

LAND SURVEYORS SECTION MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday July 12, 2023
1st Floor Training Room
10:00 a.m.
Department of Professional & Occupational Regulation
9960 Mayland Drive
Richmond, Virginia 23233
(804) 367-8514

1. Call to Order
2. Emergency Evacuation
3. Announcements
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Public Comment Period*
6. Regulatory Review Matrix
7. Land Surveyor Regulatory Review
8. APELSCIDLA Statute
9. Other Business
10. Conflict of Interest Forms / Travel Vouchers
11. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR July 14, 2023

*Five-minute public comment, per person, with the exception of any open disciplinary or application files. Persons desiring to participate in the meeting and requiring special accommodations or interpretative services should contact the Department at 804) 367-8514 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.

- **Call to Order**
- **Emergency Evacuation**
- **Announcements**

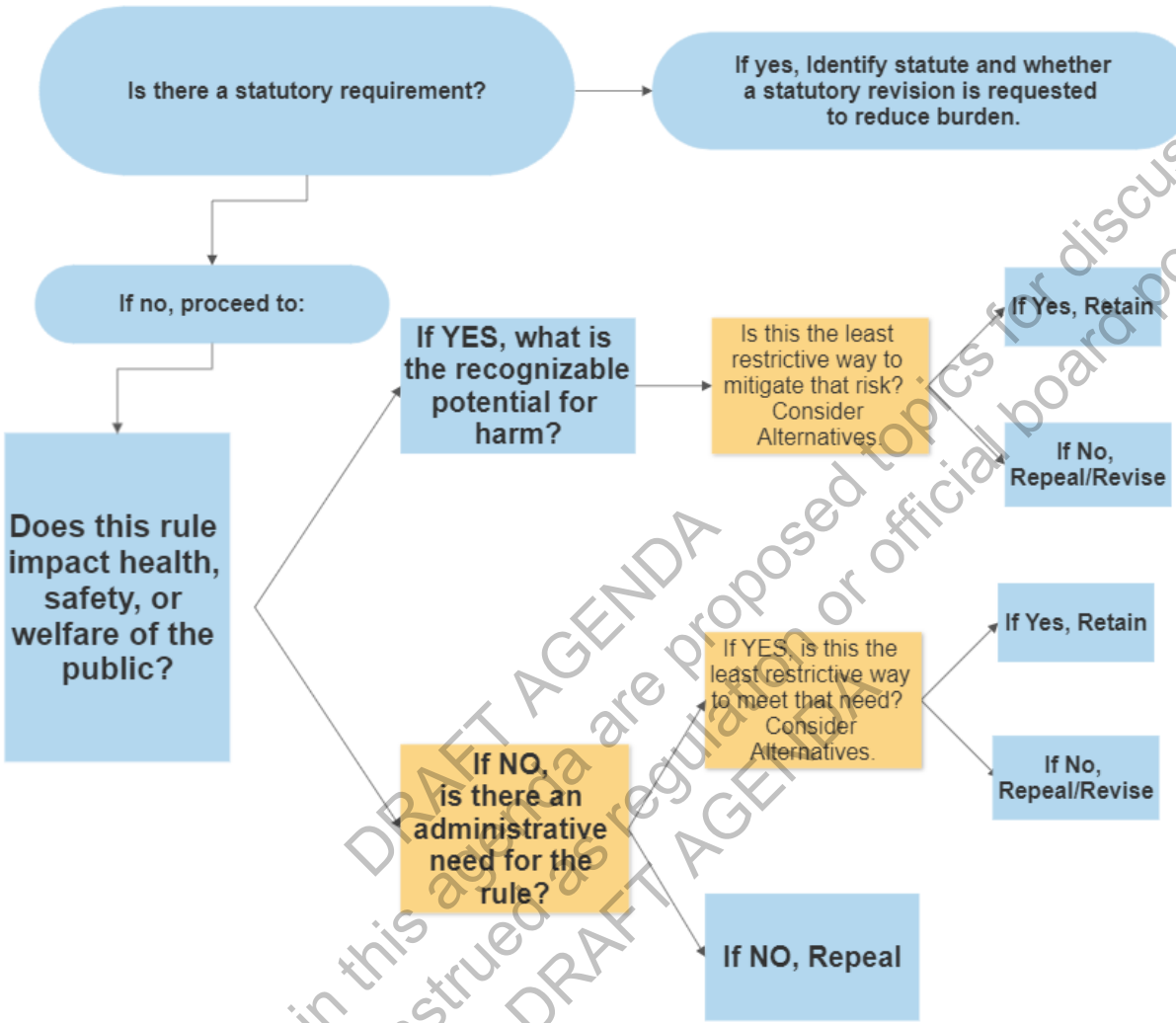
DRAFT AGENDA
Materials contained in this agenda are proposed topics for discussion
And are not to be construed as regulation or official board position
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➤ **Public Comment**

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Regulatory Review Framework

Matrix Flowchart



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PART V

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSING AND STANDARDS OF PROCEDURE FOR
LAND SURVEYORS**

18VAC10-20-280. Fee schedule.

All fees are nonrefundable and shall not be prorated.

Application for Surveyor-in-Training Designation	\$60
Application for Initial Land Surveyor License	\$90
Application for Initial Surveyor Photogrammetrist License	\$90
Application for Initial Land Surveyor B License	\$90
Application for License by Comity	\$90
Renewal	\$90

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.1, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 13, Issue 23, eff. October 1, 1997; Volume 15, Issue 24, eff. October 1, 1999; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Errata, 18:10 V.A.R. 1342 January 28, 2002; amended, Virginia Register Volume 21, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2004; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016.

18VAC10-20-290. [Repealed]

18VAC10-20-295. Definitions.

"Absolute horizontal positional accuracy" means the value expressed in feet or meters that represents the uncertainty due to systematic and random errors in measurements in the location of any point on a survey relative to the defined datum at the 95% confidence level.

"Approved land surveying experience" means progressive and diversified office and field training and experience under the direct control and personal supervision of a licensed land surveyor. This experience shall have been acquired in positions requiring the exercise of independent judgment, initiative, and professional skill. Written verification of such work experience shall be on forms provided by the board. Experience may be gained either prior to or after education is obtained. Notwithstanding the definition of "approved land surveying experience," the requirements set forth in 18VAC10-20-310 shall not be waived.

"Approved photogrammetric surveying or similar remote sensing technology experience" means progressive and diversified office and field training and experience in photogrammetric surveying or similar remote sensing technology under the direct control and personal supervision of a licensed land surveyor or licensed surveyor photogrammetrist. This experience shall have been acquired in positions requiring the exercise of independent judgment, initiative, and professional skill. Written verification of such work experience shall be on forms provided by the board. Experience may be gained either prior to or after education is obtained. Notwithstanding the definition of "approved photogrammetric surveying or similar remote sensing technology experience," the requirements set forth in 18VAC10-20-310 shall not be waived.

"Relative horizontal positional accuracy" means the value expressed in feet or meters that represents the uncertainty due to random errors in measurements in the location of any point on a survey relative to any other point on the same survey at the 95% confidence level.

Historical Notes:

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; amended, Virginia Register Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-300. Requirements for surveyor-in-training (SIT) designation.

- A. Applicants who do not complete their applications and receive their designations within the three years from the date that they apply must reapply and satisfy one of the following:
1. Be enrolled in an EAC/ABET-accredited surveying or surveying technology program acceptable to the board, have 12 months or less remaining before completion of degree requirements, and provide a certificate of good standing from the dean of the school or the dean's designee;
 2. Have earned an undergraduate degree from an EAC/ABET-accredited surveying or surveying technology program acceptable to the board;
 3. Have earned an undergraduate degree related to surveying acceptable to the board and possess a minimum of one year of approved land surveying experience;
 4. Have earned an undergraduate degree in a field unrelated to surveying in conjunction with an additional 30 credit hours in an approved surveying program acceptable to the board and possess a minimum of two years of approved land surveying experience;
 5. Have earned a board-approved undergraduate degree in a field unrelated to surveying and possess a minimum of two years of approved land surveying experience;
 6. Have earned a board-approved associate's degree related to surveying and possess a minimum of four years of approved land surveying experience;

7. Have successfully completed a board-approved survey apprenticeship program. The apprenticeship program shall include a minimum of 480 hours of surveying-related classroom instruction with a minimum of six years of approved land surveying experience; or
 8. Have graduated from high school with evidence of successful completion of courses in algebra, geometry, and trigonometry and possess a minimum of eight years of approved land surveying experience.
- B. Applicants seeking approval to sit for the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam pursuant to subdivisions A 3 through A 8 of this section may apply board-approved college credits to help meet the experience requirement. The maximum rate of college credit substitution for experience shall be one year of experience credit for each 40 credit hours of board-approved college credits completed. College credits applicable toward the completion of any degree used to satisfy a requirement of subsection A of this section shall not be eligible for experience substitution.
- C. All applicants shall receive the SIT designation upon passing the FS exam, receiving approval from a board reviewed application, and meeting all other board requirements.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.3, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-310. Requirements for the land surveyor and surveyor photogrammetrist licenses.

