

**NEVADA STATE BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS
AND
LAND SURVEYORS**



**PLS Sub Committee Meeting
October 21, 2025
Virtual Meeting**

1. Meeting Call to Order

2. Public Comment

3. Approval of January
27, 2025, PLS
Standards of Practice
Committee Meeting
Minutes

NEVADA STATE BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
Minutes of the PLS Standards of Practice Committee Meeting
Held virtually, Monday, January 27, 2025

Participating was Chairman Matthew Gingerich, PLS; Michael Kidd, PLS; Mark Cormier, PLS; David Crook, PLS; and Dan Church, PLS. Also joining were Trent Keenan, PLS; Robert Carrington, PLS; Mark Fakler, Executive Director; Murray Blaney, Operations/Compliance; and Chris MacKenzie, Board Counsel.

1. Meeting conducted by Matt Gingerich, call to order and roll call to determine presence of quorum.

Meeting was called to order by Mr Gingerich, and a quorum was determined.

2. Public comment period.

There was no public comment virtually or via email.

3. Approval of September 25, 2024, PLS Standards of Practice Committee meeting minutes.

PLS 25-01 Mr Kidd made a motion, Mr Crook seconded, to approve September 25, 2024, PLS Standards of Practice Subcommittee meeting minutes. The motion passed.

4. Discuss possible amendments to proposed regulations as drafted by the Legislative Council Bureau, R-file number 007-24, related to standards of practice for land surveying, NAC 625.666 and NAC 625.780.

Mr Gingerich said this item relates to considering possible amendments to a couple of regulations as a result of comments received during the public adoption hearing for LCB R-file # 007-24 which was held on November 7, 2024. He said the comments related to the following:

- **NAC 625.740** relating to the classification of land boundary surveys being re-ordered in the list of regulations to be before NAC 625.666 for ease of reference.
- **NAC 625.666** relating to positional certainty standards for land boundary surveys.
- **NAC 625.666** relating to text in 4. (c), specifically the word “retain” – and the timeframe associated the retention.
- **NAC 625.780** again relating to the word “retain” – and the timeframe associated the retention of documents.

Mr Gingerich said addressing the NAC 625.740 comment first, the committee does agree that having the classification regulation before NAC 625.666, and did request re-ordering (and re-numbering) with the LCB drafters when submitting the initial package. But the LCB said the change cannot be made by a regulation edit, it is something they consider as part of an overview of the full administrative code

order/numbering system.

Mr Blaney added that a request will be made to LCB when the final of adopted regulations package is submitted for consideration of re-ordering. (ACTION Item)

Mr Gingerich said the second comment related to NAC 625.666 and referred to the accuracy minimum standards, where it was mentioned that the standards should be tighter. Mr Gingerich said the standards weren't changed, rather how they are presented has been streamlined. He added that they are minimum standards.

Mr Carrington agreed the standards were minimum tolerances, but contractually a client may require a higher standard depending on the project. He added that would then be between the professional and the client, and the surveyor would have to show that they can meet the agreed to standards.

Mr Gingerich said the third comment, again relating to NAC 625.666, refers to the use of the word *retain* in sub-section 4. (c). Mr Gingerich said the comment was about the length of time the documentation referred to would need to be held, and if a specific timeframe should be added to the regulation as guidance. He then asked Mr MacKenzie for his input.

Mr MacKenzie said in his research he could not find guidance specific to this instance. He said several factors come into play with the retention of documents. Are they being kept for your own protection, or for the protection of your entity in terms of records, or to substantiate the decision, because the professional may have to defend an action. He added another factor is the professional's relationship with your insurance carrier as to when a claim was made. Mr MacKenzie added it gets even more complex when you consider if a surveyor retires, closes their business, or even passes away. Bottom line, because of the variety of circumstances, it would be very difficult to determine a retention period let alone state it in regulation.

Mr Gingerich said the reasoning for the retention was for the record in retracement. He asked the committee members for their thoughts.

A discussion ensued with consensus being determining a retention time period would be difficult, with the committee member stating they retain all their record indefinitely – primarily for research and future reference, but also for liability defensive purposes. It was highlighted that the intent of the regulation is for clarification in the review process (if required) or for a trailing surveyor.

