

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS,
WETLAND PROFESSIONALS and GEOLOGISTS MEETING
(PSSWPG)**

**Wednesday, September 30, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
2nd Floor – Board Room 4**

**Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation
9960 Mayland Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23233**

Mission: Our mission is to protect the health, safety and welfare of the public by licensing qualified individuals and businesses enforcing standards of professional conduct for professions and occupations as designated by statute.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Emergency Evacuation Procedures
- b. Determination of Quorum

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. PSSWPG Board Meeting, June 3, 2026
- b. Wetland Delineators Workgroup Section Committee, August 27, 2026
- c. Soil Scientist Workgroup Section Committee, August 27, 2026

IV. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

V. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

FIVE-MINUTE PUBLIC COMMENT, PER PERSON

VI. EDUCATION

- a. Examination Updates
 - i. Examination Statistics (Overall)

VII. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Executive Director's Update
- b. Regulatory Update
- c. Finance Monthly Statement
- d. Board Member Training Conference
- e. 2027 Meeting Dates

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. Soil Scientists Update
 - i. Committee Meeting Update
- b. Wetland Professionals Update
 - i. Committee Meeting Update
- c. Geologists Update
- d. Licensed Population

IX. COMPLETE CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM AND TRAVEL VOUCHER

X. ADJOURNMENT

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2026**

- ❖ Agenda materials made available to the public do not include disciplinary case files or application files pursuant to §54.1-108 of the Code of Virginia.
- ❖ Five-minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application file.
- ❖ Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at (804) 367-2785 at least ten days prior to the meeting so that suitable arrangements can be made for an appropriate accommodation. The Department fully complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS, WETLAND PROFESSIONALS
and GEOLOGISTS MEETING MINUTES**

The Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on June 3, 2026, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia.

Members present for all or part of the meeting:

Wetland Delineators

Justin Brown
Emily Drahos
Emily Salkind

Geologists

Ernest Beasley
Matt Heller
Shannon Lukens
John Pollard

Citizens

Steven Yob

Soil Scientists

Alexis Jones
Richard Michniak

Members absent from the meeting with regrets:

Citizens

Cayman Lowe

Soil Scientists

Jay Conta

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Laura McClintock, Director
Steve Kirschner, LRPD Director
Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director
Dayon Jones, Administrative Coordinator
Joe Haughwout, Regulatory Affairs Manager
Connor Davis, Budget Officer

Josh Laws, Assistant Attorney General, was present from the office of the Attorney General.

Jackson Dyer, BPOR Liaison, was present from the Board of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

Greg Emerson, Director of Examinations, was not present at the meeting with regrets.

Members of the audience:

Thaddeus Kraska, *Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals*
Elijah Wright, *Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals*
Sabrina Heltzel, *Virginia Association of Professional Soil Science*
Tom Ashton, *Virginia Association of Professional Soil Science*
Greg Hammer, *Hammer Environmental*

Mr. Brown, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

Call to Order

Mr. Brown and Ms. Nosbisch advised the Board of the emergency evacuation procedures.

Emergency Evacuation

Mr. Yob moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Lukens moved to approve the PSSWPG Board Meeting, March 9, 2026. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Heltzel addressed the Board regarding her experience pursuing Soil Scientist licensure in Virginia. Although she passed the Fundamentals Examination, she expressed concerns that the Professional Practice Examination contains highly specialized, scenario-based questions that may create barriers for otherwise qualified candidates. She encouraged the Board to consider reforms that support workforce growth while maintaining public protection.

Public Comment Period

Mr. Hammer addressed the Board regarding his concerns that the current Soil Scientist licensing examination may exceed the statutory standard of minimum competency.

Mr. Bedenbaugh addressed the Board regarding the Wetland Professional Universal License Recognition (ULR) process and requested a dedicated work session to evaluate equivalency determinations for out-of-state credentials. He emphasized the need to maintain rigorous standards while ensuring a fair and transparent pathway to licensure and consideration of Virginia-specific wetland conditions.

Mr. Wright addressed the Board regarding a dedicated work session on Wetland Professional licensure and ULR matters..

Ms. Nosbisch provided an update for informational purposes.

Examinations Update

Ms. Nosbisch stated the Executive Director Report was provided for informational purposes.

Executive Director Report

HB 1254 Amendment

Regulatory Update

Mr. Haughwout addressed the Board to consider regulatory changes to the soil scientists regulations required to comport with recent legislation, changing continuing education requirements for Soil Scientists. The legislation stipulates that requirements for continuing education not to exceed eight hours per renewal cycle, instead of the current provision stipulating that requirements for continuing education not exceed eight hours per year. The proposed amendment aligns the regulations with the updated statute.

Ms. Jones moved to approve the amendment as presented and authorized staff to file the exempt regulatory action and make any necessary technical or stylistic corrections. Mr. Michniak seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

HB 1289 Amendments (NOIRA)

Mr. Haughwout provided an overview of legislation that requires the Board to develop continuing education regulations for Professional Geologists. Mr. Haughwout requested the Board initiate a Notice of Intended Regulatory Action (NOIRA) to begin the formal regulatory process.

Mr. Pollard moved to authorize Board Staff to file a NOIRA. Ms. Lukens seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

HB 1835 Amendment (Proposed)

Mr. Haughwout addressed the Board regarding the proposed permanent regulations associated with the transition from geology certification to licensure to replace the current emergency regulations. The proposed permanent regulation will (i) replace references to certification in the regulation with references to licensure; and (ii) remove references to “ethical character” to comport with a recent legislative change that prohibits regulatory board from using “vague and arbitrary” terms to refuse a license.

Mr. Pollard moved to adopt the proposed regulation as presented, and authorizing staff to file the proposed regulation and make any necessary technical or stylistic corrections. Ms. Lukens seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

Mr. Davis presented a financial overview to the Board, including revenue, expenditures, cash balances, and cost allocation adjustments. Discussion focused on the Board's cyclical revenue structure, projected operating deficits, and future fee considerations. Director McClintock provided context regarding statewide financial management improvements, cost allocation corrections, and new authority allowing more timely fee adjustments when necessary.

