



GLOBAL  
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IDAHO

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## IDAHO ENGINEER (PE) LICENSING GUIDE

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UPDATED 12.01.2016  
GLOBAL TALENT IDAHO

## Step-By-Step Overview for Foreign-Educated Engineer to Relicense as a PE in Idaho

*Note: After your credential evaluation, you will more than likely be required to take additional college level courses to fulfill the credential evaluation criteria before you can continue licensing.*

**Acronym Guide:**

**IPELS** - Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors

**NCEES** - National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying

**ABET** - Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology

**FE** - Fundamentals of Engineering

**PE** - Engineering Exam

**Step: 1**

Applying for an evaluation through [NCEES](#) and submit payment

**Step: 2**

Meet online [with NCEES](#) Evaluator, and submit Required Documents to be sent from your academic institution to NCEES headquarters.

**Step: 3**

Work with your Evaluator for the Translation of Documents, Educational Comparison to standards used by [ABET](#)

**Step: 4** After Evaluation is complete .Apply for the fundamentals of engineering exam ([FE](#)) .flow the process, NCEES offers computer-based [practice exams](#) on their website.

**Step: 5**

[Pass FE](#); if you failed you can take one time per testing window and no more than three times in a 12-month period.

**Step: 6**

[Satisfying educational deficiencies](#), more likely taking some college classes

**Step: 7**

IPELS requires [four years of qualifying experience](#), 2 of the four years can be in any foreign company, IPELS requires 2 years of work experience from

**Step: 8**

[Apply](#) for an Engineer Intern Certification through IPELS

**Step: 9**

When you meet all the steps above, [apply](#) for the Professional Engineer exam

**Step: 10**

Take [the Practice Tests](#) and [pass the PE exam](#), be granted licensure as a Professional Engineer in the state of Idaho. Your PE license must be renewed every 2 years.

**Step: 11**

If you fail you can [retake the PE exam](#), the first time, apply for reexamination. pay for an application -**\$60**, as well as the PE exam-**\$350**.if you fail the second time you are required to obtain a minimum of one additional year of experience, the 3 time you have to obtain three additional years of experience.

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## **I. HOW THE PROFESSION IS ORGANIZED IN IDAHO**

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### OVERVIEW

As a foreign-educated engineer there are many steps to becoming eligible for licensure in Idaho. This guide looks at what you will need to accomplish before becoming licensed as an engineer in Idaho. This guide also includes some background and tips on the broader opportunities for the engineering profession that can be utilized as you work to build your career.

### REGULATING PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

The Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors (IPELS) regulate the practice of engineering in the state of Idaho.

- Professional Engineer (PE): Becoming a PE requires a high level of experience, examination and training. A Professional Engineer is a title associated with mechanical, electrical, civil, and other engineering fields. Becoming a PE in your specialty offers a wide array of professional opportunities, except for designing structures.
- Exemptions: There are some specific work environments where you do not have to be licensed to work legally as an engineer. There are exemptions under certain conditions for manufacturing, for government, or for military work. Review [IPELS Title 54-Chapter 12-Licensing Law](#) document. For Industry Exemptions, see [\(54-1223 \(1\)\(f\)\)](#). Working under the direct supervision of a license holder, see [\(IC 54-1223 \(1\)\(a\)\)](#). **One warning:** you must be careful, if you leave exempt work, not to continue calling yourself an engineer or offering design services; regulation bodies can heavily fine people in these cases.

### EMPLOYMENT IN ENGINEERING

With the increase in government spending on new projects and improvements to old infrastructures there is an increased need for professional engineering skills. The [average national](#) salary for Professional Civil Engineers is around \$85, 000.

Opportunities for mechanical engineers in high-tech fields such as nanotechnology, biotechnology, and material science are continuing to increase. Nationally, the average starting salaries in [mechanical engineering](#) is around \$85,000.

## THE JOB SEARCH

The job search process for engineers is a highly competitive, especially for immigrants. The following are some tips to guide you through the job search process.