Mr Gingerich suggested that the word *retain* be replaced by *document* to remove the timeframe component but ensure the creation of the record document. He asked Mr MacKenzie if in his opinion the intent would be maintained with the text adjustment.

Mr MacKenzie said the word change does meet the intent the a having a record created. He added that it also removes the burden of defining a timeframe for how long that record document needs to be kept, and from the committee's discussion it seems apparent they are kept by individuals and firms for a significant period of time anyway.

Mr Gingerich asked the committee for their opinion on the proposed revision to NAC 625.666 4(c)

where the text “Retain all documentation concerning...” would be removed and replaced with word “Document...”

The committee discussed and agreed with the proposed revision.

Mr Keenan and Mr Carrington asked whether added similar text or statement should be included on the face of a map - perhaps consider adding it to the Surveyors Certificate.

Mr Gingerich said he would recommend against requiring it at this stage. The revision has been made to clarify the standards of practice regulations and making it a requirement in the Surveyor’s Certificate would likely involve a statutory change. He added, the information could be included in the open section 5 of the certificate at the discretion of the surveyor.

Mr Blaney said he would review the minutes and draft the proposed revision and circulate it to the committee members for any additional comment. (ACTION Item)

Mr Gingerich said the last comment to consider was about NAC 625.780 and again relates to the inclusion of the word *retain* in the proposed revisions – with gist of the comment being what would be the timeframe associated with the requirement to retain.

The committee discussed current industry practice related to construction surveys and documentation provided to the owner’s representative. During the discussion it was highlighted that not all clients/owner’s representative require or want the post survey documents.

Mr MacKenzie asked for clarification if all construction surveys result in documentation.

Mr Gingerich said most do.

Mr MacKenzie then asked if the purpose of the original revision was to create an obligation to retain or to remove the mandatory requirement of providing it to the client.

Mr Gingerich the greater intention was to remove the latter.

Mr MacKenzie suggested, based on the committees discussion and clarifications on the intent, a possible revision to remove the burden of defining a retention time period would be to un-strike the text “provide the owner’s representative” then strike out “retain” – to remove the time burden – and then add the text “upon request” to the end of the sentence.

Mr Gingerich asked the committee for comments on Mr MacKenzie’s suggested revision.

After a brief discussion the committee agreed the suggested text is a good solution.

Mr Gingerich asked that Mr Blaney draft the revised text is presented and circulate to the committee for comment and/or correct. (ACTION Item)

Mr Blaney outlined the process for the revisions going forward after any comments or edits comeback

from the committee members.

5. Discuss possible statutory and regulatory amendments relating to the NCEES PS Exam changes, NRS 625.280 and NAC 625.310.

Mr Gingerich said this item relates to NCEES offering an additional module for the national PS exam. It is scheduled for release in 2027. He said the additional module focuses on questions related to the Public Land Survey System (PLSS). Today's discussion is an introduction to committee for those that are not aware of the proposed change and to initiate consideration of how any change may impact statutes and regulations, if after consideration by the board, the additional module is required for licensure. Mr Gingerich asked if Mr Kidd could offer any additional background on the PLSS module.

Mr Kidd said that the module came about after the realization by western states that there are only a small number of Public Land Survey System (PLSS) questions on the national PS exam. He added Nevada was among a number of states in the west that lobbied for the addition of a PLSS module for a more in-depth evaluation of someone's knowledge in relation to professional surveying on public lands.

The committee considered scenarios involving the requirement for the PLSS module relating to licensure in Nevada and the related impacts to the form and content of the Nevada state specific PLS exam. Also discussed were timeframes for any statutory and related regulatory change that would be needed should the board decide on adding the PLSS module requirement.

Mr Gingerich said the first point of action is for the full board to consider and vote on adding the PLSS module as a requirement for licensure. Then following that outcome, timelines and drafting of revisions would need to be considered by this and the board's legislative committee.

Mr Kidd asked that an agenda item move from this committee to the full board to consider the requirement of the PLSS module for licensure.

