

STATEMENT OF SCOPE

Department of Safety and Professional Services

Rule No.: A-E 4

Relating to: Professional Engineer Registration

Rule Type: Permanent

1. Finding/nature of emergency (Emergency Rule only):

Not applicable.

2. Detailed description of the objective of the proposed rule:

The Professional Engineer Section of the Architects, Landscape Architects, Professional Engineers, Designers, and Land Surveyors Board (A-E Board) has determined that chapter A-E 4, relating to Professional Engineer Registration, needs to be reviewed and potentially amended to reflect current best practices and to update the chapter to conform to other rule changes.

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:

A full review of A-E 4 will be undertaken to review and potentially amend to reflect current best practices and to update the rule. The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying® (NCEES) has developed national standards for uniform continuing education and transcript reporting, and these standards may be incorporated into A-E 4. Additionally, other rule projects require a review of A-E 4 to ensure that regulatory provisions remain consistent in application and practice. Finally, to clarify the existing A-E code, inconsistent language relating to reciprocity will be reviewed to ensure consistency and clarity.

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

Section 15.08 (5) (b), Stats., provides an examining board, "shall promulgate rules for its own guidance and for the guidance of the trade or profession to which it pertains..."

Section 443.04, Stats., relating to registration requirements for professional engineers, states, "an applicant for registration as a professional engineer shall submit satisfactory evidence to the professional engineer section of the examining board of all of the following: (1m) A diploma of graduation, or a certificate, from an engineering school or college approved by the professional engineer section as of satisfactory standing in an engineering course of not less than 4 years or a diploma of graduation or degree from a technical college approved by the professional engineer section as of satisfactory standing in an engineering-related course of study of not less than 2 years. (2m) (a) For an applicant possessing a diploma or certificate from a course of study of not less than 4 years as specified in sub. (1m), a specific record of 4 or more years of experience in engineering work of a character satisfactory to the professional engineer section and indicating that the applicant is competent to be placed in responsible charge of engineering work. (b) For an applicant possessing a diploma or degree from a course of study of not less than 2 years as specified in sub. (1m), a specific record of 6 or more years of experience in engineering work of a character satisfactory to the professional engineer section and indicating that the applicant is competent to be placed in responsible charge of engineering work."

Section 443.05, Stats., relating to certification of engineers-in-training, states, "(1) An applicant for certification as an engineer-in-training shall submit as satisfactory evidence to the professional engineer section of the examining board one of the following: (a) A diploma of graduation in engineering or a

certificate in engineering from a school or college approved by the professional engineer section as of satisfactory standing. (b) A specific record of 4 years or more of experience in engineering work of a character satisfactory to the professional engineer section. (2) Graduation in engineering from a school or college approved by the professional engineer section as of satisfactory standing shall be considered as equivalent to 4 years of experience and the completion satisfactory to the professional engineer section of each year of work in engineering in such school or college without graduation shall be considered as equivalent to one year of experience. Graduation in a course other than engineering from a school or college approved by the professional engineer section as of satisfactory standing shall be considered as equivalent to 2 years of experience. No applicant may receive credit for more than 4 years of experience under this subsection."

Section 443.09 (4), Stats., states in part that, "written or written and oral examinations shall be required of every applicant for registration as ... a professional engineer."

Section 443.10 (1) (c), Stats., states, "the professional engineer section of the examining board may, upon application therefor, and the payment of the required fee, grant a certificate-of-record as engineer-in-training to any person who holds an unexpired certificate of similar certification issued to the person by the proper authority in any state or territory or possession of the United States or in any country in which the requirements for the certification of engineers-in-training are of a standard not lower than specified in this chapter."

Section 443.10 (2) (f), Stats., states, "the professional engineer section of the examining board shall grant a certificate of record as engineer-in-training to any applicant who, in the opinion of the professional engineer section, has satisfactorily met all the requirements of this section pertaining to engineers-in-training."

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

120 hours

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

Registered professional engineers and individuals studying to become professional engineers.

7. Summary and preliminary comparison with any existing or proposed federal regulation that is intended to address the activities to be regulated by the proposed rule:

None.

8. Anticipated economic impact of implementing the rule (note if the rule is likely to have a significant economic impact on small businesses):

The proposed rule will have minimal to no economic impact on small businesses and the state's economy as a whole.

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Department Head or Authorized Signature

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