- When searching for non-licensed jobs consider your qualifications and broaden your search to include numerous positions that work under professional engineers. You can use this opportunity as qualifying experience.
- Look for temporary work placement positions through an employment agency that specializes in engineer-related hiring. These contract opportunities can allow you to work under professional engineers without either of you having to making a commitment.
- Update your technical skills
- Research firms that do not advertise. These can be small and medium size firms.
- Join professional networking groups to establish your own network.

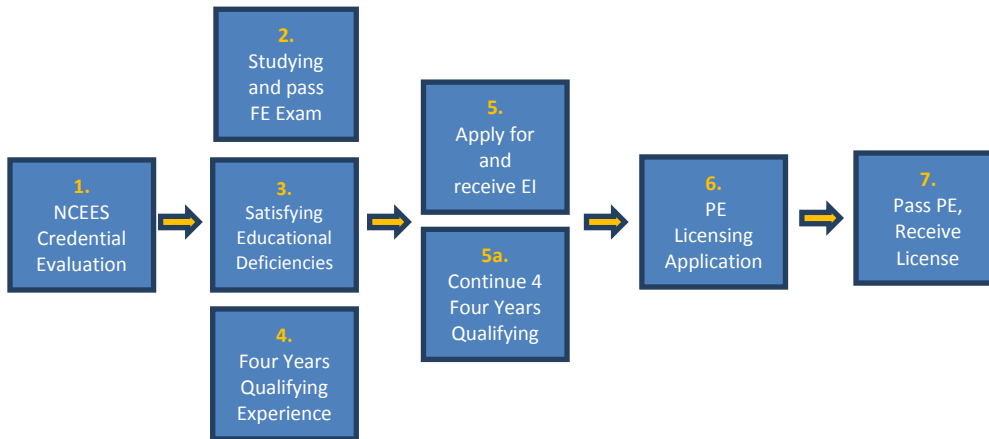
## **II. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSING**

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If your engineering degree was in an engineering discipline not accredited by the [Engineering Accreditation Commission \(EAC\) of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology \(ABET\)](#) or is not listed in the [Washington Accord signatories](#) as an approved program, then IPELS requires you to seek credential evaluations from the [NCEES Credentials Evaluation Service](#). NCEES is the only accepted credential evaluation service for engineers. State boards do not accept other credentialing services like World Education Service (WES).

## OVERVIEW

The licensing process has the following steps:



**IMPORTANT NOTE:** **Step 2**-Satisfying Educational Deficiencies; **Step 3**-Studying and Passing Fundamental Examination (FE) and, **Step 4**-Four Years Qualifying Experience, can be worked on at the same time.

### 1. NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EXAMINERS FOR ENGINEERING AND SURVEYING (NCEES CREDENTIAL EVALUATION)

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The following information has been provided by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). For more comprehensive information on NCEES's credential evaluation process, please visit NCEES's website at <http://ncees.org/>.

#### A. Complete NCEES Online Application and Submit Payment

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##### *Application and Fee*

The first step in applying for an evaluation through NCEES Credentials Evaluations is to complete the [online application](#) and submit payment. An applicant must complete the online application and submit the payment of **\$350.00** USD. This payment can be made by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover, or American Express) online at the end of the application.

On the application, be sure to include all post-secondary institutions attended and all college-level coursework completed. This may include certain coursework earned prior to beginning college, provided that college-level academic credit was granted. (Examples of such courses include Advanced Placement, A-levels, International Baccalaureate, etc.)

*NCEES Required Documents and Evaluator*

Once NCEES has received your application, you will be assigned a NCEES evaluator. The evaluator will contact you via the online system and provide you with a personalized list of documents needed to complete your application.

**B. Required Documents Needed for NCEES**

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Even though the documents that you will be required to provide to NCEES are specific to your personal background, the minimum documents required by all applicants are as follows:

- transcripts of all college-level coursework
- proof of degree(s) earned\*
- [detailed course descriptions](#)

Once your evaluator and you figure out all of the required documents, please arrange for the required documents to be sent from your academic institution to NCEES headquarters.