Mr Blaney said the item would be added to the agenda next regular board meeting agenda. (ACTION Item)

6. Public comment period.

There was no public comment virtually or via email.

7. Adjournment.

Mr Gingerich thanked the committee and those attending for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 10:40 am.

Respectfully,

Mark J Fakler
Executive Director

4. Proposed Revisions to NRS 327

CHAPTER 327 - NEVADA COORDINATE SYSTEM; GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

NEVADA COORDINATE SYSTEM

NRS 327.005 Sole coordinate system in Nevada for describing land.

NRS 327.010 Designation of systems; division of State into ~~{three}~~ zones.

[NRS 327.020 Names of zones.]

NRS 327.030 *Unit of Measurements.* ~~{Plane coordinates.}~~

NRS 327.040 Reference may be made to either zone when tract extends into another zone.

[NRS 327.050 Definitions of Nevada ~~Coordinate zones systems.~~]

NRS 327.060 Limitations on use of coordinates in documents to be recorded.

NRS 327.070 Limitation on use of terms “Nevada Coordinate System of 1927” and “Nevada Coordinate System of 1983.”

NRS 327.090 Purchaser or mortgagee need not rely on description depending exclusively on coordinate system.

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

NRS 327.100 “Board” defined.

NRS 327.110 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Creation; purpose.

NRS 327.120 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Composition.

NRS 327.130 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Officers; rules; quorum; meetings; compensation.

NRS 327.140 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Powers and duties.

NRS 327.150 Changes in or additions of geographic names: Submission of proposal; preliminary consideration; final action and notice.

NEVADA COORDINATE SYSTEM

NRS 327.005 Sole coordinate system in Nevada for describing land.

1. On and after publication of *the most recent system of plane coordinates defined for the State of Nevada which has been established by the National Geodetic Survey, or federal agency which succeeds it, and known as the State Plane Coordinate System, for defining and stating the positions or locations of points on the surface of the earth within the State of* ~~[North American Datum of 1983 for]~~ Nevada, *and shall be known as the Nevada Plane Coordinate System.* ~~[by the National Geodetic Survey of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the federal agency which succeeds it, the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, which is a transverse Mercator projection of the North American Datum of 1983, is the sole coordinate system in Nevada for describing land.]~~

2. On and after that date of publication, ~~[the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927]~~ *previous Nevada Coordinates Systems* may be used only for purposes of reference.

(Added to NRS by 1983, 1338; A 1987, 392)

NRS 327.010 Designation of systems; division of State into ~~{three}~~ zones.

1. The system of plane coordinates which has been established for defining and stating the positions or locations of points on the surface of the earth within the State of Nevada, *by the National Geodetic Survey, or federal agency which succeeds it, is designated as the Nevada Plane Coordinate System:*

~~[(a) By the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey is designated as the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927.~~

~~(b) By the National Geodetic Survey of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or the federal agency which succeeds it, is designated as the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983.]~~

2. For the purpose of the use of these systems the State *may be* ~~[is]~~ divided into *zones.* ~~[an East Zone, a Central Zone, and a West Zone. The area now included in:~~

~~(a) Clark, Elko, Eureka, Lincoln and White Pine counties constitutes the East Zone.~~

[NRS 327.020 Names of zones.

- *The Nevada Coordinates Systems Zone names shall be defined by National Geodetic Survey or federal agency that succeeds it.*
- *Previous Nevada Coordinates Systems names used only for purposes of reference are:*

1. As established for use in the East Zone, the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927 or the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983 must be named, and in any land description in which it is used it must be designated, the “Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, East Zone” or the “Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, East Zone.”

2. As established for use in the Central Zone, the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, or the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983 must be named, and in any land description in which it is used it must be designated, the “Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, Central Zone” or the “Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, Central Zone.”

3. As established for use in the West Zone, the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927 or the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983 must be named, and in any land description in which it is used it must be designated, the “Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, West Zone” or the “Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, West Zone.”

