History of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists

Civil Engineers Board (1929 - Present)

The California Legislature created the Board of Registration for Civil Engineers in 1929 following the failure of the Saint Francis (San Francisquito) Dam in northern Los Angeles County in March 1928 (Chapter 766, Statutes of 1929). The 200-foot dam, designed by William Mulholland for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, near the southern end of the aqueduct bringing water from the Owens River to the San Fernando Valley, suddenly gave way. A monstrous wall of water cascaded down the narrow valley of the Santa Clara River. When the water hit Santa Paula, almost 50 miles downstream from the dam, the crest was still 25 feet high. Lives lost numbered from 409 to 450, almost as many as in San Francisco's great fire. Property damage was millions of dollars. After the flood, inspection revealed that the dam was built on and anchored to a weak and faulted rock formation. The legislature determined that the unregulated design of construction projects constituted a hazard to the public. A law was then enacted requiring the registration of civil engineers.

When Legislative Committee hearings on the bill were held, a difference of opinion developed between proponents of registration by branch and those who favored registration in the category of professional engineer only. Opposition also developed from those engineers who were against the philosophy of licensing in general. The mining engineers strongly objected to any regulation of their activities as did some representatives of the mechanical and electrical engineering groups. Because the principal opposition came from groups who practiced in branches other than civil engineering, the bill was amended to exclude them and require registration of civil engineers only. It was in this form that Assembly Bill 174 was signed by the Governor (Chapter 801, Statutes of 1929). Initially the area of overlap between architecture and engineering was considered relatively unimportant, but as taller buildings were being designed and constructed, it became a source of increasing controversy. To resolve the disputed area of overlap between architecture and structural engineering, a solution was offered creating the title authority of structural engineer. Registered civil engineers who were found to be qualified in structural engineering could use the title structural engineer. Civil engineers then sponsored legislation creating the structural engineer title authority (Chapter 254, Statutes of 1931).

State Surveyor General (1891 – 1933)

Although Civil Engineers first became licensed in 1929, Land Surveyors have been licensed in California since 1891 in accordance with an act to establish land surveying that was enacted March 31, 1891. That was the year the Legislature established the State Surveyor General. However, in 1933, the Legislature abolished that office and enacted the Professional Land Surveyors' Act (Business and Professions [B&P] Code section 8700, et seq.). The Act expanded the Board's authority to include jurisdiction over licensing of land surveyors and regulation of surveying practices. Until then, local governments had been interpreting the laws governing subdivision maps and recordation of parcel boundaries in widely differing ways for many years. Many land surveyors ignored basic legal requirements concerning subdivision maps and survey records. Some

counties allowed boundary monuments to be moved or even destroyed. Legal disputes over property boundaries cost the state and the public millions of dollars. Regulation of land surveyors brought about uniform enforcement of survey law and furthered the best interests of the state and California consumers.

Growth of the Professional Engineers Board (1933 – 2009)

The technical advances made during the forties, possibly due to World War II, resulted in the registration, by title, of engineers in the branches of chemical, electrical, mechanical, and petroleum engineering. This was done through legislation in 1947. Because of the more specialized use of electrical and mechanical engineering, the law was amended in 1967 to change electrical and mechanical engineering from title act registrations to practice act registrations. Also in 1967, the legislature created the title disciplines of metallurgical and industrial engineering – that the Board opposed. A bill was then passed by the Legislature (Chapter 895, Statutes of 1968) which gave the authority to create new title acts to the Board by allowing interested parties to petition the Board for creation of new branches of engineering.

Several years passed, and the composition of the Board changed. During the early seventies, the Board received petitions from persons representing the branches of aerospace, agriculture, air pollution, communication, control system, corrosion, environmental, fire protection, manufacturing, nuclear, quality, safety, and traffic engineering. Hearings were held, and all petitions were approved except for the petitions of aerospace, air pollution, communication, and environmental engineers. In 1976 and 1977, the Board finally adopted formal regulations to implement licensure for the engineering disciplines which it had recognized during the preceding years.

In 1980, the laws were changed so that civil engineers licensed after January 1, 1982, would no longer have the authority to practice land surveying unless they obtained a license as a land surveyor; however, civil engineers were still allowed to practice engineering surveying, with that area of practice specified in law (Chapter 824, Statutes of 1979). Additionally, in 1982, the title authority of geotechnical engineer was added to the practice of civil engineering by the Legislature (Chapter 646, Statutes of 1982).

In 1985, Senate Bill 1030 (Chapter 732, Statutes of 1985) was passed by the Legislature with support from this Board. The bill amended Section 6732 of the B&P Code to codify the existing engineering disciplines into the Professional Engineers Act (B&P Code § 6700, et seq.), thereby recognizing them by statute rather than by regulation. It also repealed Section 6700.1 of the B&P Code, which had allowed for the establishment of new engineering disciplines by petition to the Board.