Financial Monthly Statement

A letter from Virginia Association of Professional Soil Scientist President, Sabrina Heltzel was provided to the Board for review. Ms. Jones presented concerns regarding the current Soil Scientist licensure framework. The discussion focused on examination requirements, workforce challenges, declining numbers of licensed professionals, and recommendations to evaluate whether the current licensure model adequately supports the profession while maintaining public protection. The Board discussed the next potential steps, including the formation of a work group to further evaluate the issue.

Communication from YAPSS

The Board discussed challenges facing the Soil Scientist profession, including declining licensure numbers, examination pass rates, workforce development concerns, and potential regulatory solutions. The Board agreed that further evaluation is needed and discussed forming a dedicated work group to examine options and develop recommendations for future consideration.

Soil Scientists Update

Mr. Heller moved to create a work group with all Soil Scientist Board Members and one representative from each group. Ms. Salkind seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

Work Group Members: Jones, Michniak, Conta, Beasley, Salkind

Ms. Drahos discussed Universal License Recognition (ULR) matters and the potential need for a dedicated work session to review certification equivalency standards and interstate licensure issues. The Board agreed to holding a special session to further evaluate these matters and ensure consistency in application review processes.

Wetland Professionals Update

Salkind moved to create a work group with all Wetland Delineator Board Members and one representative from each group. Ms. Drahos seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Beasley, Brown, Drahos, Heller, Jones, Lukens, Michniak, Pollard, Salkind and Yob.

Work Group Members: Brown, Drahos, Salkind, Jones, Pollard

Mr. Pollard provided a report on the recent Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) Spring Meeting. The report highlighted examination development processes, psychometric review practices, exam validation efforts, and collaboration among state geology boards to ensure examinations continue to assess minimum competency and protect the public.

Geologists Update

Mr. Brown informed the Board of the licensee counts as of May 1, 2026:
Soil Scientists – 72; Wetland Delineators – 157; Geologists – 924.

**License and
Certified
Population**

Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all Board members present.

**Conflict of Interest
Forms/Travel
Vouchers**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:36 p.m.

Adjourn

Justin T. Brown, Chair

Laura V. McClintock, Secretary

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS, WETLAND PROFESSIONALS and
GEOLOGISTS MEETING MINUTES

The Wetland Delineator Workgroup Section Committee of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on August 27, 2026, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present for all or part of the meeting:

Wetland Delineators

Justin Brown
Emily Drahos
Emily Salkind

Soil Scientist

Alexis Jones

Geologist

John Pollard

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Steve Kirschner, LRPD Director
Kate Nobsch, Executive Director
Summer Saunders, Licensing Operations Administrator
Kyle Mathews, Regulatory Operations Administrator
Davon Jones, Administrative Coordinator

Laura McClintock, Director, was not present with regret.

Members of the audience:

Robin Bedenbaugh, *Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals*
Thaddeus Kraskat, *Townes Site Engineering*
Elijah Wright, *Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals*

Mr. Brown called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Call to Order

Mr. Brown advised the Committee of the emergency evacuation and 9-1-1 procedures.

**Emergency
Evacuation**

Ms. Jones moved to approve the agenda. Ms. Drahos seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Brown, Drahos, Salkind, Jones, and Pollard.

**Approval of
Agenda**

Mr. Bedenbaugh, Virginia Association of Wetland Professionals Certification Committee Chair, addressed the Committee regarding New Hampshire's wetland certification and asked the Board to reconsider whether it has a similar scope of practice to Virginia's PWD credential, citing differences in regional supplements and environmental conditions.

**Public Comment
Period**

Mr. Krasko addressed the Committee regarding New Hampshire's state-specific certification requirements and differing regional conditions. He encouraged the Board to reconsider the New Hampshire determination and clarify the ULR process for future applicants.

Mr. Wright addressed the Committee regarding PWD certifications issued through ULR before the Board formally reviewed the underlying out-of-state credentials. He requested clarification on those certifications and a consistent process for future ULR determinations.

Public Comment Period

The Committee went into recess from 11:17 a.m. to 11:35 a.m.

Recess

Mr. Kirschner provided background regarding ULR, its statutory framework, and the Board's previous review of wetland credentials from other states. The Workgroup discussed ULR requirements, focusing on whether New Hampshire's wetland credential has a similar scope of practice to Virginia's PWD certification. Discussion included Virginia-specific competency, regional supplements, proposed statutory changes to clarify wetland delineation requirements, previously issued ULR certifications, and potentially adding professions regulated by the Board to the statutory list of professional services excluded from ULR.

Universal Licensing Recognition (ULR)

After a discussion, Ms. Jones moved to bring draft legislative amendments to §§ 54.1-2200, 54.1-2206, and 2.2-4301 of the Code of Virginia before the full Board at its next meeting. Ms. Drahos seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Brown, Drahos, Salkind, Jones, and Pollard.

Ms. Jones moved that the Committee's previous decisions regarding ULR stand and that no retroactive action be taken against individuals previously certified through ULR. Ms. Salkind seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Brown, Drahos, Salkind, Jones, and Pollard.

Ms. Salkind moved that all professions represented by the Board be added to the professional services list under the Virginia Public Procurement Act. Ms. Jones seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Brown, Drahos, Salkind, Jones, and Pollard. Ms. Nobsch will inquire as to how professions were included on the list to share at the next full board meeting.

Ms. Nobsch informed the Committee about and discussed upcoming Board member training, appointments, vacancies, expiring terms, and the process for appointment or reappointment of Board members. Members were encouraged to identify qualified individuals who may be interested in serving on the Board.

Other Business

Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all board members present.

Conflict of Interest Forms/Travel Vouchers

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Adjourn

Justin T. Brown, Committee Chair

Laura V. McClintock, Secretary

DRAFT AGENDA
Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion
And are not to be construed as regulation or official board position.
DRAFT AGENDA

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS, WETLAND PROFESSIONALS and
GEOLOGISTS MEETING MINUTES

The Soil Scientist Workgroup Section Committee of the Board for Professional Soil Scientists, Wetland Professionals and Geologists met on August 27, 2026, at the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR), 9960 Mayland Drive, Richmond, Virginia, with the following members present for all or part of the meeting:

Soil Scientist
Jay Conta
Alexis Jones
Richard Michniak

Wetland Delineators
Emily Salkind

Geologist
Ernest Beasley

Staff present for all or part of the meeting were:

Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director
Summer Saunders, Licensing Operations Administrator
Kyle Mathews, Regulatory Operations Administrator
Davon Jones, Administrative Coordinator
Rhonda Starr, Examination Services Coordinator
Brandon Bouknight, Examination Data Administrator
Jennifer Sayegh, Policy and Legislative Affairs Manager

Laura McClintock, Director, and Steve Kirschner, LRPD Director were not present with regret.