[2:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.01] — (NRS A 1983, 1339)]

NRS 327.030 Unit of Measurements. ~~{Plane coordinates-}~~

1. *The unit of measurements for the State of Nevada shall be the International Survey Foot or Meter as defined by the National Geodetic Survey or federal agency that succeeds it.*

~~{The plane coordinates of a point on the earth's surface, to be used in expressing the location of the point in the appropriate zone, must consist of two distances, expressed in:~~

2. *The units of measurement for previous Nevada Coordinates Systems used only for purposes of reference are:*

- (a) Feet and decimals of a foot under the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927; or
- (b) Meters and decimals of a meter under the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983].

- *For reference to the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983 meters are converted to the US Survey Foot "Foot"*

~~□ One of these distances, to be known as the "x coordinate," must give the position in an east and west direction; the other, to be known as the "y coordinate," must give the position in a north and south direction.~~

~~{2. These coordinates must be made to conform to the values of the plane rectangular coordinates for the monumented stations of the North American Horizontal Geodetic Control Network, as published by the National Geodetic Survey of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or the federal agency which succeeds it, and whose plane coordinates have been computed on the systems defined in this chapter. Any such station may be used for connecting a survey to either Nevada coordinate system.}~~

3. As used in this section:

- (a) "Foot" means the United States Survey Foot.
- (b) "Meter" means exactly 39.37 inches.
- (c) *"International Survey Foot" means 0.3048 meters exactly*

~~[3:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.02] — (NRS A 1983, 1340; 1987, 392)]~~

NRS 327.040 Reference may be made to ~~either~~ any zone when tract extends into another zone. When any tract of land to be defined by a single description extends from one into another of the above coordinate zones, the positions of all points on its boundaries may be referred to either of such zones, the zone which is used being specifically named in the description.

~~[4:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.03]~~

[NRS 327.050 Definitions of Nevada Coordinate zones.

1. The definitions for the Nevada Coordinate System zones are defined by the National Geodetic Survey, or federal agency which succeeds it.

2. *For reference purposes only the previous Nevada Coordinate Systems of 1927 and 1983 are defined as:*

- (a) *Clark, Elko, Eureka, Lincoln and White Pine counties constitutes the East Zone.*
- (b) *Lander and Nye counties constitutes the Central Zone.*
- (c) *Carson City and Churchill, Douglas, Esmeralda, Humboldt, Lyon, Mineral, Pershing, Storey and Washoe counties constitutes the West Zone.*

- ~~2.~~3. For purposes of more specifically defining the Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, the following definition by the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey is adopted:

The Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, East Zone, is a transverse Mercator projection of the Clarke Spheroid of 1866, having a central meridian 115°35' west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set at one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 115°35' west of Greenwich and the parallel 34°45' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: x = 500,000 feet and y = 0 feet.

The Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, Central Zone, is a transverse Mercator projection of the Clarke Spheroid of 1866, having a central meridian 116°40' west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set at one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 116°40' west of Greenwich and the parallel 34°45' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: x = 500,000 feet and y = 0 feet.

The Nevada Coordinate System of 1927, West Zone, is a transverse Mercator projection of the Clarke Spheroid of 1866, having a central meridian 118°35' west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set at one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 118°35' west of Greenwich and the parallel 34°45' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: x = 500,000 feet and y = 0 feet.

- ~~3.~~4. For purposes of more specifically defining the Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, the following definition by the National Geodetic Survey of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is

adopted:

(a) The Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, East Zone, is a transverse Mercator projection of the North American Datum of 1983, having a central meridian 115°35' west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set at one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 115°35' west of Greenwich and the parallel 34°45' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: $x = 200,000$ meters and $y = 8,000,000$ meters. (b) The Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, Central Zone, is a transverse Mercator projection of the North American Datum of 1983, having a central meridian 116°40' west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set at one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 116°40' west of Greenwich and the parallel 34°45' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: $x = 500,000$ meters and $y = 6,000,000$ meters. (c) The Nevada Coordinate System of 1983, West Zone, is a transverse Mercator projection of the North American Datum of 1983, having a central meridian 118°35' west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set at one part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian 118°35' west of Greenwich and the parallel 34°45' north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: $x = 800,000$ meters and $y = 4,000,000$ meters. [5:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.04] — (NRS A 1983, 1340)

NRS 327.060 Limitations on use of coordinates in documents to be recorded. No coordinate based on **either any** of the Nevada coordinate systems which purports to define the position of a point on a land boundary may be presented to be recorded in any public land records or deed records unless the document to be recorded contains:

1. A description of the monumented station or stations from which the coordinates being recorded have been determined.

2. Annotations which accompany the values for state plane coordinates and clearly describe the **datum, units of measurement**, method and accuracy of the determinations.