- A. Land surveyor license.
1. A surveyor-in-training (SIT) who has met the requirements of 18VAC10-20-300 and has a minimum of four years of approved land surveying experience shall be approved to sit for:
 - a. The Principles and Practice of Land Surveying exam;
 - b. The Virginia-specific land surveying exam; and
 - c. The board supplied exam on regulations.
 2. A qualified applicant shall be granted a license to practice land surveying upon passing all three exams and meeting all other board requirements.

B. Surveyor photogrammetrist license.

1. An SIT who has met the requirements of 18VAC10-20-300 and has a minimum of four years of approved photogrammetric surveying or similar remote sensing technology experience shall be approved to sit for the following board-approved exams:
 - a. The board-approved surveyor photogrammetrist exam;
 - b. The Virginia-specific land surveying exam; and
 - c. The board supplied exam on regulations.
2. A qualified applicant shall be granted a license to practice photogrammetric surveying upon passing all three exams and meeting all other board requirements.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.4, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; Errata, 25:7 V.A.R. 1451 December 8, 2008; amended, Virginia Register Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-320. Requirements for the land surveyor B license.

A. An applicant shall:

1. Hold a valid Virginia license as a land surveyor;
2. Present satisfactory evidence of a minimum of two years of land surveying experience that is progressive in complexity in land surveyor B land surveying, as provided in § 54.1-408 of the Code of Virginia, under the direct control and personal supervision of a licensed land surveyor B or professional engineer;
3. Present satisfactory evidence of having passed college-level courses in hydrology and hydraulics that are acceptable to the board; and
4. Pass an exam developed by the board.

B. A qualified applicant shall be issued a land surveyor B license upon passing the board-developed exam.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.5, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-330. Education.

An applicant who is seeking credit for a degree earned from an institution outside of the United States shall have his degree authenticated and evaluated by an education evaluation service approved by the board. The board reserves the right to reject any evaluation submitted by the applicant. Any cost of evaluation shall be borne by the applicant.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.6, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-340. Experience standards.

In order to demonstrate meeting the experience requirements of 18VAC10-20-300, 18VAC-10-20-310, and 18VAC10-20-320, applicants shall document experience that has been gained under the direct control and personal supervision of a licensed land surveyor or licensed surveyor photogrammetrist on the appropriate board-provided forms. Experience shall be verified by a licensed land surveyor or licensed surveyor photogrammetrist in an organization with a surveying practice and will be evaluated by the board in accordance with 18VAC10-20-35.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.7, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-345. References.

Applicants shall submit three references on a board-approved form with the application, all of which shall be from currently licensed land surveyors in a state or other jurisdiction of the United States. In addition to the requirements found in 18VAC10-20-25, the applicant shall only submit references from licensed land surveyors who have personal knowledge of the applicant's surveying experience that demonstrates the applicant's competence and integrity.

Historical Notes: *Derived from Virginia Register Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.*

18VAC10-20-350. Examinations.

- A. Applications for initial licensure shall be received by the board in accordance with the following deadlines:
1. Applicants for the surveyor-in-training designation submitted pursuant to 18VAC10-20-300 A are eligible to sit for the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam.
 2. Upon successful completion of the FS exam, applicants who qualify may apply to sit for the other surveying exams.
 3. All applications for the Virginia-specific exam shall be received in the board's office no later than 130 days prior to the scheduled exam.
- B. The board is a member board of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) and authorizes NCEES to administer the national surveying related exam. Applicants sitting for the exam shall follow NCEES procedures.
- C. The exams for Virginia board regulations, the Virginia-specific, the surveyor photogrammetrist, and the land surveyor B shall be given at times designated by the board.
- D. Unless otherwise stated, applicants approved to sit for an exam must register and submit the required exam fee to be received by the board or the board's designee at a time designated by the board. Applicants not properly registered will not be allowed to sit for the exam.
- E. The exam shall not be reviewed by applicants. Unless authorized by NCEES rules and procedures, exam scores are final and are not subject to change.
- F. Applicants approved to sit for the exam shall be eligible for a period of three years from the date of their initial approval. Applicants who do not pass the exam during their eligibility period are no longer eligible to sit for the exam. To become exam-eligible again, applicants shall reapply to the board, meet all current entry requirements, and demonstrate successful completion of 16 hours of educational activities that meet the requirements of 18VAC10-20-683 E and F.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.8, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008;

18VAC10-20-360. Licensure by comity.

- A. Applicants holding a valid license to practice land surveying in another state or other jurisdiction of the United States may be licensed as a land surveyor in Virginia. To become licensed, applicants shall:
1. Submit to the board verifiable documentation that the education, experience, and exam requirements by which they were first licensed in the original jurisdiction were substantially equivalent to the requirements in Virginia at the same time;
 2. Have passed an exam in another jurisdiction that was substantially equivalent to that approved by the board at the time of the original licensure;
 3. Be in good standing in all jurisdictions where licensed;
 4. Pass the Virginia-specific exam; and
 5. Satisfy all other applicable requirements of this chapter.
- B. Applicants who do not meet the requirements for licensure in Virginia that were in effect at the time of their original licensure shall be required to meet the entry requirements current at the time the completed application for comity is received in the board's office;
- C. Applicants holding a current license to practice land surveying or photogrammetric surveying issued by another state or other jurisdiction of the United States may be licensed in Virginia as a surveyor photogrammetrist provided they meet one of the following criteria:
1. Applicants who were originally licensed prior to December 1, 2009, shall meet the requirements of the board's regulations effective December 1, 2008, and pass the Virginia-specific exam; or
 2. Applicants who were originally licensed on or after December 1, 2009, shall meet the requirements of the board's regulations effective at the time of original licensure and pass the Virginia-specific exam.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.9, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 16, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 1999; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008;

18VAC10-20-370. Minimum standards and procedures for land boundary surveying practice.

- A. The minimum standards and procedures set forth in this section are to be used for land boundary surveys performed in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The application of the professional's seal, signature, and date as required by these regulations shall be evidence that the land boundary survey is correct to the best of the professional's knowledge, information, and belief and complies with the minimum standards and procedures set forth in this chapter.
- B. Research procedure. The professional shall search the land records for the proper description of the land to be surveyed and obtain the description of adjoining land as it pertains to the common boundaries. The professional shall have the additional responsibility to utilize such other available data pertinent to the survey being performed from any other known sources. Evidence found from all known sources, including evidence found in the field, shall be carefully compared in order to aid in the establishment of the correct boundaries of the land being surveyed. The professional shall clearly identify on the plats, maps, and reports inconsistencies found in the research of common boundaries between the land being surveyed and the adjoining land. It is not the intent of this regulation to require the professional to research the question of title or encumbrances on the land involved.
- C. Minimum field procedures.
1. Angular measurement. Angle measurements made for traverse or land boundary survey lines will be made by using a properly adjusted transit-type instrument that allows a direct reading to a minimum accuracy of 20 seconds of arc or equivalent. The number of angles turned at a given station or corner will be the number that, in the judgment of the professional, can be used to substantiate the average true angle considering the condition of the instrument being used and the existing field conditions.
 2. Linear measurement. Distance measurement for the lines of traverse or lines of the land boundary survey shall be made (i) with metal tapes that have been checked and are properly calibrated as to incremental distances or (ii) with properly calibrated electronic distance measuring equipment following instructions and procedures established by the manufacturer of such equipment. All linear measurements shall be reduced to the horizontal plane, and other necessary corrections shall be performed before using such linear measurements for computing purposes.
 3. Field traverse and land boundary closure and accuracy standards. For a land boundary survey located in a rural area, the maximum permissible error of closure for a field traverse shall be one part in 10,000 (1/10,000). The attendant angular closure shall be that which will sustain the one part in 10,000 (1/10,000) maximum error of closure. For a land boundary survey located in an urban area, the maximum permissible error of closure for a traverse shall be one part in 20,000 (1/20,000). The attendant angular

closure shall be that which will sustain the one part in 20,000 (1/20,000) maximum error of closure.

The maximum permissible positional uncertainty based on the 95% confidence level of any independent boundary corner or independent point located on a boundary that has been established by utilizing global positioning systems shall not exceed the positional tolerance of 0.07 feet (or 20 mm %2B 50 ppm).

