeting Date: 8/6/25	5) Attachments: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	6) How should the item be titled on the agenda page? Administrative Rule Matters – Discussion and Consideration 1. Preliminary Rule Draft for GHSS 1 to 4 relating to Licensure and Examinations 2. Pending or possible rulemaking projects									
7) Place Item in: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open Session <input type="checkbox"/> Closed Session	8) Is an appearance before the Board being scheduled? <i>(If yes, please complete Appearance Request for Non-DSPS Staff)</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required: N/A									
10) Describe the issue and action that should be addressed: Attachments: -Preliminary Rule Draft for GHSS 1 to 4 -Rule Projects Chart											
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 60%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom;"> 11) <i>Jake Pelegrin</i> </td> <td style="width: 40%; border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom; text-align: right;"> Authorization 7/25/25 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom;"> Signature of person making this request </td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom; text-align: right;"> Date </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom;"> Supervisor (if required) </td> <td style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom; text-align: right;"> Date </td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="border-bottom: 1px solid black; vertical-align: bottom;"> Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda) </td> </tr> </table>				11) <i>Jake Pelegrin</i>	Authorization 7/25/25	Signature of person making this request	Date	Supervisor (if required)	Date	Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda)	
11) <i>Jake Pelegrin</i>	Authorization 7/25/25										
Signature of person making this request	Date										
Supervisor (if required)	Date										
Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda)											
Directions for including supporting documents: 1. This form should be attached to any documents submitted to the agenda. 2. Post Agenda Deadline items must be authorized by a Supervisor and the Policy Development Executive Director. 3. If necessary, provide original documents needing Board Chairperson signature to the Bureau Assistant prior to the start of a meeting.											

STATE OF WISCONSIN
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS AND
SOIL SCIENTISTS

IN THE MATTER OF RULEMAKING	:	PROPOSED ORDER OF THE
PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE	:	EXAMINING BOARD OF
EXAMINING BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL:	:	PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS,
GEOLOGISTS, HYDROLOGISTS AND	:	HYDROLOGISTS AND SOIL
SOIL SCIENTISTS	:	SCIENTISTS
	:	(CLEARINGHOUSE RULE)

PROPOSED ORDER

An order of the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists, and Soil Scientists to **repeal** ; to **amend** GHSS ; and to **create** GHSS relating to Licensure and Examinations.

Analysis prepared by the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

ANALYSIS

Statutes interpreted:

Section 440.071 (1), Stats.

Statutory authority:

Sections 15.08 (5) (b), 227.11 (2) (a), and 470.03 (1) (a) to (c), Stats.

Explanation of agency authority:

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides that each examining board “[s]hall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains, and define and enforce professional conduct and unethical practices not inconsistent with the law relating to the particular trade or profession.”

Section 227.11 (2) (a), Stats., provides that “[e]ach agency may promulgate rules interpreting the provisions of any statute enforced or administered by the agency, if the agency considers it necessary to effectuate the purpose of the statute, but a rule is not valid if the rule exceeds the bounds of correct interpretation.”

Section 470.03 (1) (a) to (c), Stats., state that the examining board shall: (a) “[u]pon the advice of the professional geologist section, promulgate rules establishing requirements and standards for the practice of professional geology by a person who is licensed as a professional geologist under this chapter, including a code of ethics that governs the practice of professional geology.

(b) Upon the advice of the professional hydrologist section, promulgate rules establishing requirements and standards for the practice of professional hydrology by a person who is licensed as a professional hydrologist under this chapter, including a code of ethics that governs the practice of professional hydrology.

(c) Upon the advice of the professional soil scientist section, promulgate rules establishing requirements and standards for the practice of professional soil science by a person who is licensed as a professional soil scientist under this chapter, including a code of ethics that governs the practice of professional soil science.”

Related statute or rule:

Section 440.071 (1), Stats.

Plain language analysis:

The objective of the proposed rule is to bring the GHSS administrative code into compliance with s. 440.071 (1), Stats., which prohibits credentialing boards from requiring a person to complete postsecondary education before the person is eligible to take an examination for a credential. The proposed rule will revise the GHSS administrative code to bring it into compliance with the Act. The proposed rule will update and clarify the examination requirements including the removal of outdated and obsolete provisions.

Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulation:

None.

Summary of public comments received on statement of scope and a description of how and to what extent those comments and feedback were taken into account in drafting the proposed rule:

None.