[6:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.05] — (NRS A 1983, 1341; 1987, 393)

NRS 327.070 Limitation on use of terms “Nevada Coordinate System of 1927” and “Nevada Coordinate System of 1983.” The use of the term “Nevada Coordinate System of 1927” or “Nevada Coordinate System of 1983” on any map, report of survey, or other document is limited to use for coordinates based on the system as defined in this chapter.

[7:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.06] — (NRS A 1983, 1342)

NRS 327.090 Purchaser or mortgagee need not rely on description depending exclusively on coordinate system. Nothing contained in this chapter requires any purchaser or mortgagee of real property to rely on a land description, any part of which depends exclusively upon either of the systems established by this chapter.

[9:84:1945; 1943 NCL § 5589.08] — (NRS A 1983, 1342)

GEOGRAPHIC NAMES

NRS 327.100 “Board” defined. As used in NRS 327.110 to 327.150, inclusive, unless the context otherwise requires, the term “Board” means the Nevada State Board on Geographic Names.

(Added to NRS by 1985, 588)

NRS 327.110 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Creation; purpose. The Nevada State Board on Geographic Names is hereby created to coordinate and approve geographic names within the State for official recommendation to the United States Board on Geographic Names.

(Added to NRS by 1985, 588)

NRS 327.120 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Composition. The Board consists of:

1. One representative of each of the following agencies or organizations:

- (a) Bureau of Mines and Geology of the State of Nevada.

- (b) Faculty of the University of Nevada, Reno.

- (c) Faculty of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

- (d) Division of State Library, Archives and Public Records of the Department of Administration.

- (e) Department of Transportation of the State.

- (f) State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

- (g) Nevada Historical Society.

- (h) United States Bureau of Land Management.

- (i) United States Forest Service.

- (j) United States National Park Service.

- (k) Inter-Tribal Council of Nevada, Inc., or its successor organization.

- Each agency or organization shall designate a representative and one alternative representative for this purpose.
- 2. An Executive Secretary who is a nonvoting member of the Board. The State Resident Cartographer shall serve in this position. If there is not such a cartographer, the voting members of the Board shall select the Executive Secretary.

(Added to NRS by 1985, 588; A 1993, 507; 2017, 432)

NRS 327.130 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Officers; rules; quorum; meetings; compensation.

1. The Board shall designate from among its members a Chair and a Vice Chair and shall adopt rules for its own management.
2. A majority of the voting members of the Board constitutes a quorum for the transaction of business.
3. The Board shall meet at such times and places as are specified by the Chair, but may not hold more than four meetings in any 1 year.
4. Members of the Board shall serve without compensation, travel expenses or subsistence allowances except as they may be provided by the members' respective agencies and organizations.

(Added to NRS by 1985, 588)

NRS 327.140 Nevada State Board on Geographic Names: Powers and duties.

1. The Board shall:
 - (a) Receive and evaluate all proposals for changes in or additions to names of geographic features and places in the State to determine the most appropriate and acceptable names for use in maps and official documents of all levels of government.
 - (b) Make official recommendations on behalf of the State with respect to each proposal.
 - (c) Assist and cooperate with the United States Board on Geographic Names in matters relating to names of geographic features and places in Nevada.
 - (d) Maintain a list of advisers who have special knowledge of or expertise in Nevada history, geography or culture and consult with those advisers on a regular basis in the course of its work.
 2. The Board may:
 - (a) Adopt regulations to assist in carrying out the functions and duties assigned to it by law.
 - (b) Initiate proposals for changes in or additions to geographic names in the State. Any proposal initiated by the Board must be evaluated in accordance with the same procedures prescribed for the consideration of other proposals.
- (Added to NRS by 1985, 588)

NRS 327.150 Changes in or additions of geographic names: Submission of proposal; preliminary consideration; final action and notice.