4. Monumentation. As a requisite for completion of the work product, each land boundary survey of a tract or parcel of land shall be monumented with objects made of permanent material at all corners and changes of direction on the land boundary with the exceptions of meanders, such as meanders of streams, tidelands, lakes, swamps and prescriptive rights-of-way, and each such monument, other than a natural monument, shall, when physically feasible, be identified by a temporary witness marker. Where it is not physically feasible to set actual corners, appropriate reference monuments shall be set, preferably on line, and the location of each shall be shown on the plat or map of the land boundary.

All boundaries, both exterior and interior, of the original survey for any division or partition of land shall be monumented in accordance with the provisions of this subdivision, when such monumentation is not otherwise regulated by the provisions of a local subdivision ordinance.

5. For land boundary surveys providing for a division when only the division, in lieu of the entire parcel, is being surveyed, any new corners established along existing property lines shall require that those existing property lines be established through their entire length. This shall include the recovery or reestablishment of the existing corners for each end of the existing property lines.

D. Office procedures.

1. Computations. The computation of field work data shall be accomplished by using the mathematical routines that produce closures and mathematical results that can be compared with descriptions and data of record. Such computations shall be used to determine the final land boundary of the land involved.
2. Plats and maps. The following information shall be shown on all plats and maps used to depict the results of the land boundary survey:
 - a. The title of the land boundary plat identifying the land surveyed and showing the district, town, and county or city in which the land is located and scale of drawing.
 - b. The name of the owner of record and recording references.

- c. Names of all adjoining owners of record with recording references, or with subdivision name and lot designations and recording references.
- d. Inconsistencies found in the research of common boundaries between the land being surveyed and the adjoining land. The inconsistencies shall be clearly noted by the professional.
- e. Names of highways and roads with route number and widths of right-of-way or distance to the center of the physical pavement and pavement width, name of railroads, streams adjoining, crossing, or in close proximity to the boundary and other prominent or well-known objects that are informative as to the location of the land boundary.
- f. A distance to the nearest road intersection or prominent or well-known object. In cases of remote areas, a scaled position with the latitude and longitude must be provided.
- g. Items crossing any property lines such as, but not limited to, physical encroachments and evidence of easements such as utilities and other physical features pertinent to the boundary of the property.
- h. Bearings of all property lines and meanders to nearest one second of arc or equivalent.
- i. Adequate curve data to accomplish mathematical closures.
- j. Distances of all property lines and meanders to the nearest one hundredth (.01) of a foot or equivalent.
- k. Pursuant to subdivision C 5 of this section, the bearing and distances from the new corners to the existing corners on each end of the existing property lines.
 - l. For property located in rural areas, area to the nearest hundredth (.01) of an acre or equivalent.
 - m. For property located in urban areas, area to the nearest square foot or thousandth (0.001) of an acre or equivalent.
 - n. North arrow and source of meridian used for the survey.
 - o. For interior surveys, a reference bearing and distance to a property corner of an adjoining owner or other prominent object, including intersecting streets or roads.

- p. Tax map designation or geographic parcel identification number if available, for surveyed parcel and adjoining parcels.
- q. Description of each monument found and each monument set by the professional.
- r. A statement that the land boundary survey shown is based on a current field survey or a compilation from deeds, plats, surveys by others, or combination thereof. If the land boundary shown is a compilation from deeds or plats, or a survey by others, the title of the plat shall clearly depict that the plat does not represent a current land boundary survey.
- s. A statement as to whether a current title report has been furnished to the professional.
- t. A statement as to whether any or all easements, encroachments, and improvements are shown on the plat.
- u. Name, address, and contact information for the land surveyor or the registered business.
- v. The professional's seal, signature and date.
3. Metes and bounds description. The professional shall prepare a metes and bounds description in narrative form, if requested by the client or the client's agent, for completion of any newly performed land boundary survey. The description shall reflect all metes and bounds, the area of the property described, all pertinent monumentation, names of record owners or other appropriate identification of all adjoining, and any other data or information deemed as warranted to properly describe the property. Customarily, the metes and bounds shall be recited in a clockwise direction around the property. The professional shall clearly identify in the metes and bounds description any inconsistencies found in the research of common boundaries between land being surveyed and the adjoining land. For subdivisions, the professional shall prepare a metes and bounds description in narrative form for only the exterior boundaries of the property.

No metes and bounds description shall be required for the verification or resetting of the corners of a lot or other parcel of land in accordance with a previously performed land boundary survey, such as a lot in a subdivision where it is unnecessary to revise the record boundaries of the lot.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.10, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 13, Issue 23, eff. October 1, 1997; Volume 18, Issue

7, eff. March 1, 2002; Errata, 18:10 V.A.R. 1342 January 28, 2002; amended, Virginia Register Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-380. Minimum standards and procedures for surveys determining the location of physical improvements; field procedures; office procedures.

- A. The following minimum standards and procedures are to be used for surveys determining the location of physical improvements on any parcel of land or lot containing less than two acres or equivalent (sometimes also known as "building location survey," "house location surveys," "physical surveys," etc.) in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The application of the professional's seal, signature, and date as required by this chapter shall be evidence that the survey determining the location of physical improvements is correct to the best of the professional's knowledge, information, and belief and complies with the minimum standards and procedures set forth in this chapter.
- B. The professional shall determine the position of the lot or parcel of land in accordance with the intent of the original survey and shall set or verify permanent monumentation at each corner of the property, consistent with the monumentation provisions of subdivision C 4 of 18VAC10-20-370. All such monumentation, other than natural monumentation shall, when physically feasible, be identified by temporary witness markers.

When the professional finds discrepancies of sufficient magnitude to warrant, in his opinion, the performance of a land boundary survey (pursuant to the provisions of 18VAC10-20-370), he shall so inform the client or the client's agent that such land boundary survey is deemed warranted as a requisite to completion of the physical improvements survey.

The location of the following shall be determined in the field:

1. Fences in near proximity to the land boundary lines and other fences that may reflect lines of occupancy or possession.
 2. Other physical improvements on the property and all man-made or installed structures, including buildings, stoops, porches, chimneys, visible evidence of underground features (such as manholes, catch basins, telephone pedestals, power transformers, etc.), utility lines, and poles.
 3. Cemeteries, if known or disclosed in the process of performing the survey; roads or traveled ways crossing the property that serve other properties; and streams, creeks, and other defined drainage ways.
 4. Other visible evidence of physical encroachment on the property.
- C. The plat reflecting the work product shall be drawn to scale and shall show the following, unless requested otherwise by the client and so noted on the plat:

1. The bearings and distances for the boundaries and the area of the lot or parcel of land shall be shown in accordance with record data, unless a current, new land boundary survey has been performed in conjunction with the physical improvements survey. If needed to produce a closed polygon, the meander lines necessary to verify locations of streams, tidelands, lakes, and swamps shall be shown. All bearings shall be shown in a clockwise direction, unless otherwise indicated.
2. North arrow, in accordance with record data.
3. Fences in the near proximity to the land boundary lines and other fences that may reflect lines of occupancy or possession.
4. Improvements and other pertinent features on the property as located in the field pursuant to subsection B of this section.
5. Physical encroachment, including fences, across a property line shall be identified and dimensioned with respect to the property line.
6. The closest dimension (to the nearest 0.1 foot or equivalent) from the front property line, side property line, and if pertinent, rear property line to the principal walls of each building. Also, all principal building dimensions (to the nearest 0.1 foot or equivalent).
7. Building street address numbers, as displayed on the premises, or so noted if no numbers are displayed.
8. Stoops, decks, porches, chimneys, balconies, floor projections, and other similar type features.
9. Street names, as posted or currently identified and as per record data if different from posted name.
10. Distance to nearest intersection from a property corner, based upon record data. If not available from record data, distance to nearest intersection may be determined from best available data, and so qualified.
11. Building restriction or setback lines per restrictive covenants if shown or noted on the record subdivision plat.
12. The caption or title of the plat shall include the type of survey performed; lot number, block number, section number, and name of subdivision, as appropriate, or if not in a subdivision, the names of the record owner; town, county, or city; date of survey; and scale of drawing.