NCEES  
P.O. Box 1686  
Clemson, South Carolina  
29633

**\*All documents must be sent to NCEES from the academic institution, except for your diploma. A copy of your diploma can be submitted to NCESS by you.** Documents mailed by the applicant will not be accepted, except for the copy of the diploma.

**Do not have documents sent to NCEES prior to applying for the credential evaluation. Failure to follow this policy may result in a serious delay of the evaluation process.**

### *Translation of Documents*

You will need to work with your evaluator to determine the best way for you to provide an official English translation. NCEES does not provide translation services.

#### **C. Monitor the Status of Your File**

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You can check your status at any time and communicate with the evaluator assigned to your file using [your account](#). In most cases, NCEES will complete your evaluation within 15 business days after all required documents have been received and verified.

#### **D. Educational Comparison and Additional Schooling**

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### *Educational Comparison*

NCEES compares your educational materials course-by-course to standards used by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) to evaluate engineering programs. It is common for NCEES to identify foreign degrees as incomplete in comparison to ABET standards. This is often because of international differences regarding when subjects are taught and the degree of specialization students are expected to have in university. For example:

- You may have finished advanced math courses in high school such as Differential Equations or Calculus I. Most US students only take these courses at the university level
- You may have taken very few humanities and social sciences courses once you began your engineering program. ABET accreditation requires 16 credit hours in such subjects to give students a well-rounded education.

### *Additional Schooling*

It is common for your NCEES degree evaluation to have several important differences from ABET standards. This can mean you will have to go back to school and take the types of classes your evaluation describes before you can move to other steps in the licensing process. You may



even have to go back and take a full year of courses. This requirement is strict and there are very few exceptions. However, you may have a few other options that can help:

- If your country has a recognized college-preparatory system such as the US Advanced Placement courses, U.K.'s A-levels, or France's Baccalaureate, you should consult with NCEES before submitting your transcripts. If you received college-level credit for them, you may be able to have them recorded in your university transcript

If you completed a master's degree, the Professional Engineering Board and NCEES can look at your courses to see if any can satisfy deficiencies in your degree.

#### *Credential Evaluation File Status*

NCEES will keep your credential evaluation indefinitely. However, if there are parts of your application that are not complete, NCEES will keep your application in “active” status for **six months** after the initial online application and fee have been submitted. After six months, your file will become “inactive” if any required documentation remains outstanding. **[There is a \\$75 fee associated with activating an “inactive” file.](#)** Once they become inactive, files are stored by NCEES for 18 months.

**Important Notification:** When your evaluation is complete, it will be transmitted electronically via a secure website to the licensing board you indicated on your application. You will be notified of this via e-mail. **Make Note,** the Idaho Board of Licensure of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors (IPELS) only keeps credential evaluations on file for 6 months. **It is important that you contact IPELS and let them know that you are wishing to apply for the PE and ask them to hold on to your credential evaluations for an extended amount of time.**

#### **E. After Evaluation is Complete**

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It is important to note that NCEES does not make decisions regarding licensure. The IPELS will make any decision regarding your eligibility to sit for a licensing exam.

### *Re-evaluation*

NCEES can re-evaluate your credentials if you are able to produce evidence of additional college-level coursework. [There is a fee of \\$225 for a re-evaluation.](#)

### *Additional Transmittals*

NCEES can transmit your evaluation to additional state licensing boards throughout the country. There is a **\$60** fee for each additional transmittal.

## **2. APPLYING AND TAKING THE FUNDAMENTALS OF ENGINEERING EXAM (FE)**

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The following information has been provided by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). For more comprehensive information on NCEES's credential evaluation process, please visit NCEES's website at <http://ncees.org/>. The following steps must be completed in the following order.

\* Even though this is a detailed overview of the Fundamentals of Engineering Examination, you are required to review the entire NCEES Examinee Guide on the NCEES website:

[http://ncees.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ExamineeGuide\\_1-13-16.pdf](http://ncees.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/ExamineeGuide_1-13-16.pdf)

### *General FE Exam Content*

The Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam is typically the first step in the process leading to the P.E. license. It is designed for recent graduates and students who are close to finishing an undergraduate engineering degree. The FE is a computer-based exam that is administered year-round in testing windows at NCEES-approved Pearson VUE test centers.