Members of the audience:
None

Ms. Jones called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Call to Order

Ms. Jones advised the Committee of the emergency evacuation and 9-1-1 procedures.

**Emergency
Evacuation**

Mr. Conta moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to add Welcome and Introductions before Public Comment Period. Mr. Beasley seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by members: Conta, Jones, Michniak, Salkind, and Beasley.

**Approval of
Agenda**

Ms. Nosbisch welcomed Summer Saunders, who recently joined the section from the Real Estate Section and replaced Ecila Williams. Ms. Nosbisch also welcomed Brandon Bouknight and Rhonda Starr from DPOR's Examination Section.

**Welcome and
Introductions**

There was no one present for public comments.

**Public Comment
Period**

The Workgroup reviewed Virginia's soil scientist licensure and examination requirements, focusing on low pass rates for the national Soil Science Society of America (SSSA) examinations, declining participation, workforce concerns, examination costs, and whether the Professional Practice examination appropriately measures minimum competency. Members discussed alternatives to the national examination but recognized the significant cost and resources required to develop and maintain a Virginia-specific examination. The Workgroup agreed to allow SSSA's ongoing examination revisions time to demonstrate results while pursuing proactive measures, including monitoring pass rates and candidate numbers, expanding examination-preparation resources, and increasing outreach to colleges, universities, and prospective soil scientists. Members also discussed working with the professional association to create an examination scholarship program to help offset examination fees and encourage more qualified candidates to pursue licensure. Ms. Nosbisch and Ms. Jones will continue coordinating with SSSA and professional stakeholders and report additional information to the Board.

**Soil Scientist
Licensure and
Examination
Requirements
Review**

Mr. Mathews provided an informational update regarding changes to soil scientist continuing education requirements, including the requirement for eight contact hours per renewal cycle. The Workgroup discussed accessible continuing education opportunities and outreach efforts to increase awareness of soil science as a profession.

Other Business

Ms. Nosbisch also provided an update regarding the upcoming Board Member Training Conference.

Conflict of Interest forms and travel vouchers were completed by all board members present.