13. Adjoining property identification.
 14. Easements and other encumbrances set forth on the record subdivision plat, and those otherwise known to the professional.
 15. A statement as to whether or not a current title report has been furnished to the professional.
 16. Inconsistencies found in the research or field work of common boundaries between the land being surveyed and the adjoining land shall be clearly noted.
 17. Name, address, and contact information for the individual or entity for whom the survey is being performed.
 18. Professional's seal, signature, and date.
 19. Name, address, and contact information for the land surveyor or registered business.
- D. In performing a physical improvements survey, a professional shall not be required to set corner monumentation on any property when:
1. It is otherwise required to be set pursuant to the provisions of a local subdivision ordinance as mandated by § 15.2-2240 of the Code of Virginia or by subdivision A 7 of § 15.2-2241 of the Code of Virginia;
 2. Eventual placement is covered by a surety bond, cash escrow, set-aside letter, letter of credit, or other performance guaranty;
 3. Exempt by § 54.1-407 of the Code of Virginia.
- E. A professional performing a physical improvements survey when monumentation is not required as stated in subsection D of this section shall clearly note on the plat "no corner markers set," the reason why it is not required, and the name of guarantors.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.11, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 13, Issue 23, eff. October 1, 1997; Volume 18, Issue 7, eff. March 1, 2002; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-382. Minimum standards and procedures for surveys determining topography; field

procedures; office procedures.

- A. The minimum standards and procedures set forth in this section are to be used for topographic surveys performed in the Commonwealth of Virginia pursuant to Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia. The application of the professional's seal, signature, and date as required by this chapter shall be evidence that the topographic survey is correct to the best of the professional's knowledge and belief and complies with the minimum standards and procedures.
- B. Minimum field and office procedures. The following information shall be shown on, or contained in, all plats, maps, or digital geospatial data including metadata used to depict the results of the topographic survey:
1. Physical improvements on the property, all man-made or installed structures, as well as visible evidence of underground features (such as manholes, catch basins, telephone pedestals, power transformers, etc.), and utility lines and poles shall be shown or depicted when they are visible based on the methodology and scale. If the methodology or scale prevents depiction of the improvements as described in this subdivision, then notice shall be clearly stated on or contained in the map, plat, or digital geospatial data including metadata indicating the improvements that are not depicted.
 2. Elevations shall be provided as spot elevations, contours, or digital terrain models.
 3. Onsite, or in close proximity, benchmarks shall be established with reference to vertical datum, preferably North American Vertical Datum (NAVD), and shown in the correct location.
 4. The title of the topographic survey identifying the land surveyed and showing the state, county, or city in which property is located.
 5. Name, address, and contact information of the individual or entity for whom the survey is being performed.
 6. Name, address, and contact information for the land surveyor or registered business.
 7. Date, graphic scale, numerical scale, and contour interval of plat, map, or digital geospatial data including metadata.
 8. North arrow and source of meridian used for the survey.
 9. Names or route numbers of highways, streets and named waterways shall be shown.

10. The horizontal and vertical unit of measurement, coordinate system, and data, including adjustments if applicable.
11. A statement, in the following form, shall be shown on or contained in plats, maps, or digital geospatial data including metadata:

This _____ (provide description of the project) was completed under the direct and responsible charge of _____ (Name of Professional) from an actual Ground or Remote Sensing (check the one that is applicable) survey made under my supervision; that the imagery and/or original data was obtained on _____ (Date); and that this plat, map, or digital geospatial data including metadata meets minimum accuracy standards unless otherwise noted.

- C. Minimum positional accuracies shall be met in accordance with the tables in subdivisions 1, 2, and 3 of this subsection. These tables are not intended to be acceptable in all situations, and the professional shall be responsible to perform the work to the appropriate quality and extent that is prudent or warranted under the existing field conditions and circumstances. Metric or other unit of measurements shall meet an equivalent positional accuracy. Map or plat scales, or contour intervals, other than those defined in these tables shall meet an equivalent positional accuracy. The minimum positional accuracy tables are as follows:

1. Scale and contour interval combinations.

Map or Plat Scale	Contour Interval
1" = 20'	1 or 2 feet
1" = 30'	1 or 2 feet
1" = 40'	1 or 2 feet
1" = 50'	1 or 2 feet
1" = 100'	1 or 2 feet
1" = 200'	2, 4, or 5 feet
1" = 400'	4, 5, or 10 feet

2. Vertical accuracy standards.

	Contours - Vertical Positional Accuracy	Spot Elevations - Vertical Positional Accuracy
Contour line 1' interval	± 0.60 feet	± 0.30 feet
Contour line 2' interval	± 1.19 feet	± 0.60 feet
Contour line 4' interval	± 2.38 feet	± 1.19 feet
Contour line 5' interval	± 2.98 feet	± 1.49 feet
Contour line 10' interval	± 5.96 feet	± 2.98 feet

Positional Accuracy is given at the 95% confidence level.

3. Horizontal accuracy standards.

Well defined ground points - Horizontal (Radial) Positional Accuracy		
Map or Plat Scale	Absolute Horizontal Positional Accuracy	Relative Horizontal Positional Accuracy
1" = 20'	± 0.8 feet	± 0.20 feet
1" = 30'	± 1.1 feet	± 0.30 feet
1" = 40'	± 1.5 feet	± 0.40 feet
1" = 50'	± 1.9 feet	± 0.50 feet
1" = 100'	± 3.8 feet	± 1.00 feet
1" = 200'	± 7.6 feet	± 2.00 feet
1" = 400'	± 15.2 feet	± 4.00 feet

Positional Accuracy is given at the 95% confidence level.

Historical Notes:

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; amended, Virginia Register Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016.

18VAC10-20-390. Geodetic surveys.

All geodetic surveys including, but not limited to, the determination and publication of horizontal and vertical values utilizing Global Positioning Systems (GPS), which relate to the practice of land surveying as defined in § 54.1-400 of the Code of Virginia, shall be performed under the direct control and personal supervision of a professional as defined in Part I (18VAC10-20-10 et seq.) of this chapter.

Historical Notes:

Derived from VR130-01-2 § 5.12, eff. October 18, 1985; amended, Virginia Register Volume 4, Issue 8, eff. March 1, 1988; Volume 6, Issue 20, eff. September 1, 1990; Volume 7, Issue 14, eff. May 8, 1991; Volume 8, Issue 7, eff. February 1, 1992; Volume 10, Issue 15, eff. May 19, 1994; Volume 23, Issue 1, eff. February 1, 2007; Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016.

18VAC10-20-392. Photogrammetric surveys.

The use of photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology to perform any part of the practice of land surveying as defined in Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia shall be performed under the direct control and supervision of a licensed land surveyor or a licensed surveyor photogrammetrist.

Historical Notes:

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; Volume 37, Issue 24, eff. September 2, 2021.

18VAC10-20-395. Standard of care.

In no event may the requirements contained in 18VAC10-20-370 through 18VAC10-20-392 be interpreted or construed to require the professional to perform work of a lesser quality or quantity than that which is prudent or warranted under the existing field conditions and circumstances.

Historical Notes:

Derived from Virginia Register Volume 25, Issue 3, eff. December 1, 2008; amended, Virginia Register Volume 32, Issue 6, eff. January 1, 2016.

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NOTICE

Included in this booklet are relevant excerpts from the *Code of Virginia*. Please note that the Virginia General Assembly is responsible for creating and amending the *Code*, not the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects. The version contained herein contains all changes, if any, that have been made by the General Assembly through the 2021 session. Any changes made during the 2021 session became effective September 2, 2021, unless otherwise noted. It is your responsibility to stay informed of revisions to the regulations and the statutes governing your profession or occupation. Please consult the General Assembly or your local library for annual changes.

TITLE 54.1.

CHAPTER 4.

ARCHITECTS, ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS AND INTERIOR DESIGNERS.

Article 1.		54.1-404.2. Continuing education.
Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Landscape Architects.		54.1-405. Examinations and issuance of licenses and certificates.
54.1-400. Definitions.		54.1-406. License required.
54.1-401. Exemptions.		54.1-407. Land surveying.
54.1-402. Further exemptions from license requirements for architects and professional engineers.		54.1-408. Practice of land surveying; subdivisions.
54.1-402.1. State and local government employees; license exemptions for persons employed prior to March 8, 1992.		54.1-409. Landscape architecture.
54.1-402.2. Cease and desist orders for unlicensed activity; civil penalty.		54.1-410. Other building laws not affected; duties of public officials.
54.1-403. Board members and officers; quorum.		54.1-411. Organization for practice; registration.
54.1-404. Regulations; code of professional practice and conduct.		Article 2.
54.1-404.1. Education and experience requirements continued.		Interior Designers.
		54.1-412. Applicability.
		54.1-413. Examination.
		54.1-414. Issuance of certification; waiver of examination.
		54.1-415. Repealed.

Article 1.

Architects, Engineers, Surveyors and Landscape Architects.

§ 54.1-400. Definitions.

