

Phone: 608-266-2112 Web: http://dsps.wi.gov Email: dsps@wisconsin.gov

Tony Evers, Governor Dan Hereth, Secretary

#### VIRTUAL/TELECONFERENCE RULES COMMITTEE

# EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS, AND REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS

Virtual, 4822 Madison Yards Way, Madison Contact: Will Johnson (608) 266-2112 October 1, 2025

The following agenda describes the issues that the Committee 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 description of the actions of the Committee.

#### **AGENDA**

#### 10:00 A.M.

#### OPEN SESSION - CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL

- A. Adoption of Agenda (1-2)
- B. Approval of Minutes of April 2, 2025 (3-4)
- C. Administrative Matters
  - 1. Department, Staff and Committee Updates
  - 2. Committee Membership
    - a. Committee Members:
      - 1. Cotharn, Kristine A. Prof. Engineer Section
      - 2. Douglas, Gregory Architect Section
      - 3. Fedderly, Daniel J. Prof. Land Surveyor Section
      - 4. Hook, Steven J. Public Member
      - 5. Myers, Dennis Public Member
      - 6. Sina, Christopher Landscape Architect Section
      - 7. Szeklinski, Genevieve D. Registered Interior Designer Section
    - b. Alternate Members
      - 1. Linck, Karl L. Prof. Engineer Section Alternate
      - 2. Martin, Christina C. Prof. Land Surveyor Section Alternate
      - 3. Rohit Sant, Anuya Architect Section Alternate
      - 4. Stroebel, Robin Registered Interior Designer Section Alternate
      - 5. Tweed, Steven Designer Section Alternate
- D. Legislation and Policy Matters Discussion and Consideration
- E. Administrative Rule Matters Discussion and Consideration (5-14)
  - 1. Discussion of Rule Drafting for A-E 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 14 relating to Certificates of Authorization (6-10)

- 2. Discussion of New Scope Statement on A-E 6 Relating to Land Surveyor Examination Requirements (11-12)
- 3. Discussion of a Proposed New Scope Statement on Continuing Education for Architects (13)
- 4. Pending or possible rulemaking items (14)

#### F. Public Comments

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**NEXT MEETING: TBD (2026)** 

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://dsps.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.

#### VIRTUAL/TELECONFERENCE A-E RULES COMMITTEE

# EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS AND REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS MEETING MINUTES APRIL 2, 2025

**PRESENT:** Gregory Douglas, Daniel Fedderly, Karl Linck, Dennis Myers, Christopher Sina,

Genevieve Szeklinski

**ABSENT:** Kristine Cotharn, Steven Hook, Steven Tweed, Corissa Uselmann

**STAFF:** Will Johnson, Executive Director; Joseph Ricker, Legal Counsel; Jacob Pelegrin,

Administrative Rule Coordinator; Ashley Sarnosky, Board Administration

Specialist; and other Department Staff

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Daniel Fedderly, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. A quorum was confirmed with six (6) members present.

#### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**MOTION:** Dennis Myers moved, seconded by Gregory Douglas, to adopt the Agenda

as published. Motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 9, 2024** 

**MOTION:** Gregory Douglas moved, seconded by Karl Linck, to adopt the Minutes

from October 9, 2024, as published. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

#### **Election of Officers**

#### Slate of Officers

**NOMINATION:** Dennis Myers 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 OFFICERS				
Chairperson Daniel Fedderly				
Vice Chairperson	Christopher Sina			

Secretary	Dennis Myers
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#### ADMINISTRATIVE RULE MATTERS

## <u>Discussion of new scope statement on A-E 2, 3, 4, 5, 8 and 14 relating to Certificates of Authorization</u>

**MOTION:** 

Dennis Myers moved, seconded by Genevieve Szeklinski, to approve the scope statement revising rules A-E 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 14 relating to Certificates of Authorization for submission to the Governor's Office and for publication in the Register. Additionally, the board authorizes the Chair to approve the scope statement for implementation no less than 10 days after publication. If the board is directed to hold a preliminary public hearing on the scope statement, the Chair is authorized to approve the required notice of hearing. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: Dennis Myers moved, seconded by Christopher Sina, to adjourn the

meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

# State of Wisconsin Department of Safety & Professional Services

### **AGENDA REQUEST FORM**

1) Name and title of pers	son submitting the	request:	2) Date whe	n request submitted:	
Jake Pelegrin		9/19/25			
Administrative Rules Coordinator		Items will be considered late if submitted after 12:00 p.m. on the deadline			
date which is 8 business days before the meeting  3) Name of Board, Committee, Council, Sections:					
A-E Rules Committee	,				
4) Meeting Date:	5)	6) How should the item be titled on the agenda page?			
10/1/25	Attachments:	Administrative	Rule Matte	rs – Discussion and Consideration	
	⊠ Yes			g for A-E 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 14 relating to Certificates	
	☐ No	of Authorizati	ion	<del>-</del>	
				tatement on A-E 6 relating to Land Surveyor	
		Examination I 3. Pending or po	-		
		2 1			
7) Place Item in:	,	nce before the Boa	•	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required:	
		ves, please complete <mark>quest</mark> for Non-DSPS		N/A	
☐ Closed Session		quest for Nort-DSF3 Stall)			
	│				
10) Describe the issue a		uld be addressed:		1	
Attachments: -Rule draft for A-E 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 14 -New scope statement for A-E 6 -AE Rules Chart					
11)		Authoriza	tion		
Jake Pelegrin 9/19/25					
Signature of person making this request Date					
Supervisor (if required)				Date	
Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda) Date					
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 ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS AND REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS

IN THE MATTER OF RULEMAKING PROPOSED ORDER OF THE PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE : EXAMINING BOARD OF EXAMINING BOARD OF ARCHITECTS, : ARCHITECTS, LANDSCAPE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS, : ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, : ENGINEERS, DESIGNERS, DESIGNERS, PROFESSIONAL PROFESSIONAL LAND LAND SURVEYORS, AND REGISTERED:

INTERIOR DESIGNERS

SURVEYORS, AND REGISTERED INTERIOR DESIGNERS **ADOPTING RULES** (CLEARINGHOUSE RULE

#### PROPOSED ORDER

An order of the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors, and Registered Interior Designers to create A-E 2.03 (5), relating to Certificates of Authorization.

Analysis prepared by the Department of Safety and Professional Services.

#### **ANALYSIS**

#### **Statutes interpreted:**

Sections 443.08 (2) (a) 1. and 2., (b) 1. and 2., (c) 1. and 2., (d) 1. and 2., and 443.08 (3) (a) 1. to 4., Stats.

#### **Statutory authority:**

Sections 15.08 (5) (b), 227.11 (2) (a), and 443.015 (2), Stats.

#### **Explanation of agency authority:**

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides that an 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 443.015 (2), Stats.: "Each section of the examining board may promulgate rules governing the professional conduct of individuals, firms, partnerships, and corporations registered, permitted, certified, or granted a certificate of authorization by that section."

#### Related statute or rule:

Sections 443.08 (2) and (3), Stats.

#### Plain language analysis:

Chapter 443 of the Wisconsin Statutes regulates professional architects, engineers, designers, registered interior designers, and firms, partnerships, or corporations that employ them. One requirement is that for an architect, engineer, designer, or registered interior designer to provide those services acting as an officer, employee, or agent of a firm, the firm must be granted a certificate of authorization by the applicable section of the examining board. This certificate of authorization allows the officer, employee, or agent of the firm to provide those services on behalf of the firm. The certificate of authorization must contain the name and information of all employees of the firm who will be in responsible charge of architecture, engineering, design, or interior design services in the state. The certificate of authorization must be kept up to date by the firm. Currently, these requirements are in statute, but they are not present in the administrative code of the Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors and Registered Interior Designers.

The proposed rule creates a new provision under Wis. Admin. Code s. A-E 2.03, Branch Offices, which makes a general statement of the requirements for certificates of authorization. The proposed rule also states an exception to the requirement where an individual architect, engineer, designer, or registered interior designer whose firm is a sole proprietorship does not need a certificate of authorization. The sole proprietorship must be under the same name as the individual architect, engineer, designer, or registered interior designer.

Summary of, and comparison with, existing or proposed federal regulation: None.