The FE contains 110 multiple-choice questions. The exam appointment time is 6 hours long, which includes a nondisclosure agreement, tutorial (8 minutes), the exam (5 hours and 20 minutes), and a scheduled break (25 minutes). Learn more at NCEES' [YouTube channel](#).

### *FE Application Process and Fees*

To register for an FE exam, log in to your [MyNCEES account](#), select the REGISTER button, and follow the onscreen instructions. Learn more about the exam and the exam environment by reading the rules and policies in NCEES's [NCEES Examinee Guide](#).

[The Fundamentals of Engineering exam costs \\$225](#). This amount can be paid during the registration process. Online payments can be made via MasterCard, Visa, and American Express.

Once your completed registration is approved, you will receive an email notification that you have been authorized to take the exam and are eligible to schedule your exam appointment. To schedule your exam, log in to [MyNCEES account](#), select the SCHEDULE button, and follow the onscreen instructions. You must schedule an appointment time at least one full business day (24 hours) before taking the exam.

### *FE Exam Specifications*

The NCEES computer-based exams are offered in testing windows throughout the year during the following months: January–February, April–May, July–August, and October–November. Exams are not administered during March, June, September, and December.

The FE is offered in seven disciplines. Specifications for the exams are as follows (PDFs):

[FE Chemical](#)

[FE Civil](#)

[FE Electrical and Computer](#)

[FE Environmental](#)

[FE Industrial](#)

[FE Mechanical](#)

[FE Other Disciplines](#)

### *[FE Practice Tests](#)*

NCEES offers computer-based practice exams on their website. These exams cost around \$50 and can be found at: <http://ncees.org/exams/study-materials/>

### *Scoring and Reporting*

FE exam results are typically available 7–10 days after you take the exam. You will receive an email notification from NCEES with instructions to view your results in your [MyNCEES account](#). Results include information specific to your licensing board regarding how you should proceed based on your performance.

All results are reported as pass or fail. If you fail the examination, you will receive a diagnostic report showing your performance for each of the major topics covered on the exam.

### *Failing/Retaking FE Exam*

Retaking the Exam NCEES policy allows examinees to attempt a particular NCEES examination one time per testing window and no more than three times in a 12-month period, which begins with the examinee's original approval date. [The retake fee for the FE Exam is \\$225.](#)

### *Reference Materials*

The NCEES [FE Reference Handbook](#) is the only reference material that can be used during the exam. It is provided onscreen electronically during the exam. It is also available for purchase as a hard copy and for free download electronically on the NCEES website.

### **3. SATISFYING EDUCATIONAL DEFICIENCIES**

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After your credential evaluation, you will more than likely be required to take additional college level courses to fulfill the credential evaluation criteria before you can continue licensing. The following are a few helpful strategies that can help with time efficiency and reduced costs.

- Enroll in a community college. Community colleges are a more affordable option than enrolling in a university.
- Build a good relationship with your college advisor to help you navigate through which courses you need to take. Look at classes that you are interested in.
- The following is a list of more affordable schools in the Boise area:

1. College of Western Idaho

Phone: 208-562-3000

<http://cwidaho.cc/form/contact-us-e-mail>

2. Boise State University

Phone: 208-426-1156

[bsuinfo@boisestate.edu](mailto:bsuinfo@boisestate.edu)

<http://admissions.boisestate.edu/future-students/>

### **4. FOUR YEARS OF QUALIFYING EXPERIENCE**

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The IPELS requires that applicants have four years of qualifying experience before applying to the Professional Engineering exam. Two of the four years can be in any foreign jurisdiction but IPELS requires applicants to have at least two of the four years of experience working in United States codes and regulations.

If you have more than two years working with United States codes and regulations you will need to document this experience by filling out the Experience Table in the Professional Engineer by Exam application form that you submit to the board before applying to the PE Exam.

### *Two Years of Prior Experience*

In order to count at least two years of prior experience you are required to submit documentation in the Professional Engineer by Examination application form of your experience and number of years you worked under the direct supervision of a legally practicing engineer and actually had certain engineering responsibilities. Do not stop at documenting two years if you have more.