As used in this chapter unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Architect" means a person who, by reason of his [in depth](#) knowledge of the mathematical and physical sciences, and the principles of architecture and architectural design, acquired by professional education, practical experience, or both, is qualified to engage in the practice of architecture and whose competence has been attested by the Board through licensure as an architect. [SEE ENGINEERING for duplication.](#)

The "practice of architecture" means any service wherein the principles and methods of architecture are applied, such as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning and design, ~~and includes the responsible administration of construction contracts,~~ in connection with any private or public buildings, structures or projects, or the related equipment or accessories.

"Board" means the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects.

"Certified interior designer" means a design professional who meets the criteria of education, experience, and testing in the rendering of interior design services established by the Board through certification as an interior designer.

"Improvements to real property" means any valuable addition or amelioration made to land and generally whatever is erected on or affixed to land which is intended to enhance its value, beauty or utility, or adapt it to new or further purposes. Examples of improvements to real property include, but are not limited to, structures, buildings, machinery, equipment, electrical systems, mechanical systems, roads, ~~and~~ water and wastewater treatment and distribution systems, ~~and stormwater improvement projects.~~ [PARKING LOT should this include more for CIDs?](#)

"Interior design" by a certified interior designer means any service rendered wherein the principles and methodology of interior design are applied in connection with the identification, research, and creative solution of problems pertaining to the function and quality of the interior environment. Such services relative to interior spaces shall include the preparation of documents for nonload-bearing interior construction, furnishings, fixtures, and equipment in order to enhance and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

"Land surveyor" means a person who, by reason of his [in depth](#) knowledge of the several sciences and of the principles of land surveying, and of the planning and design of land developments acquired by practical experience and formal education, is qualified to engage in the practice of land surveying, and whose competence has been attested by the Board through licensure as a land surveyor.

The "practice of land surveying" includes surveying of areas for a determination or correction, a description, the establishment or reestablishment of internal and external land boundaries, or the determination of topography, contours or location of physical improvements, and also includes the planning of land and subdivisions thereof. The term "planning of land and subdivisions thereof" shall include, but not be limited to, the preparation of incidental plans and profiles for roads, streets and sidewalks, grading, drainage on the surface, culverts and erosion control measures, with reference to

existing state or local standards.

"Landscape architect" means a person who, by reason of his [special-in depth](#) knowledge of natural, physical and mathematical sciences, and the principles and methodology of landscape architecture and landscape architectural design acquired by professional education, practical experience, or both, is qualified to engage in the practice of landscape architecture and whose competence has been attested by the Board through licensure as a landscape architect.

The "practice of landscape architecture" by a licensed landscape architect means any service wherein the principles and methodology of landscape architecture are applied in consultation, evaluation, planning (including the preparation and filing of sketches, drawings, plans and specifications) and responsible

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supervision or administration of contracts relative to projects principally directed at the functional and aesthetic use of land.

"Professional engineer" means a person who, ~~is qualified to practice engineering~~ by reason of his ~~special in depth~~ knowledge and use of mathematical, physical and engineering sciences and the principles and methods of engineering analysis and design acquired by engineering education and experience, and whose competence has been attested by the Board through licensure as a professional engineer.

The "practice of engineering" means any service wherein the principles and methods of engineering are applied to, but are not necessarily limited to, the following areas: consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning and design of public or private utilities, structures, machines, equipment, processes, ~~and transportation systems and work systems, including responsible administration of construction contracts.~~

~~The term "practice of engineering" shall not include the service or maintenance of existing electrical or mechanical systems.~~

"Residential wastewater" means sewage (i) generated by residential or accessory uses, ~~not containing storm water or industrial influent, and having no other toxic, or hazardous constituents not routinely found in residential wastewater flows, or (ii) as certified by a professional engineer.~~

"Responsible charge" means the direct control and ~~personal~~ supervision of the practice of architecture, professional engineering, landscape architecture, or land surveying. ~~PARKING LOT— add interior designers?~~

§ 54.1-401. Exemptions.

The following shall be exempted from the provisions of this chapter:

1. Practice of professional engineering ~~and land surveying~~ by a licensed architect when such practice is incidental to ~~what may be properly considered an architectural undertaking project.~~
2. Practice of architecture ~~and land surveying~~ by a licensed professional engineer when such practice is incidental to an engineering project.
- ~~2.~~
3. ~~Practice as a professional engineer, architect or landscape architect in this Commonwealth by any person not a resident of and having no established place of business in this Commonwealth, or by any person resident in this Commonwealth whose arrival is recent, provided that such person is otherwise qualified for such professional service in another state or country and qualifies in Virginia and files prior to commencement of such practice an application, with the required fee, for licensure as a professional engineer, architect or landscape architect. The exemption shall continue until the Board has had sufficient time to consider the application and grant or deny licensure or certification.~~
4. ~~3.~~ Engaging in the practice of professional engineering as an employee under a licensed professional engineer, engaging in the practice of architecture as an employee under a licensed architect, engaging in the practice of landscape architecture as an employee under a licensed landscape architect, or engaging in the practice of land surveying as an employee under a licensed land surveyor; ~~provided, that such practice shall not include responsible charge of design or supervision.~~
5. ~~4.~~ Practice of professional engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, or land surveying solely as an employee of the United States ~~government~~. However, ~~the an~~ employee ~~of the United States government~~ shall not be exempt from other provisions of this chapter if he furnishes

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advisory service for compensation to the public in connection with engineering, architectural, landscape architecture, or land surveying matters.

~~6. Practice of architecture or professional engineering by an individual, firm or corporation on property owned or leased by such individual, firm or corporation, unless the public health or safety is involved.~~

~~7.5~~ Except as provided by regulations promulgated by the State Corporation Commission pursuant to § 56-257.2:1, the practice of engineering solely as an employee of a corporation

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engaged in interstate commerce, or as an employee of a public service corporation, by rendering such corporation engineering service in connection with its facilities which are subject to regulation by the State Corporation Commission, provided that corporation employees who furnish advisory service to the public in connection with engineering matters other than in connection with such employment shall not be exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

§ 54.1-402. Further exemptions from license requirements for architects, professional engineers, ~~and~~ land surveyors, ~~and~~ landscape architects.

~~A.~~ No license as an architect or professional engineer shall be required pursuant to § 54.1-406 for

persons who prepare plans, specifications, documents and designs that do not have any unique design of any structural, mechanical, and/or electrical elements for the following, provided any such plans, specifications, documents or designs bear the name and address of the author and his occupation:

1. Single- and two-family homes, townhouses and multifamily dwellings not exceeding three stories, excluding electrical and mechanical systems, ~~not exceeding three stories~~; or
2. All farm structures used primarily in the production, handling or storage of agricultural products or implements, including, but not limited to, structures used for the handling, processing, housing or storage of crops, feeds, supplies, equipment, animals or poultry; or
3. Buildings and structures classified with respect to use as business (Use Group B) and mercantile (Use Group M), as provided in the Uniform Statewide Building Code and churches with an occupant load of 100 or less, excluding electrical and mechanical systems, where such building or structure does not exceed 5,000 square feet in total net floor area, or three stories; or Buildings and structures classified with respect to use as factory and industrial (Use Group F) and storage (Use Group S) as provided in the Uniform Statewide Building Code, excluding electrical and mechanical systems, where such building or structure does not exceed 15,000 square feet in total net floor area, or three stories; or
4. ~~Additions, remodeling or interior design~~ without a change in occupancy or occupancy load and without modification to the structural system or a change in access or exit patterns or increase in fire hazard; or
5. Electric installations which comply with all applicable codes and which do not exceed 600 volts and 800 amps, where work is designed and performed under the direct supervision of a person licensed as a master's level electrician or Class A electrical contractor by written examination, and where such installation is not contained in any structure exceeding three stories or located in any of the following categories: PARKING LOT – PEs AND LSs
 - a. Use Group A-1 theaters which exceed assembly of 100 persons;
 - b. Use Group A-4 except churches;
 - c. Use Group I, institutional buildings, except day care nurseries and clinics without life-support systems; or
6. Plumbing and mechanical systems using packaged mechanical equipment, such as equipment of catalogued standard design which has been coordinated and tested by the manufacturer, which comply with all applicable codes. These mechanical systems shall not exceed gauge pressures of 125 pounds per square inch, other than refrigeration, or temperatures other than flue gas of 300 degrees F (150 degrees C) where such work is designed and performed under the direct supervision of a person licensed as a master's level plumber, master's level heating, air

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conditioning and ventilating worker, or Class A contractor in those specialties by written examination. In addition, such installation may not be contained in any structure exceeding three stories or located in any structure which is defined as to its use in any of the following categories:

- a. Use Group A-1 theaters which exceed assembly of 100 persons;
- b. Use Group A-4 except churches;
- c. Use Group I, institutional buildings, except day care nurseries and clinics without life-support systems; or PARKING LOT – PEs AND LSs

7. The preparation of shop drawings, field drawings and specifications for components by a contractor who will supervise the installation and where the shop drawings and specifications ~~(i)~~ will be reviewed by the licensed professional engineer or architect responsible for the project ~~or~~

~~(ii) are otherwise exempted; or~~

~~8. Buildings, structures, or electrical and mechanical installations which are not otherwise exempted but which are of standard design, provided they bear the certification of a professional engineer or architect registered or licensed in another state, and provided that the design is adapted for the specific location and for conformity with local codes, ordinances and regulations, and is so certified by a professional engineer or architect licensed in Virginia; or~~

~~Construction by a state agency or political subdivision not exceeding \$75,000 in value keyed to the January 1, 1991, Consumer Price Index (CPI) and not otherwise requiring a licensed architect, engineer, or land surveyor by an adopted code and maintenance by that state agency or political subdivision of water distribution, sewage collection, storm drainage systems, sidewalks, streets, curbs, gutters, culverts, and other facilities normally and customarily constructed and maintained by the public works department of the state agency or political subdivision; or CHANGE BACK?~~

~~9-8.~~ Conventional and alternative onsite sewage systems receiving residential wastewater, under the authority of Chapter 6 of Title 32.1, designed by a licensed onsite soil evaluator, which utilize packaged equipment, such as equipment of catalogued standard design that has been coordinated and tested by the manufacturer, and complies with all applicable codes, provided (i) the flow is less than 1,000 gallons per day; and (ii) if a pump is included, (a) it shall not include multiple downhill runs and must terminate at a positive elevational change; (b) the discharge end is open and not pressurized; (c) the static head does not exceed 50 feet; and (d) the force main length does not exceed 500 feet.

~~B. No person shall be exempt from licensure as an architect or engineer who engages in the preparation of plans, specifications, documents or designs for:~~

~~1. Any unique design of structural elements for floors, walls, roofs or foundations; or~~

~~2. Any building or structure classified with respect to its use as high hazard (Use Group H).~~

~~C.B.~~ Persons utilizing photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology shall not be required to be licensed as a land surveyor pursuant to subsection B of § 54.1-404 or 54.1-406 to:

(i) determine topography or contours, or to depict physical improvements, provided such maps or other documents shall not be used for the design, modification, or construction of improvements to real property or for flood plain determination, or (ii) graphically show existing property lines and boundaries on maps or other documents provided such depicted property lines and boundaries shall only be used for general information.

Any determination of topography or contours, or depiction of physical improvements, utilizing photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology by persons not licensed as a land surveyor pursuant to § 54.1-406 shall not show any property monumentation or property metes and

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bounds, nor provide any measurement showing the relationship of any physical improvements to any property line or boundary.
Any person not licensed pursuant to subsection B of § 54.1-404 or 54.1-406 preparing documentation pursuant to subsection C of § 54.1-402 shall note the following on such documentation: "Any determination of topography or contours, or any depiction of physical improvements, property lines or boundaries is for general information only and shall not be used for the design, modification, or construction of improvements to real property or for flood plain determination."

~~D.C.~~ Terms used in this section, and not otherwise defined in this chapter, shall have the meanings provided in the currently adopted Uniform Statewide Building Code ~~in effect on July 1, 1982~~, including any subsequent amendments.

§ 54.1-402.1. State and local government employees; ~~license exemptions for persons employed prior to March 8, 1992.~~

~~Any person engaged in the practice of engineering, architecture, or land surveying as those terms are defined in § 54.1-400 as a regular, full-time, salaried employee of the Commonwealth or any political subdivision of the Commonwealth on March 8, 1992, who remains employed by any state agency or political subdivision shall be exempt until June 30, 2010, from the licensure requirements of § 54.1-406 provided the employee does not furnish advisory service for compensation to the public or as an independent contracting party in this Commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof in connection with engineering, architectural, or land surveying matters.~~

A. The chief administrative officer of any agency of the Commonwealth or political subdivision thereof employing persons engaged in the practice of engineering, architecture, ~~or land surveying~~, or landscape architecture as regular, full-time, salaried employees shall have the authority and responsibility to determine the engineering, architecture, land surveying, and landscape architecture ~~and land surveying~~ positions which have responsible charge of engineering, architectural, land surveying, or landscape architecture decisions, ~~or land surveying decisions~~.

B. Notwithstanding these provisions, any state agency or political subdivision of the Commonwealth unable to employ a qualified licensed engineer, architect, land surveyor, or landscape architect to fill a responsible charge position, after reasonable and unsuccessful search, may fill the position with an unlicensed person upon the determination by the chief administrative officer of the agency or political subdivision that the person, by virtue of education, experience, and expertise, can perform the work required of the position.
(this was moved from 54.1-406)

§ 54.1-402.2. Cease and desist orders for unlicensed activity; civil penalty.

A. Notwithstanding § 54.1-111, the Board may issue an order requiring any person to cease and desist from (i) practicing or offering to practice as an architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect when such person is not licensed or registered **PARKING LOT** by the Board in accordance with this chapter or (ii) holding himself out as a certified interior designer when such person is not certified or registered by the Board in accordance with this chapter. The order shall be effective upon its entry and shall become final unless such person files an appeal with the Board in accordance with the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.) within 21 days of the date of entry of the order.

B. If the person fails to cease and desist the unlicensed, uncertified, or unregistered activity after entry of an order in accordance with subsection A, the Board may refer the matter for enforcement pursuant to § 54.1-306.

C. Any person engaging in unlicensed, uncertified, or unregistered activity shall be subject to further proceedings before the Board and the Board may impose a civil penalty not to exceed

\$2,500. Any penalties collected under this section shall be paid to the Literary Fund after deduction

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of the administrative costs of the Board in furtherance of this section.

D. Nothing contained in this section shall apply to any person engaged in activity exempted from the provisions of this chapter. _____

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A.

§ 54.1-403. Board members and officers; quorum.

The Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects shall be composed of 15 members as follows: three architects, three professional engineers, three land surveyors, two landscape architects, two certified interior designers, and two nonlegislative citizen members.

Except for the nonlegislative citizen members appointed in accordance with § 54.1-107, Board members

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shall have actively practiced or taught their professions for at least 10 years prior to their appointments. The terms of Board members shall be four years. The Board shall elect a president and vice-president from its membership. Nine Board members, consisting of at least two-one professional engineers, two-one architects, two-one land surveyors, one landscape architect, one certified interior designer and one nonlegislative citizen member, shall constitute a quorum.

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§ 54.1-404. Regulations; code of professional practice and conduct.

A. The Board shall promulgate regulations not inconsistent with this chapter governing its own organization, the professional qualifications of applicants, the requirements necessary for passing examinations in whole or in part, the proper conduct of its examinations, the implementation of exemptions from license requirements, and the proper discharge of its duties.

B. The Board may impose different licensure requirements for a limited area of the practice of land surveying for persons who determine topography, contours, or depiction of physical improvements utilizing photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology who are not otherwise exempt pursuant to subsection C of § 54.1-402. Any such requirements shall include reasonable provisions for licensure without examination of persons deemed by the Board to be qualified to practice provide photogrammetric and remote sensing surveying services.

Any license issued pursuant to this subsection shall be distinctive, reflecting the limited area of the practice of land surveying so authorized, and considered as a land surveyor and the practice of land surveying for the purposes of §§ 13.1-549, 13.1-1111, 54.1-402, 54.1-405, 54.1-406 and 54.1-411. Nothing herein shall be construed to authorize a person issued a limited license pursuant to this subsection to practice beyond such limited area of practice. The establishment of any such limited license shall not prohibit any duly qualified land surveyor licensed pursuant to § 54.1-400 from engaging in any such limited area of practice.

C. The regulations may include a code of professional practice and conduct, the provisions of which shall serve any or all of the following purposes:

1. The protection of the public health, safety and welfare;
2. The maintenance of standards of objectivity, truthfulness and reliability in public statements by professionals;
3. The limitation of practice of professional service shall be limited to the area of competence of each professional.
- 3.4. The avoidance by professionals of conflicts of interests;
- 4.5. The prohibition of solicitation or acceptance of work by professionals on any basis other than their qualifications for the work offered;
- 5.6. The restriction of by the professional in the conduct of his professional activity from engaging in illegal or dishonest activities or association associating with any person engaging in illegal or dishonest activities; or
The limitation of professional service to the area of competence of each professional.

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§ 54.1-404.2. Continuing education.