#### Comparison with rules in adjacent states:

#### Illinois:

Rules of the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation require firm licensure for architects [68 Ill. Adm. Code 1150.80], professional engineers [68 Ill. Adm. Code 1380.290], structural engineers [68 Ill. Adm. Code 1480.200], and professional land surveyors [68 Ill. Adm. Code 1270.45]. The requirements for firm licensure are broadly similar to the requirements of Wisconsin's certificates of authorization for firms, partnerships, or corporations. Illinois does not require firm licensure for registered interior designers.

#### Iowa:

Iowa does not require firm licensure for architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, design, or interior design firms.

#### Michigan:

The state of Michigan has a less formal requirement for firm licensure than those of Illinois and Wisconsin, but it does have requirements for architecture, professional engineering, or professional surveying firms [MCL 339.2010]. For a firm to practice those businesses in the state, at least two thirds of the principles of the firm must be licensed by the state in that practice. The firm must register with the state and attest to that fact. A non-licensed principal and the principal's firm may apply for approval to engage in that practice, subject to other rules of conduct. A firm must employ a person in responsible charge of the services offered at each place of business in the state, except at a field office which provides only a review of construction. The state of Michigan does not require firm licensure or any kind of registration for interior design firms.

#### Minnesota:

Minnesota has extensive requirements for "professional firms" that are set out in the Minnesota Statutes, chapter 319B (the Professional Firms Act). The chapter authorizes practitioners of certain licensed professions to elect to be "professional firms" under any one of three different forms of organization: corporations (either for-profit or nonprofit); limited liability companies; and limited liability partnerships. In order to practice a profession in any form other than sole proprietorship or general partnership, professionals must comply with the Professional Firms Act (unless the rules of the respective licensing board provide otherwise).

In order to operate as a "professional firm", a Minnesota entity must first be formed under the chosen statute: the Minnesota Business Corporation Act, the Minnesota Nonprofit Corporation Act, the Minnesota Limited Liability Company Act, or the Minnesota Limited Liability Partnership Act. Then, the firm must file with the Secretary of State language stating:

- that the firm elects to be covered by the Minnesota Professional Firms Act.
- that the firm acknowledges that it is subject to those sections.
- specifying the profession or professions to be practiced by the firm.

Architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, geoscience, and interior design firms in Minnesota have the option to register and act as a "professional firm"; however, they are not currently required to. Firms offering architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, geoscience, and interior design services can legally operate without being registered as a "professional firm", but can only be a sole proprietorship or general partnership. As a "professional firm", the firm must file periodic reports with the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design and comply with other provisions of the Professional Firms Act.

#### Summary of factual data and analytical methodologies:

The proposed rule was developed by the A-E Rules Committee and the A-E Examining Board conducting a review of the statutory requirements for certificates of authorization and determining where more clarification and specificity is needed in the board's code.

### 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 do 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; telephone 608-267-0989; email at <a href="mailto:DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov">DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov</a>.

#### 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, WI 53708-8366, or by email to <a href="mailto:DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov">DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov</a>. Comments must be received on or before the public hearing, held on a date to be determined, to be included in the record of rule-making proceedings.

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#### TEXT OF RULE

SECTION 1. A-E 2.03 (5) is created to read:

**A-E 2.03 (5)** CERTIFICATES OF AUTHORIZATION. No individual architect, professional engineer, designer, or registered interior designer may practice or offer to practice architecture, engineering, design, or interior design as a principal, officer, employee, or agent of a firm unless the firm has been issued a certificate of authorization under s. 443.08 (3) (a), Stats. This does not apply to an individual architect, professional engineer,

designer, or registered interior designer whose firm is a sole proprietorship. The sole proprietorship must be under the same name as the individual architect, professional engineer, designer, or registered interior designer.

SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. The rules adopted in this order shall take effect on the f 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 Ar Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Landers Designers is approved for submission to the Government	nd Surveyors, and Registered Interior			
Dated	Chairperson			
	A-E Rules Committee			

### STATEMENT OF SCOPE

# Examining Board of Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors and Registered Interior Designers

Rule No.:	_ A-E 6
Relating to:	Examination Requirements
Rule Type:	Permanent

- 1. Finding/nature of emergency (Emergency Rule only): N/A
- 2. Detailed description of the objective of the proposed rule:

The objective of the proposed rule is to discuss and consider updating or clarifying the examination requirements for professional land surveyor license applicants, which may include revisions to ch. A-E 6.