**Conflict of Interest
Forms/Travel
Vouchers**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:33 p.m.

Adjourn

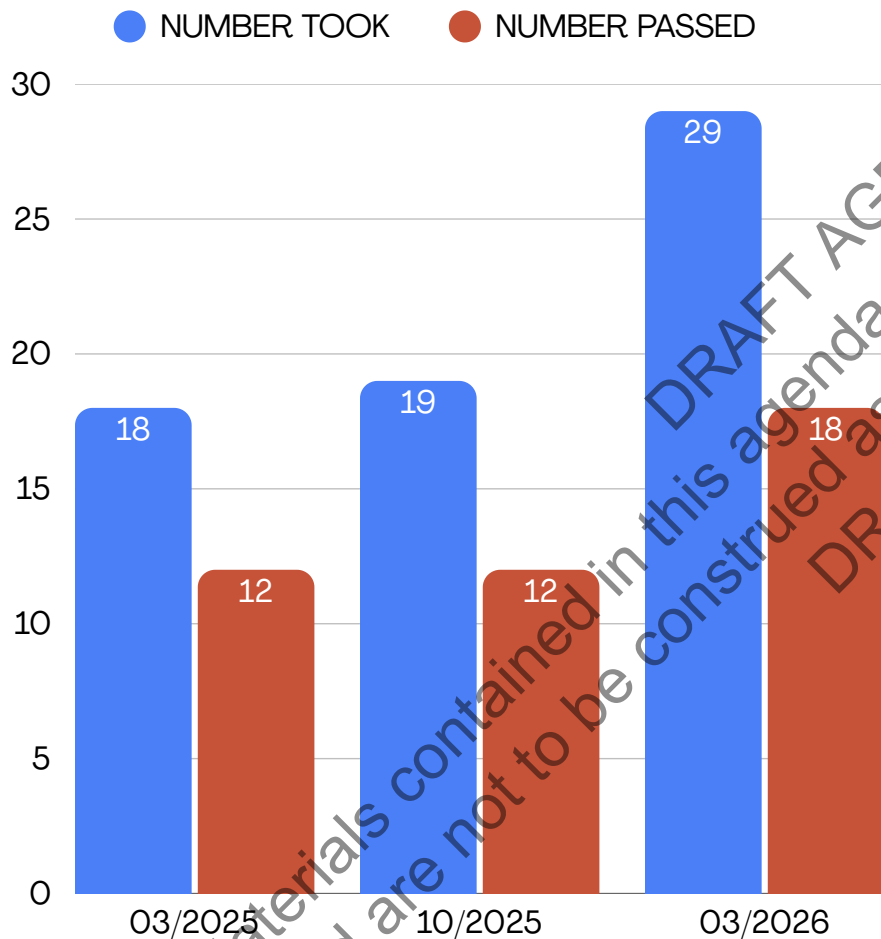
Alexis Jones, Committee Chair

Laura V. McClintock, Secretary



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

FUNDAMENTAL OF GEOLOGY STATISTICS REPORT NATIONAL

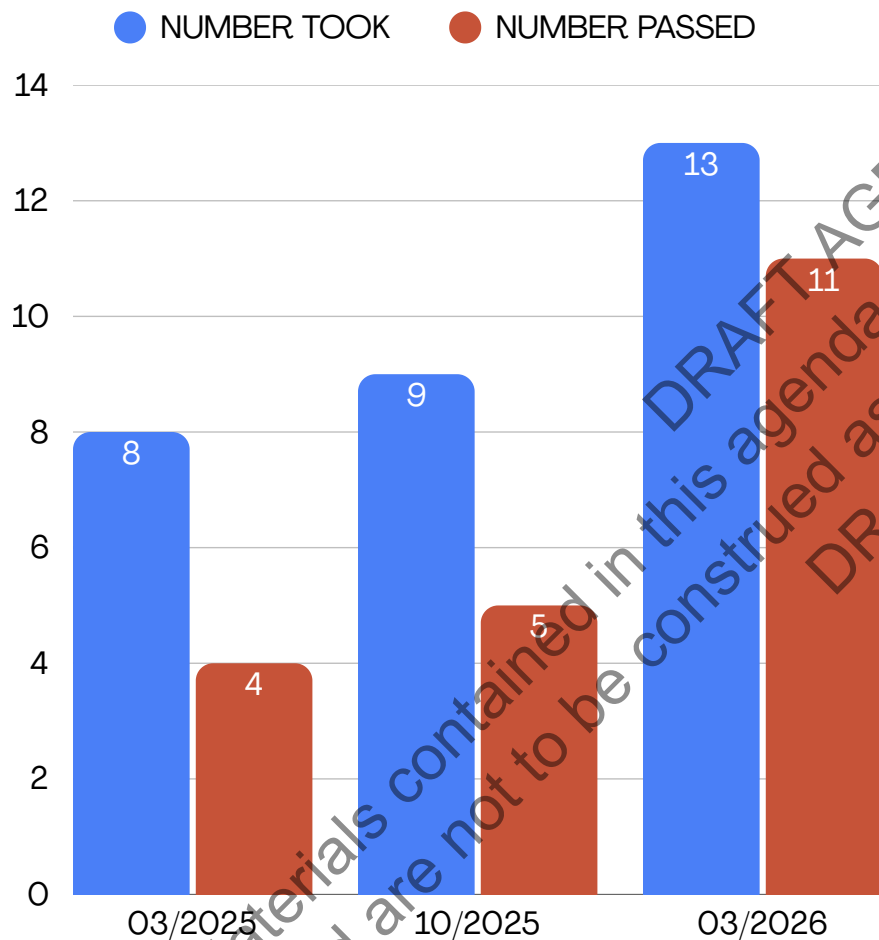


MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
03/2025	18	12	66.67%
10/2025	19	12	63.16%
03/2026	29	18	62.07%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY STATISTICS REPORT NATIONAL

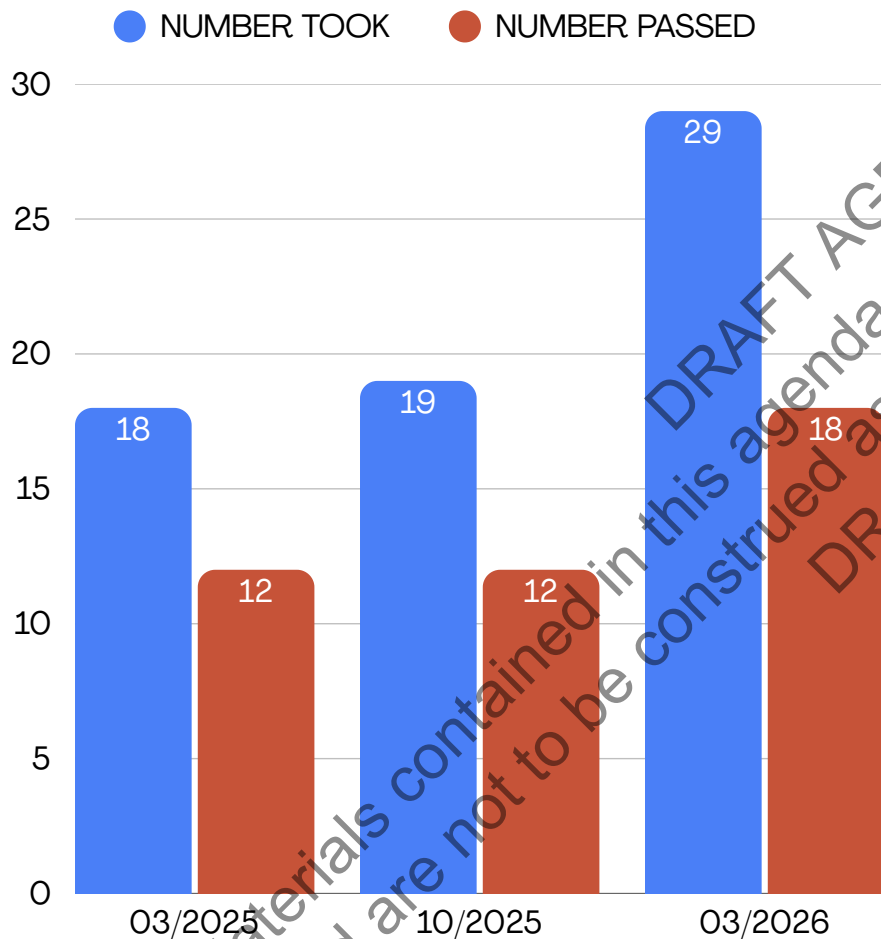


MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
03/2025	8	4	50.00%
10/2025	9	5	55.56%
03/2026	13	11	84.62%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