- You must be able to prove that you reported to a person who was legally practicing engineering at the time. This could include someone licensed in your country, or working under a US military engineer.
- You cannot certify your own experience - someone has to state he or she was the engineer in charge.
- Documentation forms are located in the IPELS application form:  
<http://www.ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm>

### *Two Years of U.S. Experience*

If you have at least two years of qualifying experience overseas but not two years of experience with U.S. codes and regulations, then you will need to earn the rest of the two years in a U.S. workplace. You are required to work under a licensed engineer with supervised engineering activities. The following are required

- Look for employment in a firm or other workplace with a professional engineer on staff and get permission for the engineer's participation in your program.
- You will have to document your work for the PE and receive his or her recommendation to meet the qualifying experience standards.

- Your exact job title is not relevant; you just need to work under a licensed engineer with increasing responsibility.
- If you change employers and/or supervising PEs over this two-year period, you must have all PEs submit documentation to account for the full amount of qualifying experience
- Once you have gathered all documentation, submit it together with the IPELS application for approval.

## **5. APPLY AND RECEIVE ENGINEER INTERN CERTIFICATION (EI) [Back To Top](#)**

Once you have passed the FE and satisfied your educational deficiencies, you are able to apply for an Engineer Intern Certification through IPELS. Note you can fulfill this step while still attempting to complete your Four Years of Qualifying Experience. You can find the application for the Engineering Intern Certification on the IPELS website under FE/FS Certification:

<http://www.ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm>

## **6. IPELS' PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER BY EXAMINATION APPLICATION**

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When you are ready to apply for the Professional Engineer exam, you need to check that you have completed all of the required steps:

1. Credentials Evaluated by NCEES
2. Satisfied Educational Deficiencies listed by NCEES
3. Completed Four Years of Qualifying Experience, unless you can validate overseas experience.
4. Passed the Fundamentals of Engineering Exam

You can contact and apply to IPELS as late as 4-6 months from when you are ready to apply to the PE exam. The application for the PE should include:

1. Your NCEES Evaluation
2. Academic credentials from overseas (which is included in the NCEES evaluation)
3. Show 4 years of qualifying experience, unless you can validate overseas experience.
4. Have school send official transcript with courses taken to fulfill any additional NCEES requirements noted in credential evaluation as deficiencies
5. Have NCEES verify FE Passing Exam (unless you claimed Idaho as state for FE)
6. You also need to prove that you live or work in Idaho, or are a F/T Student at an Idaho college or university.

The Professional Engineer by Exam application can be found at:

<http://www.ipels.idaho.gov/applist.cfm>

The application fee is **\$60**, as well as the PE testing fee paid to NCEES of **\$350**

**THE PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICE OF ENGINEERING EXAM (PE)** [Back To Top](#)

#### *General PE Exam Content*

The Principles and Practice of Engineering Exam (PE) is the last exam that you will need to take before becoming a licensed Professional Engineer. It tests the theoretical and practical engineering knowledge you have gained through a minimum of four years of qualifying employment experience under the guidance of a legally practicing engineer.

#### *PE Application Process and Fees*

You apply for and are scheduled to take the PE exam through IPELS.

The cost of the PE exam payable to NCEES is **\$350**. Further information on specific locations and fees, please visit the following link. <https://account.ncees.org>

#### *PE Exam Specifications*

Exam specifications and design standards are posted 6 months before the exam administration. Updates for April exams are posted in November, and updates for October exams are posted in



May. NCEES offers 17 distinct PE exams. For more information on specific exams, please see go to: <http://ncees.org/exams/pe-exam/>.

- The PE Exam consists of a full day of testing in one morning and one afternoon session of 4 hours each.
- The PE exam is offered two times a year, in April and October.
- Registration opens several months in advance.

### *[PE Practice Tests](#)*

NCEES offers computer-based practice exams on their website. These exams cost around \$50 and can be found at: <http://ncees.org/exams/study-materials/>

### *Scoring and Reporting*

PE exam results are typically available 8–10 weeks after you take the exam. You will receive an email notification from NCEES with instructions to view your results in your [MyNCEES account](#). Results include information specific to your licensing board regarding how you should proceed based on your performance.