3. Description of the existing policies relevant to the rule, new policies proposed to be included in the rule, and an analysis of policy alternatives:

Education, examination, and experience requirements for those wishing to pursue a land surveyor license in Wisconsin are detailed in ch. A-E 6. Under A-E 6, applicants must take a fundamentals of land surveying examination, a principles and practice of land surveying examination, and the state jurisdictional examination of this state. Certain aspects of the nationally administered exams may change in coming years, so the board and the section may wish to update the code requirements accordingly.

The alternative is not to have the discussion and consider rule changes, which could lead to outdated examination requirements in the code.

4. Detailed explanation of statutory authority for the rule (including the statutory citation and language):

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides that an 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."

5. Estimate of amount of time that state employees will spend developing the rule and of other resources necessary to develop the rule:

80 hours

6. List with description of all entities that may be affected by the proposed rule:

Licensed land surveyors and those seeking to enter the profession in Wisconsin.

intended to address the activities to be regulated by	<b>0</b> 1 1
None.	
8. Anticipated economic impact of implementing the economic impact on small businesses):	e rule (note if the rule is likely to have a significant
The proposed rule is likely to have minimal to no econor economy as a whole.	nic impact on small businesses and the state's
Contact Person: Jake Pelegrin, Administrative Rules C	oordinator, <u>DSPSAdminRules@wisconsin.gov</u> .
Approved for publication:	Approved for implementation:
Authorized Signature	Authorized Signature
Date Submitted	Date Submitted

# State of Wisconsin Department of Safety & Professional Services

### AGENDA REQUEST FORM

1) Name and Title of Person Submitting the Request:		2) Date When Request Submitted: 09/24/2025				
Jim Gersich, Section Member				Items will be considered late if submitted after 4:30 p.m. and less than:  10 work days before the meeting for Medical Board  14 work days before the meeting for all others		
3) Name of Board, Comm A-E Rules Committee	nittee, Co	ouncil, Sections:			•	
4) Meeting Date:	<u> </u>				led on the agenda page?	
10/01/2025	□ Ye			Idministrative Rule M	latters w scope statement on continuing education	
10/01/2025	🛛 No	•	for Arch		w scope statement on continuing education	
7) Place Item in:	<u>I</u>	8) Is an appearanc	e before	the Board being	9) Name of Case Advisor(s), if required:	
		scheduled?				
☐ Closed Session		Vac (Fill out P	Doord An	negranas Bagusat)		
☐ Both		No No	ovaru Ap	pearance Request)		
10) Describe the issue a	nd action		ressed.			
, 2000						
40						
11)		A	uthorizat	tion		
Will Johnson					09/24/2025	
Signature of person mal	king this	request			Date	
Supervisor (if required)				Date		
Executive Director signature (indicates approval to add post agenda deadline item to agenda) Date						
Directions for including supporting documents:						
<ol> <li>This form should be attached to any documents submitted to the agenda.</li> <li>Post Agenda Deadline items must be authorized by a Supervisor and the Policy Development Executive Director.</li> </ol>						
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start of a meeting	3g			por oon orginature	to the section of the section of the section of the	

Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, Professional Land Surveyors, and Registered Interior Designers

Clearinghouse Rule Number	Scope #	Scope Expiration	Code Chapter	Relating clause/ Summary	Current Stage	Next Step
CR 24-028	112-21	6/20/2024	A-E 2, 7, and 8	Sealing and Signing of Documents. Clarification on definitions of seal and stamps, requirements for electronic signatures, and clean up redundant words or sentences.	Rule effective 6/1/2025.	Rule effective 6/1/2025.
CR 24-044	071-22	2/22/2025	A-E 8	Supervision. Clarification on definitions of supervision to ensure requirements are current with standards of practice.	Rule effective 6/1/2025.	Rule effective 6/1/2025.
	101-23	05/20/2026	A-E 6	Education. Clarification of Land Surveyor education requirements.	Rule suspended, scope statement withdrawn.	None.
	029-25	11/5/2027	A-E 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, and 14	Certificates of Authorization. Clarifying and adding detail to the statutory requirements for certificates of authorization.	Discussion of the rule draft with the sections, rules committee, and full board.	Draft approval for next steps.
			A-E 6	Examination Requirements. Considering updating Land Surveyor examination requirements.	Presentation of the scope statement to the rules committee and full board.	Scope approval for next steps.