FUNDAMENTAL OF GEOLOGY STATISTICS REPORT VIRGINIA

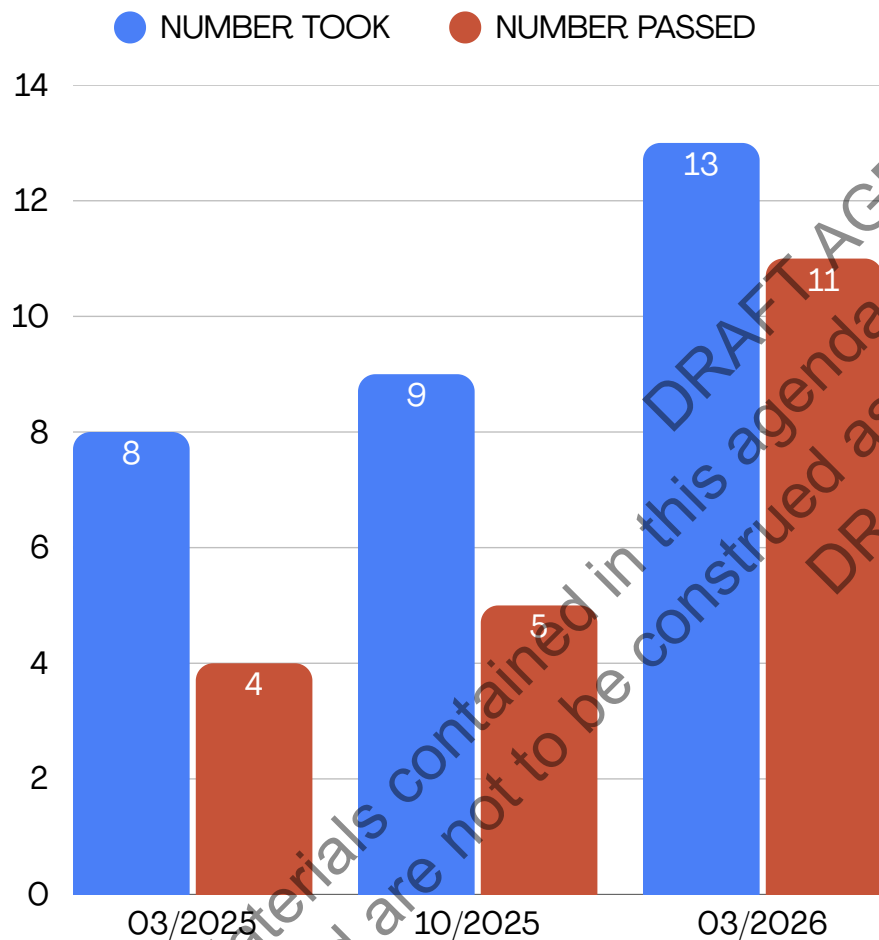


MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
03/2025	18	12	66.66%
10/2025	19	12	63.15%
03/2026	29	18	62.06%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY STATISTICS REPORT VIRGINIA



MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
03/2025	8	4	50.00%
10/2025	9	5	55.55%
03/2026	13	11	84.61%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

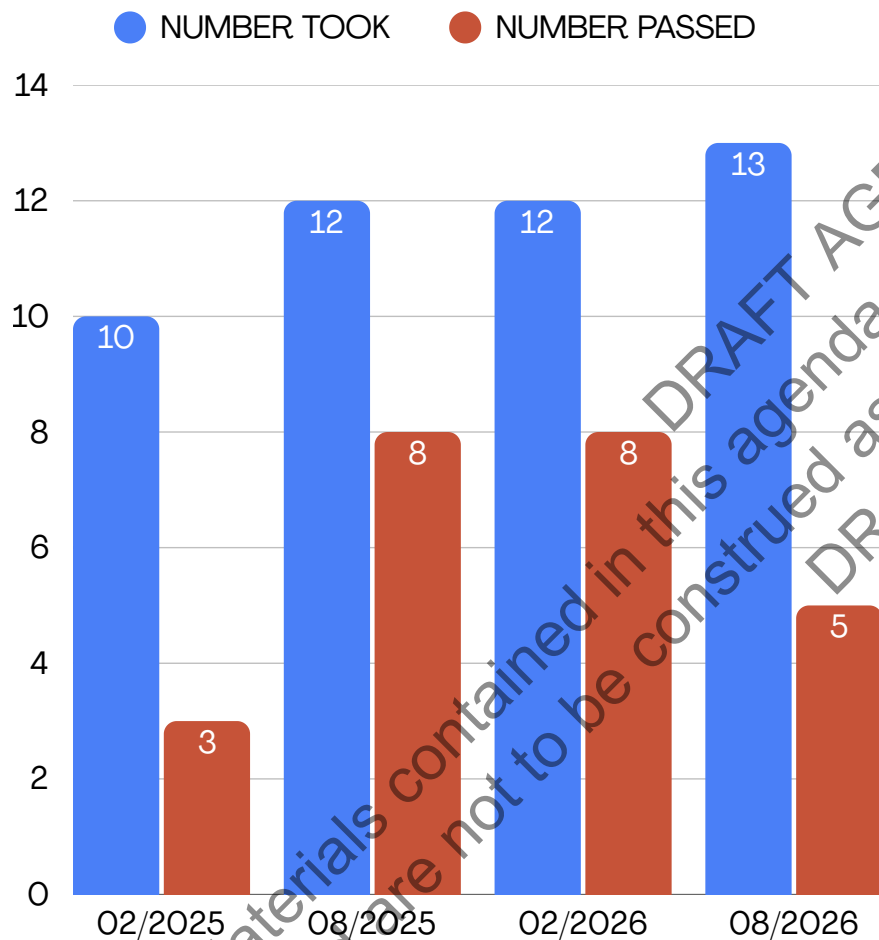
GEOLOGY STATISTICS REPORT 2023-2025

Exam Date	Virginia Fundamentals Exam	Virginia Pass	Virginia Passing Rate	Virginia Professional Practice Exam	Virginia Pass	Virginia Passing Rate
March 2023	15	10	66.66%	11	10	90.90%
October 2023	23	14	60.86%	11	9	81.81%
March 2024	19	11	57.89%	13	8	61.53%
October 2024	27	17	62.96%	13	9	69.23%
March 2025	18	12	66.66%	8	4	50.00%
October 2025	19	12	63.15%	9	5	55.55%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

PROFESSIONAL WETLAND DELINEATORS STATISTICS REPORT



MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
02/2025	10	3	30.00%
08/2025	12	8	66.66%
02/2026	12	8	66.66%
08/2026	13	5	38.46%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