All results are reported as pass or fail. If you fail the examination, you will receive a diagnostic report showing your performance for each of the major topics covered on the exam.

### *Failing/Retaking PE Exam*

#### **First Time Failure:**

The IPELS requires that a candidate who fails all or part of the professional engineering examination for the first time must apply for reexamination. You will need to pay for an application -\$60, as well as the cost of the PE exam-\$350

**Second Time Failure:**

The IPELS requires that a candidate who fails all or part of the professional engineering examination after the second time shall be required to obtain a minimum of one (1) additional year of experience, acceptable to the board, from the date of the second examination failure, and submit evidence of having completed an additional eight (8) semester credits of college level academic education relating to the examination. The separate application and examination fees will be required for the retake.

**Third Time Failure:**

In the event of a third or subsequent failure, the examinee shall be required to obtain a minimum of three (3) additional years of experience, acceptable to the board, from the date of the third or subsequent examination failure, and submit evidence of having completed an additional twelve (12) semester credits of college level academic education relating to the examination. The separate application and examination fees will be required for the retake.

*Reference Materials*

The PE exam is an open-book exam. You are allowed to bring reference materials to the exam, provided they are bound and remain bound during the exam. Loose paper may be bound with ring binders, brads, plastic snap binders, spiral-bound notebooks, and screw posts—but not with staples. Sticky notes and flags are permitted only when they remain attached to book pages.

**7. PASS PE EXAM AND RECEIVE LICENSURE AS A PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER**

Once you have passed the exam, you will be granted licensure as a Professional Engineer in the state of Idaho. Your PE license must be renewed every 2 years. Please refer to the section *Beyond Licensing* for basic information on requirements to maintain licensure.

**III. TIME AND COSTS**

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The time and cost associated with evaluating your foreign degree and obtaining a Professional Engineering license in Idaho depends on many factors:

- Depending on how complete your professional and educational records will have a big influence on the amount of time you will need to spend in order to fulfill deficiencies.
- The amount of deficiencies there are between your engineering degree and US accreditation standards.
- How well you perform on the FE and PE Exam. Failing and retaking these exams can cause major time and cost delays.
- Your ability to find employment that you can use for your qualifying experience.

#### **IV. OTHER CAREERS AND CREDENTIALS**

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The [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) from the Bureau of Labor Statistics can give you a better idea of what other careers are in the engineering field that does not require a license.

Choosing to seek lower-level positions in engineering, under the direct supervision of a Professional Engineer, can help meet longer-term licensing goals. It is an efficient use of time and money, as these jobs normally pay higher than secondary labor positions and your experience can be used towards your 4 years of qualifying experience. You should be honest with your employer about your long-term plans and be sure that they understand how you can contribute to their company's objectives.

#### **ENTRY-LEVEL**

##### **DETAILER/DRAFTER - COMPUTER-AIDED DESIGN AND DRAFTING**

- Typically, knowledge of CADD software is a prerequisite for this position, which involves the preparation of detailed drawings for manufacturing or construction
- 2 years of college typical
- 2010 median earnings nationally: \$47,880

## MECHANICAL ENGINEERING TECHNICIAN

- This position applies engineering principles narrowly, usually to solve specific problems in Research and Development
- 2 years of college typical
- 2010 median earnings nationally: \$50,110

## HIGHER SKILLED

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

If you have prior experience of project management and particularly strong communication and organizational skills, you may want to consider qualifying for the Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from the Project Management Institute. The PMP is a widely-recognized credential that can complement an engineering background, as many large engineering projects require both project skills and mastery of technical specialties. Again, if your soft skills prepare you for this kind of work, it is a way to work actively in the engineering field without having to hold professional licensure.

### CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Construction management certificates also offers a way of differentiating you in the medium term and saving resources while still maintaining a critical role in the civil engineering field. Construction management is a viable option if you have excellent communication and organizational skills and have already worked in this capacity in your career.