Comparison with rules in adjacent states:

Illinois:

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation is responsible for the licensure and regulation of professional geologists. It does require that to take the geologists’ licensing exam, an applicant must complete a bachelor’s or graduate degree in a geology educational program [Illinois Administrative Code Title 68 Chapter VII Subchapter b Part 1252 Section 1252.20]. Illinois does not require licensure for professional hydrologists or professional soil scientists.

Iowa:

Iowa does not require licensure of professional geologists, hydrologists, or soil scientists. However, they do require certification as a “certified groundwater professional” for any person who provides subsurface soil contamination and groundwater consulting services, or who contracts to perform or who supervises remediation or corrective action services at leaking underground storage tank sites [567 Iowa Administrative Code 134.1 to 134.5]. There are many different pathways to acquiring this certification, with some that do require post-secondary education before taking an examination, and some that do not.

Michigan:

Michigan does not require licensure of professional geologists, hydrologists, or soil scientists.

Minnesota:

The Minnesota Board of Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Landscape Architects, Geoscientists, and Interior Designers is responsible for the licensure and regulation of geoscientists, among other professions. The Minnesota Board currently recognizes geology and soil science as geoscience disciplines [Minnesota Administrative Rules Part 1800.3900]. The Minnesota Board does require completion of postsecondary education before an applicant is eligible to take a licensing exam [Minnesota Administrative Rules Part 1800.3910].

Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies:

The proposed rule was developed by the GHSS Examining Board reviewing 2013 WI Act 114 and determining where changes in the GHSS code are needed to bring compliance.

Analysis and supporting documents used to determine effect on small business or in preparation of economic impact analysis:

The proposed rules will be posted for a period of 14 days to solicit public comment on economic impact, including how the proposed rules may affect businesses, local government units, and individuals.

Fiscal Estimate and Economic Impact Analysis:

The Fiscal Estimate and Economic Impact Analysis will be attached upon completion.

Effect on small business:

These proposed rules will not have an economic impact on small businesses, as defined in s. 227.114 (1), Stats. The Department's Regulatory Review Coordinator may be contacted at Jennifer.Garrett@wisconsin.gov or (608) 266-2112.

Agency contact person:

Jake Pelegrin, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Policy Development, 4822 Madison Yards Way, P.O. Box 8366, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8366; telephone 608-267-0989; email at DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov.

Place where comments are to be submitted and deadline for submission:

Comments may be submitted to Jake Pelegrin, Administrative Rules Coordinator, Department of Safety and Professional Services, Division of Policy Development, 4822 Madison Yards Way, P.O. Box 8366, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8366, or by email to DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov. Comments must be received on or before the public hearing to be included in the record of rule-making proceedings.

TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. GHSS 2.06 (2) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 2.06 (2) FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION. The fundamentals examination requires an understanding of the physical and mathematical sciences involved in the fundamentals of geology. To be eligible to take the fundamentals examination, an applicant shall have ~~done one of the following:~~ **completed at least 4 years of experience** which is determined by the professional geologist section to be equivalent to the requirements of s. **GHSS 2.04 (1) or 2.05.**

SECTION 2. GHSS 2.06 (2) (a) and (b) are repealed.

This is the biggest question I have on the rule draft: what is the current practice the board and department are doing for the requirements in current 2.06 (2)? And the equivalent provisions for hydrologists and soil scientists? The statute says that no board can require postsecondary education to be eligible to take the exam, so is the 4 year experience requirement still required? Or are both options just ignored now?

I'm guessing we should write the rule in line with whatever the current practice is, unless it doesn't follow the statute.

SECTION 3. **GHSS 2.06 (3) (a) 2. is repealed.**

The above can be added in to SECTION 2. of the rule, but for now I am keeping it separate because it is a separate topic and to write notes on it. Consider repealing the whole thing, because it is a requirement that to be eligible to take the principles and

practice exam, you need a bachelor's degree or 5 years of additional experience to the 3 or 4 years required under subd. 3.

SECTION 4. GHSS 2.06 (3) (a) 3. (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 2.06 (3) (a) 3. Completed at least 4 years of professional experience in geologic work of a character satisfactory to the professional geologist section, ~~or completed at least 3 years of professional experience in geologic work of a character satisfactory to the section if the applicant has one or more advanced degrees relevant to the practice of professional geology,~~ demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of geologic work. At least one year of the qualifying professional experience under this subdivision must have been performed under the supervision of one or more of the following:

SECTION 5. **GHSS 2.06 (3) (b) 2.** is repealed.