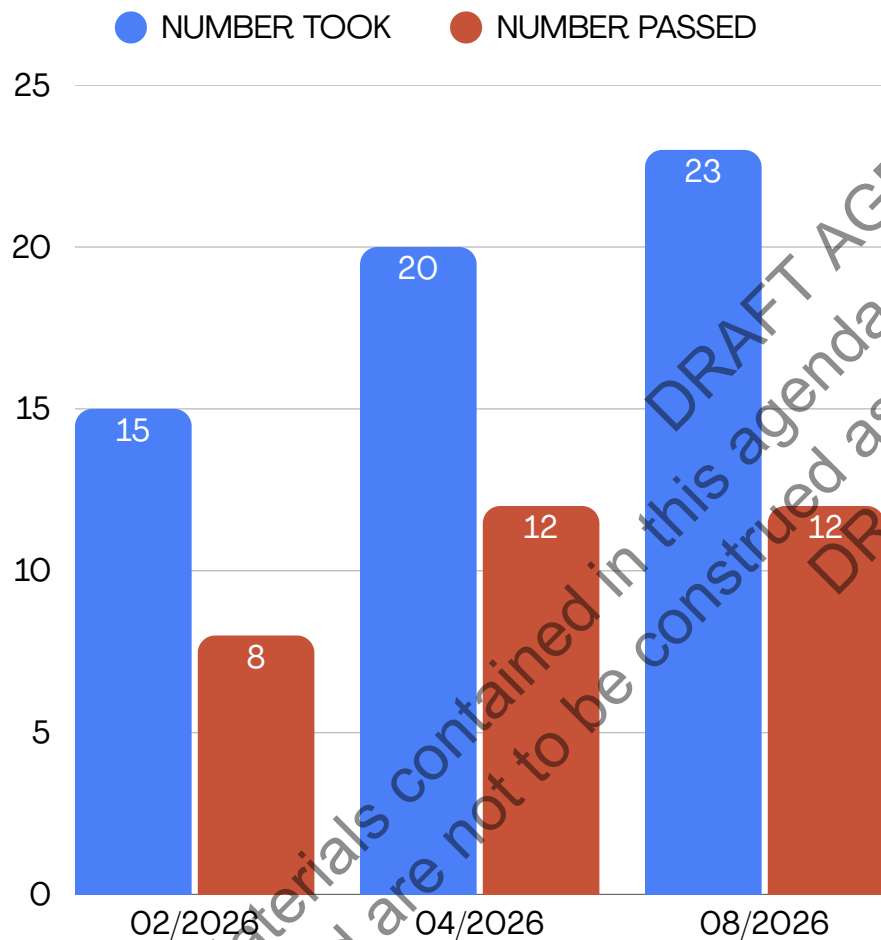
WETLAND DELINEATORS STATISTICS REPORT 2018-2025

Exam Date	Virginia Professional Exam	Virginia Pass	Virginia Passing Rate
February 2018	4	3	75.00%
August 2018	2	1	50.00%
February 2019	2	2	100.00%
August 2019	2	1	50.00%
February 2020	1	1	100.00%
August 2020	5	4	25.00%
February 2021	1	0	0.00%
August 2021	1	1	100.00%
February 2022	3	0	0.00%
August 2022	7	4	57.14%
February 2023	6	2	33.33%
August 2023	6	2	33.33%
February 2024	21	6	28.57%
August 2024	22	15	68.18%
February 2025	10	3	30.00%
August 2025	12	8	66.66%



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

FUNDAMENTALS OF SOIL SCIENCE STATISTICS REPORT NATIONAL



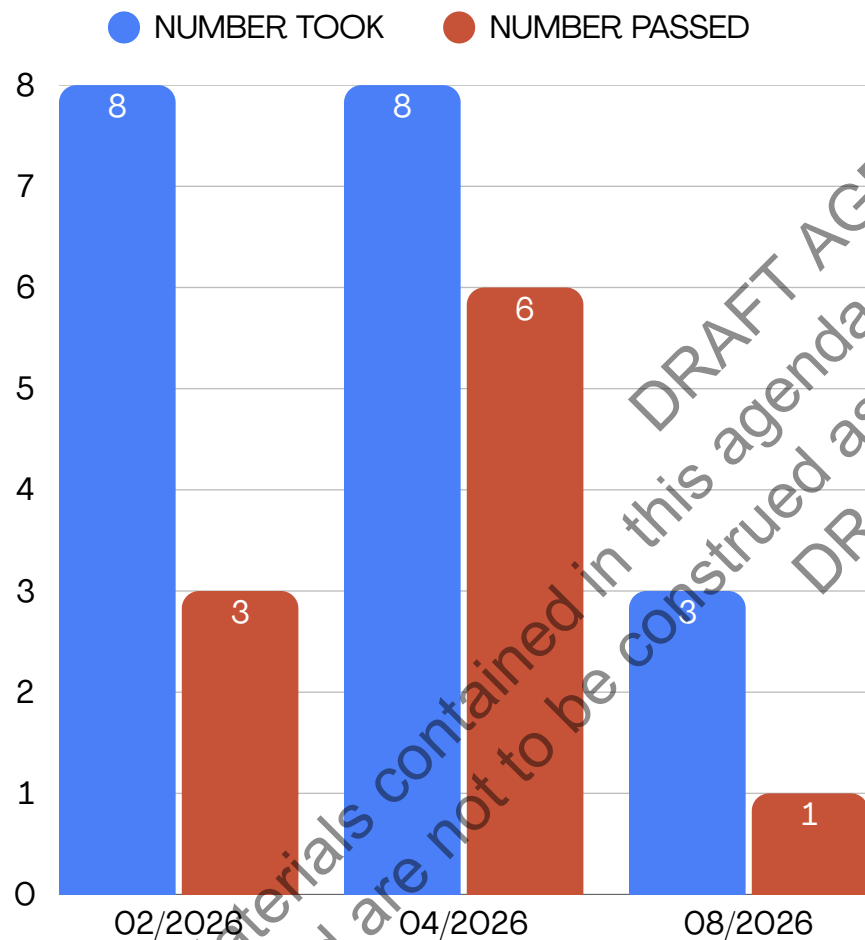
MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
02/2026	15	8	53.00%
04/2026	20	12	60.00%
08/2026	23	12	52.00%
2026* Total	58	32	55.00%