### LEED CERTIFICATION PROFESSIONAL

Green building and Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification depend, in part, on systems that fall to mechanical engineers, such as heating and cooling. Given trends towards large-scale investment in environmentally-friendly building and rehabilitation, getting certified to assess projects for LEED can be an interesting credential for an engineer with the right transferable skills.

## **V. BEYOND LICENSING**

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### MAINTAINING LICENSURE

Renewal notices are printed and mailed to the address on file approx. 5-6 weeks prior to the expiration date of the license or certificate. You are required to renew your license every two years. The cost of renewal is \$100, and can be done online at IPELS website:

<http://www.ipels.idaho.gov/renewalinfo.htm>

### RENEWAL VS. REINSTATEMENT

Be careful to observe your renewal notices and keep your address updated. To reinstate an expired license requires more documentation, fees, and sometimes, coursework. To keep informed of regulation requirements and update your skills, you may consider joining a professional association (see below).

### JOINING A PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

#### STATE:

- Idaho Society of Professional Engineers: <http://www.idahospes.org/>

#### NATIONAL:

- National Society of Professional Engineers: <http://www.nspe.org/>
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers: <https://www.asme.org/>
- SAE International: aerospace, off-highway/heavy duty vehicles, trucks, buses, or passenger cars: <https://www.sae.org/>
- American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc.: <https://www.ashrae.org/>

## **VI. IMPORTANT LINKS**

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### FOREIGN DEGREE EVALUATION:

- The [National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying \(NCEES\)](#) is the credential evaluation service for foreign-educated engineers accepted by the state of Idaho

## Idaho Engineer (PE) Licensing Guide

- The [American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers \(AACRAO\)](#) must review your foreign degree if your degree was not directly in engineering

### REGULATION:

- [Idaho Board of Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors](#)

### TESTING:

- The [National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying \(NCEES\)](#) has a wealth of information about exams including test preparation materials
- [NCEES Exams Section](#) with important site links to both FE and PE exam information
- [NCEES Official information on the PE Exam](#), with details for both the Breadth and Depth sessions
- [NCEES official information on the FE Exam](#), with details for both the Breadth and Depth sessions
- [FE and PE testing dates and registration information](#)
- [FE Supplied-Reference Handbook](#) contains equations and data you will need for the exam

### PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:

- [Idaho Society of Professional Engineers](#)
- [National Society of Professional Engineers](#)
- [American Society of Mechanical Engineers](#) has several regional chapters in Idaho.
- [SAE International](#) is an association for mechanical engineering in aerospace, off-highway/heavy duty vehicles, trucks buses, or passenger cars
- [American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc.](#)

### OTHER:

- The Occupational Outlook Handbook from the Bureau of Labor Statistics has articles on [Architecture and Engineer Occupations](#) and on [Drafters](#)

- Different credentials offered by the [Green Building Certification Institute for LEED](#) (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design)

## **VII. TIPS**

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### **PROVIDE COMPLETE DOCUMENTS**

NCEES requires your university to send transcripts directly them. It is wise to thoroughly invest time and money in this process. Make sure to provide additional documentation to NCEES about the program you studied, i.e. course descriptions and syllabi. This can help save time and money by helping minimize the gaps in comparing your degree to its US equivalent.

### **SPEAK UP**

Advocate for yourself during the licensing process. If you have questions, make sure that you ask for clarification from official sources. NCEES provides an online chat with client representatives. For example, if you feel your degree has been misinterpreted or you do not understand a fine point of the state regulations, organize your questions, contact IPELS, and ask for assistance.

### **TAKE EASY COURSES**

If you have to retake courses that you have previously taken in high school to fulfill college level requirements make sure to take easy courses to reduce your work. By taking easier classes you allow yourself more time to work on your qualifying experience and studying for the FE Exam.

### **STUDY HARD FOR THE PE EXAM**

It is imperative that you pass the PE exam within the first two attempts of taking the exam. If you fail the PE exam more than two times you will be required to take more college courses and receive more years of qualifying experience. Make sure you invest a lot of time into preparing for the PE exam.