
The Texas Board of Professional Engineers Quarterly e-Newsletter September 12, 2016

Engineers-In-Training and Decoupling of PE Exam

TBPE recently changed the requirement to sit for the PE exam through "Decoupling". Decoupling is a process that allows Texas Engineers-in-Training (EITs) to sit for the PE exam prior to completing their experience requirement. For more information on decoupling refer to:
<http://engineers.texas.gov/decoupling.html>.

Registration for the October 2016 PE exam recently closed, and a large number of EITs registered for the exam. Of the almost 3,000 registrations, over 1,600 were EITs.

If you are interested in taking the PE exam in April 2017, you can start submitting your [EIT Application](#) or [PE Application](#) now. The sooner the better - the TBPE application deadline is December 9, 2016. NCEES exam registration opens December 12, 2016 and closes February 23, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. CDT.

Board Meeting Update

The Texas Board of Professional Engineers Quarterly Board and Committee Meetings were held August 17-18, 2016. Highlights include the following:

- **Adopted Board Rule Changes** - The Board adopted amendments to §133.27, §133.41 and §133.43. The rule changes were effective September 11, 2016. The new [Law and Rules Document](#) can be downloaded from the TBPE Website.
 - The adopted rule changes to §133.27 implement a licensing agreement between the Texas Board of Professional Engineers and the Republic of Korea. South Korea (The Republic of Korea) has been added to the existing rule for Temporary Licenses that currently addresses Australia, Canada and Mexico. The agreement was signed on March 10, 2016.
 - The adopted rule changes to §133.41 and §133.43 implement process changes related to enhancing engagement of EITs. These changes allow a person to demonstrate enhanced competence and readiness for licensure on the license application by including information on the Supplementary Experience Record regarding additional training and participation in professional organizations.
- **Proposed Board Rule Changes** - Proposed changes will be posted on the TBPE website September 16, 2016. Comments can be made at that time.

- 131.1, 131.3, 131.63, 131.7, 131.81, 131.85 - The proposed rule changes are clean up changes to make some minor corrections and updates.
 - 137.5, 137.17, 137.31, 137.33, 137.37 and 137.63 - The proposed rule changes are intended to more closely align with the statute or are typographical, grammatical or add clarification to the specific rule.
 - 139.13, 139.15, 139.17, 139.19, 139.31, 139.35 and 139.47 - The proposed rule changes are intended to more closely align with the statute or are typographical, grammatical or add clarification to the specific rule.
 - 133.35 - The proposed rule change extends the acceptance of transcripts from NCEES and Board approved commercial evaluation services provided the transcripts were forwarded directly from the registrar of the institution.
 - 133.67 - The proposed rule change clarifies the time frame when an applicant may re-apply for approval to register for the PE exam after exhausting the approved exam attempts or having the approval period expire.
- **Video Clips** - Video recordings of the Board meeting are available at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/recordings.htm> Viewing these recordings qualifies for continuing education credit under the category of self-directed study. A maximum of five credit hours may be accrued for self-directed study.
 - **Disciplinary Actions**
All enforcement actions approved in the board meeting are posted on the TBPE website. Enforcement actions are reported based on the date of the board meeting at which the actions were taken.
Refer to: <http://engineers.texas.gov/disciplinary.htm>
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Webinars and Outreach

TBPE continues to offer ethics outreach presentations both in person and in a webinar format for the convenience of our licensees. The free webinars have been so well received that we are now adding additional events as needed. If you are interested in scheduling a live TBPE ethics presentation at your workplace, refer to our outreach page at: <http://engineers.texas.gov/outreach>.

- **[Ethics Webinars](#)**
December 7, 2016, 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. - These quarterly webinars provide an up-to-date overview of agency activities, case studies, and a review of professional ethics topics. Ethics webinars are held approximately one month prior to each quarterly expiration date. Registration for these webinars will open one month prior to each event.
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And More:

Give us feedback on how we are doing by filling out our customer service survey. Please visit our website at <http://engineers.texas.gov/feedback> or call us for a paper survey. We want to hear your suggestions on how we can improve agency operations and service delivery.

In keeping with our efforts to modernize and increase communication with our licensees and the public, you can now follow us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and via an RSS feed. Join today!

NOTE: This email was sent from an unmonitored mailbox; direct replies will not be read. To contact the Board, please visit our website at: http://engineers.texas.gov/staff_contact.htm

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