A. The Board shall promulgate regulations governing continuing education requirements for architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, and landscape architects licensed by the Board. Such Each profession shall determine the regulations shall require requirements for continuing education the completion of the equivalent of 16 hours per biennium of Board approved continuing education

activities as a prerequisite to the renewal or reinstatement of a license issued to an architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect. The Board shall establish criteria for continuing education activities including, but not limited to (i) content and subject matter; (ii) curriculum; (iii) standards and procedures for the approval of activities, courses, sponsors, and instructors; (iv) methods of instruction for continuing education courses; and (v) the computation of course credit.

B. The Board may grant exemptions or waive or reduce the number of continuing education

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hours required in cases of certified illness or undue hardship.

§ 54.1-405. Examinations and issuance of licenses and certificates.

A. The Board or its designee shall hold at least one examination each year, at times and locations designated by the Board. A license to practice as a professional engineer, an architect, a land surveyor, or a landscape architect shall be issued to every applicant who complies with the requirements of this chapter and the regulations of the Board. A license shall be valid during the life of the holder so long as it is renewed as required by regulation and has not been unless revoked or suspended by the Board. A license holder must register with the Board to practice in the Commonwealth. The licenses shall be signed by at least four members of the Board.

B. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 54.1-111, a license holder who has retired from practice may use the designation granted by such license, followed by the word "emeritus," without possessing a current registration from the Board provided (i) the license has not been revoked or suspended by the Board and (ii) the license holder does not practice or offer to practice architecture, engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture.

§ 54.1-406. License required.

~~D.A.~~ Unless exempted by § 54.1-401, or 54.1-402, or 54.1-402.1, a person shall hold a valid license prior to engaging in the practice of architecture, or engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture which includes design, consultation, evaluation or analysis and involves proposed or existing improvements to real property. Unless exempted by § 54.1-401, 54.1-402, or 54.1-402.1, a person shall hold a valid license prior to engaging in the practice of land surveying.

~~E.B.~~ Unless exempted by § 54.1-402, any person or business entity, partnership, corporation or other entity offering to practice architecture, engineering, or land surveying, or landscape architecture without being registered or licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, shall be subject to the provisions of § 54.1-111 of this title.

~~F.C.~~ Any person or business entity, partnership, corporation or other entity which is not licensed or registered to practice in accordance with this chapter and which advertises or promotes through the use of the words "architecture," "engineering," or "land surveying" or "landscape architecture" or any modification or derivative thereof in its name or description of its business activity in a manner that indicates or implies that it practices or offers to practice architecture, engineering, or land surveying, or landscape architecture as defined in this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of § 54.1-111.

~~G.~~ Notwithstanding these provisions, any state agency or political subdivision of the Commonwealth unable to employ a qualified licensed engineer, architect, or land surveyor to fill a responsible charge position, after reasonable and unsuccessful search, may fill the position with an unlicensed person upon the determination by the chief administrative officer of the agency or political subdivision that the person, by virtue of education, experience, and expertise, can perform the work required of the position.

~~H.D.~~ Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, a contractor who is licensed pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 11 (§ 54.1-1100 et seq.) of this title shall not be required to be licensed or registered to practice in accordance with this chapter when bidding upon or negotiating design-build contracts or performing services other than architectural, engineering, or land surveying, or landscape architecture services under a design-build contract. The architectural, engineering, or land surveying, or landscape architecture services offered or rendered in connection with such contracts shall only be rendered by an architect,

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professional engineer ~~or~~ land surveyor, or landscape architect licensed in accordance with this chapter.

§ 54.1-407. Land surveying.

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Notwithstanding the provisions of any regulation promulgated by the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects, a land surveyor shall not be required by Board regulations to set corner monumentation or perform a boundary survey on any property when (i) corner monumentation has been set or is otherwise required to be set pursuant to the provisions of a local subdivision ordinance as mandated by § 15.2-2240 or subdivision 7 of § 15.2-2241, or where the placing of such monumentation is covered by a surety bond, cash escrow, set-aside letter, letter of credit, or other performance guaranty, or (ii) the purpose of the survey is to determine the location of the physical improvements on the said property only, if the prospective mortgagor or legal agent ordering the survey agrees in writing that such corner monumentation shall not be provided in connection with any such physical improvements survey. The provisions of this section shall apply only to property located within the Counties of Arlington, Fairfax, King George, Loudoun, Prince William, Spotsylvania and Stafford; and the Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Fredericksburg, Manassas and Manassas Park. [Vickie to let us know whether or not to strike this.](#)

§ 54.1-408. Practice of land surveying; subdivisions.

In addition to the work defined in § 54.1-400, a land surveyor may, for subdivisions, site plans and plans of development only, prepare plats, plans and profiles for roads, storm drainage systems, sanitary sewer extensions, and water line extensions, and may perform other engineering incidental to such work, but excluding the design of pressure hydraulic, structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. The work included in this section shall involve the use and application of standards prescribed by local or state authorities. The land surveyor shall pass an examination given by the Board in addition to that required for the licensing of land surveyors as defined in § 54.1-400. Any land surveyor previously licensed pursuant to subdivision (3) (b) of former § 54-17.1 may continue to do the work herein described without further examination.

Except as provided, nothing contained herein or in the definition of "practice of land surveying" in § 54.1-400 shall be construed to include engineering design and the preparation of plans and specifications for construction.

§ 54.1-409. Practice of landscape architecture; license required. [Parking lot for LA input](#)

A. [Beginning July 1, 2010, a](#) person who engages in the practice of landscape architecture as defined in § 54.1-400 and who holds himself out as a landscape architect shall hold a valid license prior to engaging in such practice. Resulting site plans, plans of development, preliminary plats, drawings, technical reports, and specifications, submitted under the seal, stamp or certification of a licensed landscape architect, shall be accepted for review by local and state authorities, in connection with both public and private projects. However, no landscape architect, unless he is also licensed as a land surveyor, shall provide boundary surveys, plats or descriptions for any purpose, except in conjunction with or under the supervision of an appropriately licensed professional, who shall provide certification, as required. Landscape architects shall only engage in projects which they are qualified to undertake based on education, training, and examination and in accordance with the practice of landscape architecture as defined in § 54.1-400.

[Any person who \(i\) holds a valid certification as a landscape architect issued by the Board on June 30, 2010, and \(ii\) is a Virginia certified landscape architect in good standing with the Board, shall be licensed to practice landscape architecture as of July 1, 2010.](#)

B. Nothing contained herein or in the definition of "practice of landscape architecture" or in the definition of "landscape architect" in § 54.1-400 shall be construed to restrict or otherwise affect the right of any architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, nurseryman, landscape designer, landscape contractor, land planner, community planner, landscape gardener, golf course designer, turf maintenance specialist, irrigation designer, horticulturist, arborist, or any other similar person from engaging in their occupation or the practice of their

profession or from rendering any service in connection therewith that is not otherwise proscribed.

C. Any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity that is not licensed to practice landscape architecture in accordance with the provisions of this chapter and that advertises or promotes through the use of the words "landscape architecture" or any modification or derivation thereof in its name or description of its business activity in a manner that indicates or implies that it practices or offers to practice landscape architecture as defined in this chapter shall be subject to the provisions of § 54.1-111. Nothing contained herein or in the definitions of "landscape architect" or "practice of landscape architecture" in § 54.1-400 shall be construed to restrict or otherwise affect the right of any person undertaking the occupations or professions referred in subsection B of this section to engage in their occupation, or the practice of their profession, or from rendering any service in connection therewith that is not otherwise proscribed.

Any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity offering to practice landscape architecture without being registered or licensed to practice landscape architecture in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, shall be subject to the provisions of § 54.1-111. Nothing contained herein or in the definitions of "landscape architect" and "practice of landscape architecture" in § 54.1-400 shall be construed to restrict or otherwise affect the right of any person undertaking the occupations or professions referenced in subsection B of this section to engage in their occupation, or the practice of their profession, or from rendering any service in connection therewith that is not otherwise proscribed.

§ 54.1-410. Other building laws not affected; duties of public officials.

A. Nothing contained in this chapter or in the regulations of the Board shall be construed to limit the authority of any public official authorized by law to approve plans, specifications or calculations in connection with improvements to real property. This shall include, but shall not be limited to, the authority of officials of local building departments as defined in § 36-97, to require pursuant to the Uniform Statewide Building Code, state statutes, local ordinances, or code requirements that such work be prepared by a person licensed or certified pursuant to this chapter.