Same comment as on SECTION 3. of the rule: Consider repealing the whole thing, because it is a requirement that to be eligible to take the principles and practice exam, you need a bachelor's degree or 5 years of additional experience to the 5 or 6 years required under subd. 3.

SECTION 6. GHSS 2.06 (3) (b) 3. is amended to read:

GHSS 2.06 (3) (b) 3. Completed at least 6 years of professional experience in geologic work of a character satisfactory to the professional geologist section, ~~or completed at least 5 years of professional experience in geologic work of a character satisfactory to the section if the applicant has one or more advanced degrees relevant to the practice of professional geology,~~ demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of geologic work. At least one year of the qualifying professional experience under this subdivision must have been performed under a peer review system approved by the professional geologist section.

SECTION 7. GHSS 3.05 (2) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 3.05 (2) FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION. The fundamentals examination requires an understanding of the physical and mathematical sciences involved in the fundamentals of hydrology. To be eligible to take the fundamentals examination, an applicant shall have ~~done one of the following:~~ completed at least 4 years of experience which is determined by the professional hydrologist section to be equivalent to the requirements of s. **GHSS 3.03 (1) or 3.04.**

SECTION 8. GHSS 3.05 (2) (a) and (b) are repealed.

SECTION 9. GHSS 3.05 (3) (a) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 3.05 (3) (a) To be eligible to take the principles and practice examination, an applicant under s. 470.04 (3) (c) 1., Stats., shall have done all of the following:

SECTION 10. **GHSS 3.05 (3) (a) 2. is repealed.**

SECTION 11. GHSS 3.05 (3) (a) 3. (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 3.05 (3) (a) 3. Completed at least 4 years of professional experience in hydrologic work of a character satisfactory to the professional hydrologist section, ~~or completed at least 3 years of professional experience in hydrologic work of a character satisfactory to the section if the applicant has one or more advanced degrees relevant to the practice of professional hydrology,~~ demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of hydrologic work. At least one year of the qualifying professional experience under this subdivision must have been performed under the supervision of one or more of the following:

SECTION 12. GHSS 3.05 (3) (b) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 3.05 (3) (b) To be eligible to take the principles and practice examination, an applicant under s. 470.04 (3) (c) 2., Stats., shall have done all of the following:

SECTION 13. GHSS 3.05 (3) (b) 2. is repealed.

SECTION 14. GHSS 3.05 (3) (b) 3. is amended to read:

GHSS 3.05 (3) (b) 3. Completed at least 6 years of professional experience in hydrologic work of a character satisfactory to the professional hydrologist section, ~~or completed at least 5 years of professional experience in hydrologic work of a character satisfactory to the section if the applicant has one or more advanced degrees relevant to the practice of professional hydrology,~~ demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of hydrologic work. At least one year of the qualifying professional experience under this subdivision must have been performed under a peer review system approved by the professional hydrologist section.

SECTION 15. GHSS 4.02 Note is amended to read:

Note: ~~Applications Instructions for applications are available upon request to the Professional Soil Scientist Section of the board at 1400 East Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935; phone (608) 266-2112 or available for download from the department webpage: on the department's website at <http://dsps.wi.gov>.~~

SECTION 16. GHSS 4.05 (2) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 4.05 (2) FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION. The fundamentals examination requires an understanding of the physical and mathematical sciences involved in the fundamentals

of soil science. To be eligible to take the fundamentals examination, an applicant shall have ~~done one of the following:~~ **completed at least 4 years of experience** which is determined by the professional soil scientist section to be equivalent to the requirements of s. GHSS 4.03 (1) or 4.04.

SECTION 17. GHSS 4.05 (2) (a) to (c) are repealed.

SECTION 18. GHSS 4.05 (3) (a) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 4.05 (3) (a) To be eligible to take the principles and practice examination, an applicant under s. 470.04 (4) (c) 1., Stats., shall have done all of the following:

SECTION 19. **GHSS 4.05 (3) (a) 2. is repealed.**

SECTION 20. GHSS 4.05 (3) (a) 3. (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 4.05 (3) (a) 3. Completed at least 4 years of professional experience in soil science work of a character satisfactory to the professional soil scientist section, ~~or completed at least 3 years of professional experience in soil science work of a character satisfactory to the section if the applicant has one or more advanced degrees relevant to the practice of professional soil science,~~ demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of soil science work. At least one year of the qualifying professional experience under this subdivision must have been performed under the supervision of one or more of the following:

SECTION 21. GHSS 4.05 (3) (b) (intro.) is amended to read:

GHSS 4.05 (3) (b) To be eligible to take the principles and practice examination, an applicant under s. 470.04 (4) (c) 2., Stats., shall have done all of the following:

SECTION 22. GHSS 4.05 (3) (b) 2. is repealed.