*JANUARY 1, 2026 TO AUGUST 31, 2026



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

PRACTICE OF SOIL SCIENCE STATISTICS REPORT NATIONAL



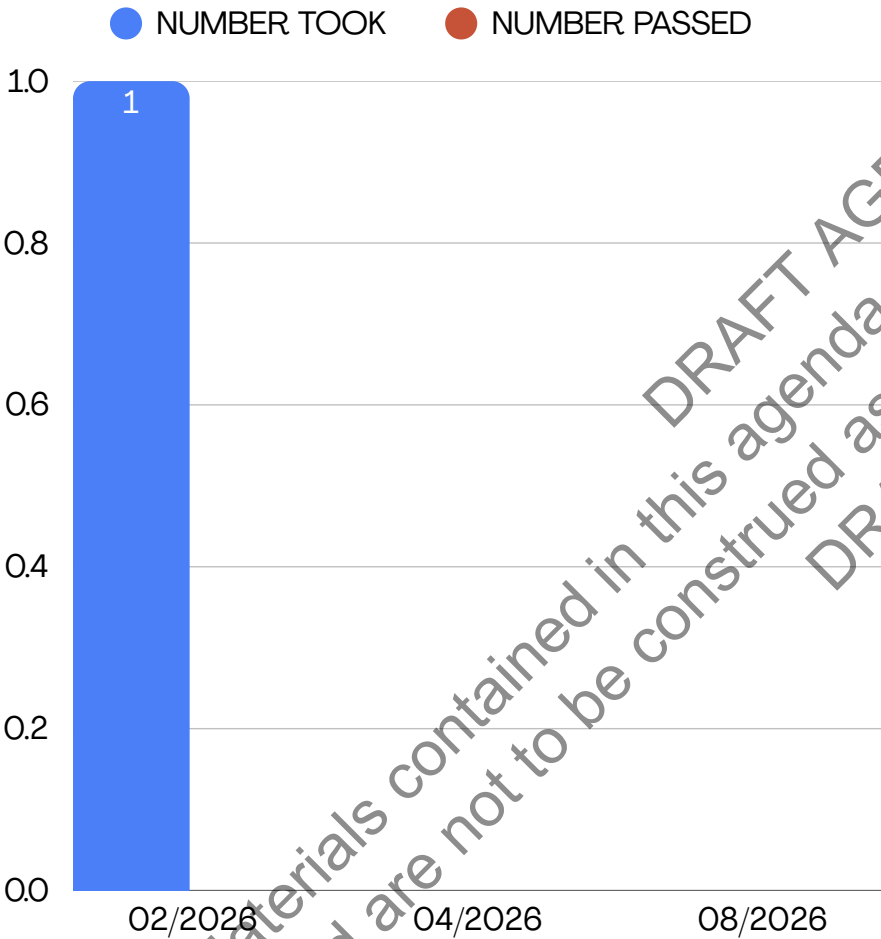
MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
02/2026	8	3	38.00%
04/2026	8	6	78.00%
08/2026	3	1	33.00%
2026* Total	19	10	53.00%

*JANUARY 1, 2026 TO AUGUST 31, 2026



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

FUNDAMENTALS OF SOIL SCIENCE STATISTICS REPORT VIRGINIA



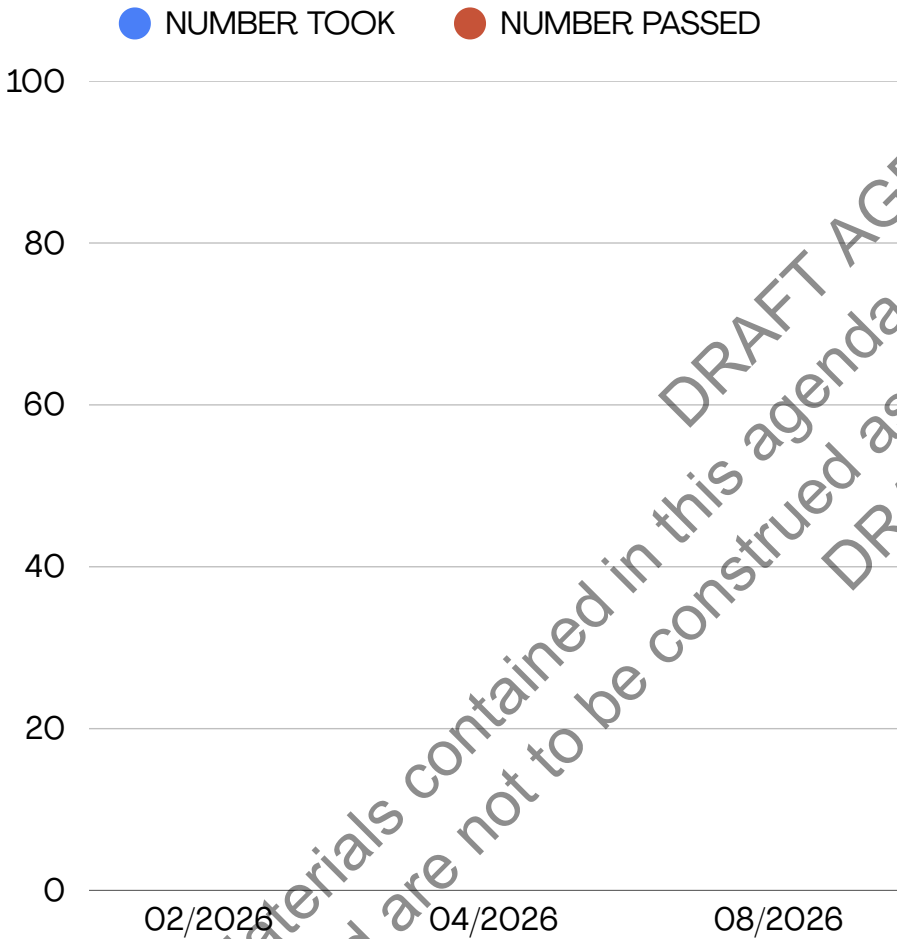
MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
02/2026	1	0	0.00%
04/2026	0	0	0.00%
08/2026	0	0	0.00%
2026* Total	1	0	0.00%

*JANUARY 1, 2026 TO AUGUST 31, 2026



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

PRACTICE OF SOIL SCIENCE STATISTICS REPORT VIRGINIA



MONTH / YEAR	NUMBER TOOK	NUMBER PASSED	PASS %
02/2026	0	0	0.00%
04/2026	0	0	0.00%
08/2026	0	0	0.00%
2026* Total	0	0	0.00%