B. Any public body authorized by law to require that plans, specifications or calculations be prepared in connection with improvements to real property shall establish a procedure to ensure that such plans, specifications or calculations be prepared by an architect, professional engineer, land surveyor or landscape architect licensed or authorized pursuant to this chapter in any case in which the exemptions contained in §§ 54.1-401, 54.1-402 or § 54.1-402.1 are not applicable.

Drafting of permits, reviewing of plans or inspection of facilities for compliance with an adopted code or standard by any public body or its designated agent shall not require the services of an architect, professional engineer, land surveyor or landscape architect licensed pursuant to this chapter.

§ 54.1-410.1. Prerequisites for obtaining business license.

Any ~~architect or professional engineer person or business entity regulated by the board~~ applying for or renewing a business license in any locality in accordance with Chapter 37 (§ 58.1-3700 et seq.) of Title 58.1 shall furnish prior to the issuance or renewal of such business license either (i) satisfactory proof that he is duly licensed under the terms of this chapter or (ii) a written statement, supported by an affidavit, that he is not subject to licensure as an architect or professional engineer pursuant to this chapter.

No locality shall issue or renew or allow the issuance or renewal of such license unless the ~~architect or professional engineer person or business entity regulated by the board~~ has furnished his license number issued pursuant to this chapter or evidence

of being exempt from the provisions of this chapter.

§ 54.1-411. Organization for practice; registration.

A. Nothing contained in this chapter or in the regulations of the Board shall prohibit the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture or the offering of the title of certified interior designer by any corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, or other entity provided such practice or certification is rendered through its officers, principals or employees who are correspondingly licensed or certified. No individual practicing architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture, or offering the title of certified interior designer under the provisions of this section shall be relieved of responsibility that may exist for services performed by reason of his employment or other relationship with such entity. No such corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, limited liability company, or other entity, or any affiliate thereof, shall, on its behalf or on behalf of any such licensee or certificate holder, nor any licensee or certificate holder, be prohibited from (i) purchasing or maintaining insurance against any such liability; (ii) entering into any indemnification agreement with respect to any such liability; (iii) receiving indemnification as a result of any such liability; or (iv) limiting liability through contract.

B. Any person or business entity offering or rendering the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture or offering the title of certified interior designer shall register with the Board. ~~Except for professional corporations holding a certificate of authority issued in accordance with § 13.1-549, professional limited liability companies holding a certificate of authority issued in accordance with § 13.1-1111, and sole proprietorships that do not employ other individuals for which licensing is required, any person, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, or other entity offering or rendering the practice of architecture, engineering, land surveying, landscape architecture or offering the title of certified interior designer shall register with the Board.~~ As a condition of registration, the entity shall name at least one licensed architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, landscape architect or certified interior designer for such profession offered or rendered. The person or persons named shall be responsible and have control of the regulated services rendered by the entity. NEED INPUT FROM ELIZ PEAY ABOUT THIS

C. The Board shall adopt regulations governing the registration of persons, corporations, partnerships, limited liability companies, sole proprietors and other entities as required in subsections A and B which:

1. Provide for procedural requirements to obtain and renew registration on a periodic basis;
2. Establish fees for the application and renewal of registration sufficient to cover costs;
3. Assure that regulated services are rendered and controlled by persons authorized to do so; and
4. Ensure that conflicts of interests are disclosed.

**Article 2.
Interior Designers.**

§ 54.1-412. Applicability.

This chapter shall not be construed to restrict or otherwise affect the right of any uncertified interior designer, architect, engineer, or any other person from rendering any of the services which constitute the practice of interior design; however, no person may hold himself out as, or use the title of, "certified interior designer" unless he has been so certified pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

§ 54.1-413. Examination.

At least once each year the Board shall arrange for the National Council for Interior Design Qualification examination or an equivalent examination approved by the Board to be given to qualified applicants for

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certification as interior designers.

§ 54.1-414. Issuance of certification; waiver of examination.

The Board shall issue a certification to practice as a certified interior designer in the Commonwealth to every applicant who shall have complied with the requirements of this chapter and the regulations of the Board. The certificates shall be signed by at least three members of the Board.

The Board shall certify any person who is a graduate of a minimum four-year professional degree program accredited by the Foundation for Interior Design Education Research, an equivalent accrediting organization or a professional program approved by the Board and who has two years of monitored experience in the performance of interior design services and who has taken and passed the examination for certification as a certified interior designer.

The Board, in its discretion, shall determine whether an applicant's professional education and professional experience in the field of interior design are sufficient to establish eligibility for the examination.

The Board, in lieu of all examinations, may accept satisfactory evidence of licensing or certification in another state or country or the District of Columbia where (i) the qualifications for such licensure or certification are equal, in the opinion of the Board, to the qualifications required by the provisions of this chapter as of the date of application and (ii) the applicant is the holder of a license or certificate in good standing. Upon receipt of such satisfactory evidence and provided all other such requirements of this chapter are complied with, a certificate shall be issued to such applicant.

§ 13.1-549. Qualifications of shareholders; special provisions for corporations rendering services of architects, professional engineers, landscape architects and land surveyors, and using the title of certified interior designers.

A. A corporation rendering the services of architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, or landscape architects, or using the title of certified interior designers, or any combination thereof, shall issue not less than two-thirds of its shares to individuals or professional business entities duly licensed to render the services of architect, professional engineer, land surveyor, or landscape architect, or to individuals legally authorized to use the title of certified interior designer, and the remainder of said shares may be issued only to and held by individuals who are employees of the corporation whether or not such employees are licensed to render professional services or authorized to use a title. For a corporation using the title of certified interior designers and providing the services of architects, professional engineers or land surveyors, or any combination thereof, not less than two-thirds of its shares shall be held by individuals or professional business entities who are duly licensed. No other professional corporation, except for a corporation engaged in the practice of accounting as described in § 13.1-549.1, may issue any of its shares to anyone other than an individual or professional business entity who is duly licensed or otherwise legally authorized to render the same specific professional services as those for which the corporation was incorporated, including trustees of an eligible employee stock ownership plan. Notwithstanding the above limitations, a professional corporation may (i) issue its shares to a partnership each of the partners of which is duly licensed or otherwise legally authorized to render the same professional services as those for which the corporation was incorporated or (ii) issue any of its shares to, and have as shareholders, directly or indirectly, whether through shares, fractional shares, or rights or options to purchase shares, the trustees of an eligible employee stock ownership plan.

B. As an additional prerequisite for a corporation engaging in the practice of the professions of architecture, professional engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture, or using the title of certified interior designer, or any combination thereof, such corporation shall secure a

certificate of authority, which may be renewable and may be either general or limited, from the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects. Such certificate of authority shall be issued or renewed by the Board when in its discretion such corporation is in compliance with rules and regulations which shall be promulgated by the said Board consistent with its jurisdiction to provide adequate safeguards for the public's health, welfare and safety. The fees for a certificate of authority as described above shall be the same fees as provided for in Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1.

§ 13.1-1111. Qualifications of members and managers; special provisions for limited liability companies rendering service of architects, professional engineers, land surveyors and landscape architects, and using the title of certified interior designers.

Not less than two-thirds of the membership interests of a professional limited liability company rendering the services of architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, or landscape architects, or using the title of certified interior designers, or any combination thereof, shall be held by individuals duly licensed or professional business entities legally authorized to render the services of architects, professional engineers, land surveyors, or landscape architects, or by individuals or professional business entities legally authorized to use the title of certified interior designers, and the remainder of the membership interests may be held only by individuals who are employees of the professional limited liability company whether or not those employees are licensed to render professional services or authorized to use a title. For those professional limited liability companies using the title of certified interior designers and providing the services of architects, professional engineers or land surveyors, or any combination thereof, not less than two-thirds of the membership interests of the professional limited liability company shall be held by individuals who are duly licensed. No other professional limited liability company, except for a professional limited liability company engaged in the practice of accounting as described in § 13.1-1112, may have as a member anyone other than an individual or a professional business entity that is duly licensed or otherwise legally authorized to render the same professional services as those for which the professional limited liability company was organized.

As an additional prerequisite for a professional limited liability company's engaging in the practice of the professions of architecture, professional engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture, or using the title of certified interior designer, or any combination thereof, that professional limited liability company shall secure a certificate of authority, which may be renewable and may be either general or limited, from the Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects. The certificate of authority shall be issued or renewed by the Board when in its discretion the professional limited liability company is in compliance with rules and regulations which shall be promulgated by the Board consistent with its jurisdiction to provide adequate safeguards for the public's health, welfare and safety. The fees for a certificate of authority as described above shall be the same fees as provided for in Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1.



Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation

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NOTICE

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- **Other Business**
- **Conflict of Interest Forms /
Travel Vouchers**
- **Adjourn**

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