In 1999, examinations in three title acts (corrosion, quality, and safety) were eliminated. In 2004, legislation (Chapter 789, Statute of 2003) was enacted to discontinue the examination for manufacturing engineering. Currently, there are nine remaining title acts: agricultural, chemical, control systems, fire protection, industrial, metallurgical, nuclear, petroleum, and traffic engineering.

Geologists and Geophysicists Board (1969 - 2009)

The former Board for Geologists and Geophysicists (BGG) was created in 1969 by legislation signed by then-Governor Ronald Reagan on August 1, 1968, under the Geologist Act and was provided authority to regulate the practice of geology. The Board was comprised of seven members (four public members and three professional licensees). In 1972, legislation was adopted to include the practice of geophysics, resulting in the renaming of the enabling act to the Geologist and Geophysicist Act. Professional Geologists had been licensed by the Board since 1970, as had the title authority license of Certified Engineering Geologist for Professional Geologists. Licensing of Professional Geophysicists began in 1973. Regulations were adopted in 1995 to include the title authority license of Certified Hydrogeologist for Professional Geologists.

Consumer demand for regulation of geological practices and concern for public safety and protection from landslide damage was a driving factor in the establishment of a board to regulate the practice of geology. Housing tracts built on hillsides were developed without the benefit of regulated and licensed geologists. In 1962, Southern California experienced a geologic disaster due to rainfall-induced landslides that impacted hillside development. The landslides resulted in significant financial losses that eventually led to the adoption of professional licensure for geologists in California.

In an attempt to prevent future geologic accidents, the City of Los Angeles adopted grading ordinances that required geologic reports for hillside development. Soon thereafter, other Southern California cities and counties enacted their own geological ordinances and qualifications for geologists. A need was recognized to establish both uniform statewide standards and a mechanism for statewide licensure. The Board for Geologists and Geophysicists functioned as a separate board for 40 years.

Legislation enacted during the 4th Extraordinary Session of 2009 (ABX4 20) eliminated the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists and transferred all of the duties, powers, purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction to regulate the practices of geology and geophysics to the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. The transfer of authority became effective October 23, 2009. The Geologist and Geophysicist Act (Business and Professions [B&P] Code section 7800, et seq.) and the Rules and Regulations pertaining to the practices of geology and geophysics (Title 16, California Code of Regulations [16 CCR] section 3000, et seq.) remain in effect.

Effective January 1, 2011, the name of the Board was changed to the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

The licenses or certifications currently regulated by the Board are comprised of three primary categories: Practice Acts; Title Acts; and Title Authorities. Practice Act licenses indicate that both the actual practice and the use of the title are regulated. Title Act licenses indicate that only the use of the title is regulated and the actual practice is not. Title Authorities represent licenses that authorize the use of specific titles by individuals who already hold certain Practice Act licenses. For example, Geotechnical and Structural Engineers must be licensed as a Civil Engineer first as a prerequisite for the title authority,

while Certified Engineering Geologists and Certified Hydrogeologists must be licensed as a Professional Geologist first. The following chart illustrates these primary categories.

Practice Acts	Title Acts	Title Authorities
Civil Engineer	Agricultural Engineer	Geotechnical Engineer
Electrical Engineer	Chemical Engineer	Structural Engineer
Land Surveyor	Control System Engineer	Certified Engineering Geologist
Mechanical Engineer	Fire Protection Engineer	Certified Hydrogeologist
Professional Geologist	Industrial Engineer	
Professional Geophysicist	Metallurgical Engineer	
	Nuclear Engineer	
	Petroleum Engineer	
	Traffic Engineer	

In addition, the Board issues certifications for Engineer-In-Training (EIT), Geologist-In-Training (GIT), and Land Surveyor-In-Training (LSIT), which recognize individuals who have obtained a specific level of engineering, geology, or land surveying education and/or work experience as the entry-level step towards eventual licensure as a professional engineer, geologist, or land surveyor.

Function of the Board

The Board is charged with safeguarding life, health, property, and public welfare by regulating the practices of professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics. The Board provides this public service by qualifying and licensing individuals, establishing regulations, enforcing laws and regulations, and providing information so that consumers can make informed decisions.

The regulation of engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists is intended to protect the public from incompetent, negligent, and/or unscrupulous individuals who would offer such services without having demonstrated they are properly qualified. The public is assured that licensed engineers, licensed land surveyors, licensed geologists, and licensed geophysicists have met state-approved education, experience, and examination standards established by the Board.

Engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists make professional judgments, which have major financial, health, safety, and other significant consequences on a daily basis. The highways, bridges, dams, waterways, buildings, and electrical and mechanical systems in buildings are all products of engineering. Consequences of poorly designed bridges or buildings include deaths and injuries as well as financial hardship to the property owner ultimately responsible for damages and reconstruction. Land surveyors help to define property boundaries. A miscalculation of property boundaries in a residential or commercial neighborhood could cause a property owner financial loss if the property is sold or improvements were constructed based on reliance upon an incorrect boundary. A structure could be located on another individual's property, with concomitant major financial losses and inability to convey title. Geologists and geophysicists analyze

the rock, soil, and groundwater resources in California and help to determine if active landslides, earthquake faults, or underground water supplies impact orderly and safe development or if they impact the health, safety or welfare of the public.