1. Any person, group or agency of federal, state or local government may propose a change in or the addition of any geographic name within the State by submitting it to the Board for evaluation and recommendation.
2. Upon receipt of any such proposal, together with sufficient supporting information, the Board shall:
 - (a) Place the proposal on the agenda for preliminary consideration at its next meeting.
 - (b) Give appropriate notice to persons and groups who are affected by the proposal or might have an interest in it.
 - (c) Provide opportunities for public comment.
 - (d) Conduct such research and field investigations as it deems necessary.
3. The Board may not take final action on any proposal until it has been given preliminary consideration at one or more previous meetings.
4. Whenever the Board takes final action on a proposal, it shall notify the person, group or agency who submitted the proposal and shall transmit the official recommendation to the United States Board on Geographic Names.

(Added to NRS by 1985, 589)

5. NCEES PLSS Module

Upcoming Changes to the NCEES Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) Exam

The **National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)** has announced significant updates to the **Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS)** exam that will impact both initial and comity licensure for professional land surveyors.

The **current PS exam**, which includes content on the **Public Land Survey System (PLSS)**, will be **retired after May 31, 2027**. Beginning in **June 2027**, NCEES will introduce a **revised PS exam** that focuses on core principles of land surveying and boundary surveying.

Overview of the Updated PS Exam

The new PS exam will assess an applicant's fundamental understanding of land surveying practices common across all jurisdictions. PLSS-specific content will no longer be part of this exam.

Key details:

- **Total Questions:** 100 (85 scored operational items and 15 pre-test items)
- **Exam Duration:** 6 hours of testing time, with a total seat time of 7 hours
- **Exam Format:** Computer-based, offered year-round and on-demand
- **Exam Fee:** \$375

This updated format aligns with NCEES's goal of modernizing its examinations while maintaining consistency with the current computer-based delivery process.

Introduction of a Separate PLSS Module

To better support its member boards and complement the new PS exam, NCEES will introduce a **Public Land Survey System (PLSS) module** as a separate, stand-alone examination. This module will focus specifically on knowledge, interpretation, and application of PLSS principles and procedures.

Key details:

- **Total Questions:** 75 (60 scored operational items and 15 pre-test items)
- **Exam Duration:** 4.5 hours of testing time, with a total seat time of 5 hours
- **Administration Schedule:** Twice annually (April and October)
- **First Administration:** No sooner than October 2027
- **Exam Fee:** \$325
- **Board Notification:** NCEES will notify state licensing boards at least one year prior to implementation.

These changes reflect NCEES’s ongoing effort to distinguish **core surveying competencies** from **public land system knowledge**, supporting a more flexible and targeted assessment structure for professional surveyors nationwide.

Statutory and Regulatory Framework

Statutory Requirement

Under **NRS 625.280**, Nevada law requires an examination on the *principles and practices of land surveying* as a condition for licensure. The statute provides for two required examinations:

1. **Fundamentals of Land Surveying (FS)** — covering general land surveying education or training; and
2. **Principles and Practice of Land Surveying (PS)** — assessing the professional application of surveying principles.

The Board also retains authority to administer additional exams—oral or written, and waive the FS requirement for applicants with qualifying experience.

Regulatory Requirement

Current **NAC 625.310** further specifies that the Board will require applicants to pass:

- The NCEES **Fundamentals of Surveying (FS)** exam, unless waived; and
- The NCEES **Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS)** exam

Additionally, the Board administers a **two-hour Nevada-specific examination** covering state laws and procedures related to the practice of land surveying.

Implications for Nevada Licensure

Because NRS and NAC currently refer broadly to the “Principles and Practice of Land Surveying” examination, **no immediate statutory or regulatory amendments are required** if the Board chooses to continue using only the new NCEES PS exam as the qualifying examination for licensure.