*JANUARY 1, 2026 TO AUGUST 31, 2026



PSSWPG Exam Statistics

SOIL SCIENCE STATISTICS REPORT 2016-2025

Exam Date	Virginia Fundamentals Exam	Virginia Pass	Virginia Passing Rate	National Passing Rate	Virginia Professional Practice Exam	Virginia Pass	Virginia Passing Rate	National Passing Rate
August 2025	0	0	0%	50%	0	0	0%	12%
April 2025	0	0	0%	55%	0	0	0%	13%
February 2025	0	0	0%	47%	0	0	0%	29%
October-November 2024	0	0	0%	35%	0	0	0%	22%
July-August 2024	0	0	0%	44%	0	0	0%	11%
March-April 2024	0	0	0%	63%	0	0	0%	25%
January-February 2024	1	1	100%	29%	2	1	50%	17%
November 2023	2	1	50%	40%	0	0	0%	38%
Continuous Testing 2023	0	0	0%	48%	0	0	0%	29%
Continuous Testing 2022	0	0	0%	46%	0	0	0%	23%
Continuous Testing 2021	0	0	0%	83%	0	0	0%	0%
April 2021	0	0	0%	45%	0	0	0%	0%
November 2020	0	0	0%	50%	1	1	100%	50%
June 2020	0	0	0%	67%	-----	-----	-----	-----
November 2019	1	0	0%	52%	2	1	50%	11%
April 2019	2	1	50%	50%	2	1	50%	50%
November 2018	2	2	100%	40%	0	0	0%	42%
April 2018	1	0	0%	59%	0	0	0%	30%
November 2017	2	0	0%	41%	0	0	0%	29%
April 2017	0	0	0%	60%	2	1	50%	37.5%
November 2016	1	1	100%	63%	1	0	0%	11%
April 2016	1	1	100%	55%	0	0	0%	0%

To: PSSWPG Board

From: Kate Nosbisch, Executive Director

Subject: Executive Director Update

Date: September 15, 2026

Data for the last five years of the Board's activities has been provided.

Application Statistics

The table below provides the number of applications approved for the PSSWPG Board per calendar year (January 1 – December 31) since 2021.

Applications Approved						
Year	2026*	2025**	2024**	2023**	2022**	2021**
App Numbers	75	124	143	127	111	100

*As of 08/31/2026

**Includes GIT, Geologist by Waiver, Wetland Delineator Re-Exam Requests, and Exam Eligible Applicants

Applications Approved by Profession 2026*			
Profession	Soil Scientists	Wetland Professionals	Geologists
App Numbers	1	15	59

*As of 08/31/2026

ULR Applications Approved by Profession 2021-2026			
Profession	Soil Scientists	Wetland Professionals	Geologists
App Numbers	5	4	53

*As of 08/31/2026

Call Center Statistics

** The Call Center Statistics consists of APELSCIDLA, PSSWPG, Auctioneers, and Branch Pilots

The Board's call center answered a total of **7,607** phone calls between January 1, 2026, to August 31, 2026.

**Reduced call center hours began April 16, 2025, with the call center opening at 8:30 am and closing at 5:00 pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesdays the call center opens from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. The reduction in call center hours allows our staff to process applications more effectively. On June 24, 2025, call center hours on Tuesdays and Wednesdays open from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

Email Statistics

The table below outlines the number of emails received through the Board's email address per calendar year (Jan 1-Dec 31)

Email Count						
Year	2026*	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
# of Emails**	426	1,269	815	918	644	482

*As of 08/31/2026

Board Case Statistics

Since 2018, The Board has adjudicated 2 cases.

No new cases to date

Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach

Board For Soil Sci Wetland Geo

Monthly Cash Activity

Starting cash on hand

\$ (18,549.34)

Starting date

Jul 2026

Cash minimum balance alert

Cash Below Zero

	Jul 2026	Aug 2026	Sep 2026	Oct 2026	Nov 2026	Dec 2026	Jan 2027	Feb 2027	Mar 2027	Apr 2027	May 2027	Jun 2027	Total
Cash on hand (beginning of month)	\$ (18,549.34)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

Cash receipts

Cash sales	\$ 2,947.25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,947.25
Returns and allowances	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total cash receipts	\$ 2,947.25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,947.25
Total cash available	\$ (15,602.09)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

Cash paid out

Overhead	\$ 3,885.80	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,885.80
Enforcement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Board Administration	\$ 2,178.61	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,178.61
Exams	\$ 74.22	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 74.22
Direct Board	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Cash Transfers	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total cash paid out	\$ 6,138.63	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,138.63
Cash on hand (end of month)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ (21,740.72)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	



We're getting closer, and we're excited to bring everyone together for our upcoming Board Member Training Conference! This year's conference is packed with informative sessions, practical insights, and opportunities to connect with fellow board members.

We've got a great lineup planned, with guest speakers, topics designed to help you navigate your role, strengthen your knowledge, and stay up to date on what's happening across the agency.

Here's a sneak peek at some of the sessions you can look forward to:

- Understanding the Informal Fact-Finding Conference
- The Complaint Process In Practice
- Legislation and Public Protection
- Lessons from Veteran Board Members
- Innovations in Technology
- Exam Development
- General Assembly and the Legislative Process

From the latest updates and important issues facing our boards to practical tips and a behind-the-scenes look at the work we do, there will be something for everyone. We're looking forward to seeing you, sharing ideas, learning together, and making this year's conference a great one!

Stay tuned for more details as we get closer.

We look forward to seeing you in October!

**BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL SOIL SCIENTISTS,
WETLAND PROFESSIONALS and GEOLOGISTS MEETING
(PSSWPG)**

2027 Meeting Dates

Tues, February 23, 2027	10:00 AM	Board Room 4
Tues, May 11, 2027	10:00 AM	Board Room 4
Tues, August 17, 2027	10:00 AM	Board Room 4
Thurs, November 4, 2027	10:00 AM	Board Room 4

DRAFT AGENDA

DRAFT AGENDA

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL & OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION
 PERIMETER CENTER, SUITE 400
 9960 MAYLAND DRIVE
 RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23233

TOTAL CURRENT POPULATION AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

327,838

*Regulant population numbers are effective for the dates shown only.

Profession	1/1/2026	2/1/2026	3/1/2026	4/1/2026	5/1/2026	6/1/2026	7/1/2026	8/1/2026	9/1/2026
Professional Geologists	901	907	913	916	924	937	951	953	959
Professional Soil Scientists	75	75	74	73	72	74	75	75	77
Professional Wetland Delineators	152	151	156	156	157	158	160	159	160