SECTION 23. GHSS 4.05 (3) (b) 3. is amended to read:

GHSS 4.05 (3) (b) 3. Completed at least 6 years of professional experience in soil science work of a character satisfactory to the professional soil scientist section, ~~or completed at least 5 years of professional experience in soil science work of a character satisfactory to the section if the applicant has one or more advanced degrees relevant to the practice of professional soil science,~~ demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of soil science work. At least one year of the qualifying professional experience under this subdivision must have been performed under a peer review system approved by the professional soil scientist section.

SECTION 24. GHSS 4.06 (10) Note is amended to read:

Note: Application forms are available ~~upon request to the Professional Soil Scientist Section of the board at 1400 East Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8935, Madison, Wisconsin 53708-8935; phone (608) 266-2112 or available for download from the department webpage: on the department's website at <http://dsps.wi.gov>.~~

SECTION 25. EFFECTIVE DATE. The rules adopted in this order shall take effect on the first day of the month following publication in the Wisconsin Administrative Register, pursuant to s. 227.22 (2) (intro), Stats.

(END OF TEXT OF RULE)

This Proposed Order of the Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists, and Soil Scientists is approved for submission to the Governor and Legislature.

Dated _____

Chair

GHSS 2.06 Examinations.

- (1) REQUIRED EXAMINATIONS.** An applicant for initial licensure as a professional geologist shall pass examinations for the professional practice of geology approved by the professional geologist section. Required examinations shall include a fundamentals examination and a principles and practice of geology examination.
- GHSS 2.06(2)** **(2) FUNDAMENTALS EXAMINATION.** The fundamentals examination requires an understanding of the physical and mathematical sciences involved in the fundamentals of geology. To be eligible to take the fundamentals examination, an applicant shall have done one of the following:
- (a)** Completed at least 24 semester hours or 36 quarter hours of course credits in geology and be of not less than second semester senior standing in a bachelor program meeting the requirements of s. GHSS 2.05.
 - (b)** Completed at least 4 years of experience, which is determined by the professional geologist section to be equivalent to the requirements of s. GHSS 2.04 (1).
- (3) PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE EXAMINATION.** The principles and practice examination requires the ability to apply geologic principles and judgment to problems in the practice of professional geology. To be eligible to take the principles and practice examination, an applicant shall have done one of the following:
- (a)** To be eligible to take the principles and practice examination, an applicant under s. 470.04 (2) (c) 1., Stats., shall have done all of the following:
- 1. Met the requirements under s. 470.04 (2) (a), Stats.
- GHSS 2.06(3)(a)2.** 2. Met the requirement under s. 470.04 (2)(b), Stats., or have at least 5 years of professional experience in addition to the qualifying experience under subd. 3., which is determined by the professional geologist section to be substantially equivalent to the requirement under s. 470.04 (2) (b), Stats.
- 470.04(2)(b)** **(b)** Subject to sub. (7), that he or she has a bachelor's degree with course credits in geology of a variety and nature sufficient to constitute a geology major from a college or university approved by the examining board.

Examining Board of Professional Geologists, Hydrologists and Soil Scientists

Clearinghouse Rule Number	Scope #	Scope Expiration	Code Chapter Affected	Relating clause/ Summary	Current Stage	Next Step
24-078	043-23	12/26/25	GHSS 1 and 2	Professional Development - Geologists. Review and update rules for continuing education and professional development for geologists.	Adoption Order is submitted and under review by the LRB.	Rule effective 9/1/2025.
24-079	063-23	2/28/2026	GHSS 1 and 3	Professional Development - Hydrologists. Review and update rules for continuing education and professional development for hydrologists.	Adoption Order is submitted and under review by the LRB.	Rule effective 9/1/2025.
	012-25	9/10/2027	GHSS 1 to 4	Licensure and Examinations. The objective is to bring the GHSS code into compliance with 2013 Act 114, which prohibits credentialing boards from requiring a person to complete postsecondary education before the person can take an examination for a credential.	Rule drafting.	Board approval of preliminary rule draft.