However, if the Board decides to **require both the revised PS exam and the new PLSS module** for initial licensure, **amendments to NRS 625.280 and NAC 625.310** would be necessary. The amendments would clarify that both exams constitute Nevada’s approved pathway for professional land surveyor licensure.

Considerations for Comity Licensure

Licensure by comity is governed by **NRS 625.382** and **NAC 625.240**, which allows the Board to license qualified applicants from other jurisdictions with equivalent standards.

Under these provisions, applicants licensed elsewhere may be required to:

- Pass an examination on **Nevada laws and procedures for practice**; and
- Complete an oral examination, or other examination acceptable to the Board, if required.

The Executive Director may evaluate whether applicants qualify under **Model Law Surveyor (MLS)** criteria, as defined by NCEES.

Future Comity Considerations

As other states adopt the new PS exam and optional PLSS module, the Board may wish to consider how Nevada's comity requirements apply to applicants who have:

- Taken the current PS exam (with PLSS)
- Taken only the revised PS exam (without PLSS); or
- Completed both the new PS exam and the PLSS module.

To avoid creating unnecessary barriers for comity applicants, **NVBPELS may wish to revise its Nevada-specific two-hour examination to exclude PLSS content**, particularly if the applicant has already passed the PLSS module.

Should the Board choose this approach, **regulatory updates to NAC 625.310 and NAC 625.240** would be required to clarify Nevada's expectations for comity applicants and ensure consistency with the revised NCEES exam structure.

Summary of Key Actions for Board Consideration

1. Initial Licensure:

- Continue current requirements using only the revised PS exam (no statutory changes needed); or
- Require both the revised PS exam and PLSS module (statutory and regulatory updates required).

2. Comity Licensure:

- Determine whether the Nevada-specific exam should exclude PLSS content for applicants who have completed the PLSS module in another jurisdiction.
- Review and amend NAC as necessary to reflect revised comity requirements.

In summary, NCEES's upcoming changes represent a major restructuring of the national surveying examination process. The Nevada Board will need to evaluate how best to integrate these changes to

maintain consistency that facilitates mobility for surveyors while upholding Nevada's statutory and regulatory framework for professional land surveyor licensure.

Sec. 4. NRS 625.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.280 1. The examination for licensure as a professional land surveyor must consist of:

(a) An examination on the fundamentals of land surveying ~~{that must cover the subject matter of a general land surveying education or training.}~~ *administered by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying or its successor organization or another equivalent examination that is approved by the Board.* If the applicant for licensure as a professional land surveyor has ~~{15}~~ *graduated from a land-surveying curriculum that is approved by the Board and has 10* years or more of *active* experience in land surveying, the examination on the fundamentals of land surveying may be waived ~~{. For the purposes of determining the years of experience of an applicant for licensure as a professional land surveyor pursuant to this paragraph, the Board shall consider graduation from a land-surveying curriculum that is approved}~~ by the Board ~~{to be equivalent to 4 years of experience.}~~

(b) An examination on the principles and practices of land surveying ~~{}~~ *administered by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying or its successor organization or another equivalent examination that is approved by the Board.*

2. ~~{An applicant for licensure as a professional land surveyor must pass the examination on the fundamentals of land surveying or receive a waiver of that requirement before the applicant may take the examination on the principles and practices of land surveying.}~~

~~—3.— The Board may administer or authorize an accredited college or university that offers a program in land surveying approved by the Board to administer the examination on the fundamentals of land surveying to persons who are not applicants for licensure as professional land surveyors in this state.~~

~~—4.— The Board may prescribe or limit the use of notes, texts and reference materials by applicants who are taking the examinations.~~

~~—5.—~~ The Board may require the examinations or any portion of the examinations set forth in this section to be completed:

(a) In writing, with a pen or pencil of a type that has been approved by the Board;

(b) With a computer that has been provided or approved by the Board; or

(c) Orally, in the manner prescribed by the Board.

Sec. 5. 1. This section and section 1 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1.5 to 4, inclusive, of this act become effective on October 1, 2025.

3. Section 1 of this act expires by limitation on December 31, 2026.

Sec. 3. NAC 625.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.310 1. The Board will ~~{offer Nevada-specific}~~ *require the passing of the following examinations [at least once each year. Specific information concerning times and places for scheduled examinations may be obtained from the office of the Board.] that are prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying which meet the requirements for licensure as a structural engineer:*

(a) *The Fundamentals of Engineering, which is a national examination that covers the fundamentals of engineering, unless the requirement is waived by the Board; and*

(b) *The Principles and Practice of Structural Engineering, which is a national examination that covers vertical and lateral components for design of buildings and other structures.*

2. The Board will require the passing of the following examinations that are prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying which meet the requirements for licensure as an engineer ~~—~~ *[:] that is not a structural engineer:*

(a) The Fundamentals of Engineering, which is a national examination that covers the fundamentals of engineering, unless the requirement is waived by the Board; and

(b) The Principles and Practice of Engineering, which is a national examination that covers the principles and practice of engineering.

3. The Board will require the passing of the following examinations that are prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying which meet the requirements for licensure as a land surveyor:

(a) The Fundamentals of Surveying, which is a national examination that covers the fundamentals of land surveying, unless the requirement is waived by the Board; and

(b) The Principles and Practice of Surveying, which is a national examination that covers the principles and practice of land surveying.

4. ~~{The Board will require the passing of a short examination on this chapter and chapter 625 of NRS.~~

~~—5.}~~ In addition to the ~~{examination}~~ *examinations* set forth in subsection ~~{4.}~~ 3, the Board will prepare and offer a 2-hour examination that covers the laws of this State and the procedures for the practice of land surveying. The Board will offer this examination at least once each year.

~~{6.—The examination to become a structural engineer is a 16-hour examination which is composed of two parts, each of which lasts 8 hours.}~~

NRS 625.382 Licenses: Issuance to licensee of another state or country.

1. The Board may issue a license to practice professional engineering or land surveying to an applicant, upon presentation of evidence that the applicant is licensed to practice professional engineering or land surveying, respectively, and in good standing in a state, territory, possession of the United States or country that maintains standards of engineering or land-surveying licensure, equivalent to those in this state, if the applicant, in the judgment of the Board, has the necessary qualifications pursuant to the provisions of this chapter.

2. The Board may require an applicant for licensure as a professional engineer or professional land surveyor pursuant to subsection 1 to pass a written or oral examination conducted by not less than three professional engineers or professional land surveyors

Sec. 2. NAC 625.240 is hereby amended to read as follows:

625.240 1. ~~{An}~~ *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, an* applicant who applies for licensure in this State on the basis of previous licensure in another state, territory, possession of the United States or country that is a signatory to the mobility agreements of the International Engineering Alliance must:

(a) Pay an application fee of \$125 and:

(1) File the required application with the Board; or

(2) Transmit a National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying Record to the Board; *and*

(b) ~~{Pass a short written examination on chapter 625 of NRS and the regulations and code of conduct of the Board; and~~

~~—(e)}~~ Pass an oral examination if required by the Board.

2. After the oral examination, if applicable, the Board may require the applicant to pass another examination acceptable to the Board as a condition precedent to licensure.

3. The Executive Director of the Board may review and evaluate the applications submitted pursuant to this section to determine if the applications satisfy the criteria of a Model Law Engineer or Model Law Surveyor, as set forth by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying. If the applicant satisfies these requirements ~~{}~~ *and is:*

(a) *Applying for a license as a professional engineer, the Executive Director of the Board shall notify the Board and the Board may issue a license to practice professional engineering ~~for land surveying~~ to the applicant.*

(b) *Applying for a license as a professional land surveyor, the Executive Director of the Board shall schedule the applicant for an examination that covers the laws of this State and the procedures for the practice of land surveying and, if the applicant passes the examination, notify the Board and the Board may issue a license to practice professional land surveying to the applicant.*

4. *An applicant is not required to pay the application fee required by subsection 1 if the applicant is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the spouse of a veteran.*

5. As used in this section, “mobility agreements” includes, without limitation, the APEC Agreement and the International Professional Engineers Agreement.

6. Public Comment

7. Adjourn