The complexity of engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics projects necessitates a very high degree of technical knowledge and skill which is typically only acquired after many years of experience. The vast majority of licensed engineers hold a college degree in engineering. Land surveyors make decisions and form opinions based upon interpretation of legal documents, field evidence, and the use of technically advanced instrumentation. Licensed geologists and geophysicists often obtain post-secondary degrees in earth sciences and devote many years of experience studying and interpreting data related to rock, soils, earth dynamics, and groundwater and the effect those have on public improvements.

Current Composition of the Board

There are fifteen Board member positions on the Board. All appointments to the Board are for a term of four years, with vacancies filled by appointment for the unexpired term. Each appointment (or re-appointment) after the initial appointment, if the initial appointment fills an unexpired term, is for a four-year term expiring on June 30 of the fourth year following the year in which the previous term expired. Each member may remain on the Board until the appointment of his or her successor or until one year has elapsed after the expiration of the term for which he or she was appointed, whichever occurs first; this is known as the "grace year." No person is allowed to serve as a member of the Board for more than two consecutive full four-year terms. (B&P Code §6712).

There are eight public member positions, appointed as follows (B&P Code §§6711 & 6712):

- Six public members by the Governor
- One public member by the Senate Rules Committee
- One public member by the Speaker of the Assembly

There are seven professional member positions, all appointed by the Governor. The seven professional member positions represent the branches or disciplines of engineering, land surveying, geology, or geophysics listed below. In addition, one professional member must be from a local public agency and another professional member must be from a State agency. (B&P §§6711 & 6712):

- Civil Engineer
- Electrical Engineer
- Mechanical Engineer
- Structural Engineer
- Other Professional Engineer (representing one of the other branches or disciplines not specifically represented)

- Land Surveyor
- Professional Geologist or Geophysicist

The Board has not experienced many issues with the inability to hold meetings due to a lack of a quorum in the last five years. There has only been one meeting that had to be cancelled and rescheduled due to a lack of a quorum. As of November 1, 2023, there are three (3) vacancies on the Board; the Mechanical Engineer, Other Professional Engineer, and Public Member (Governor appointee).

9/6/2018. Santa Rosa
18, Tele
11/1/2018, Monterey
12/13/2018, Riverside
2/21/2019, Sacramento
4/11/2019, Calabasas
5/13/2019, Teleconference
6/13/2019, Pomona
8/8/2019, Santa Rosa
9/26/2019, San Diego
11/21/2019, Oakland
1/16/2020, Sacramento
3/12/2020, Monterey
5/7/2020, Teleconference
6/25/2020, Teleconference
8/20/2020, Teleconference
10/15/2020, Teleconference
12/10/2020, Teleconference
2/4/2021, Teleconference
4/1/2021, Teleconference
5/27/2021, Teleconference
7/23/2021, Teleconference
9/16/2021, Teleconference
11/8/2021, Teleconference
1/10/2022, Teleconference
3/7/2022, Sacramento
5/2/2022, Sacramento
6/23/2022, Santa Rosa
8/22/22, San Diego
10/20/22, Riverside
12/8/22, Sacramento
2/2/23, Ventura
4/13/23, Sacramento
6/8/23, Sacramento

TERMED OUT BOARD MEMBERS

NAME OF BOARD MEMBER				FY 1	8/19						F	Y 19/	20			FY 2	0/21				F	Y 21/	22					FY 2	22/23		
NATALIE ALAVI Appointed 12/17/13 – 6/30/21		N		N	Ν		Ν		N				N																		
DUANE FRIEL Appointed 10/10/18 – 1/17/23			Ν	Ν				Ν			Ν		Ν						Ν				Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν	Ν			
ANDREW HAMILTON Appointed 3/12/18 – 6/30/20				N		Ν			Ν		Ν																				
KATHY JONES IRISH Appointed 7/6/12 - 6/30/23			Ν			Ν			Ν	Ν			Ν				Ν			Ν			Ν	N			Ν				
ERIC JOHNSON Appointed 12/3/13 – 6/30/22			Ν															Ν	Ν						Ν						
ASHA BROOKS LANG Appointed 12/17/13 – 6/30/21	Ν	Ν	Ν			Ν		Ν	Ν		Ν	Ν	Ν	N	Ν	Ν		Ν	Ν												
PAUL NOVAK Appointed 1/4/21-6/30/23																											Ν			Ν	
MOHAMMAD QURESHI Appointed 3/6/14 – 6/30/23											Ν	Ν												Ν							
WILLIAM "JERRY" SILVA Appointed 2/13/08 – 6/30/19	Ν	Ν					Ν																								
ROBERT STOCKTON Appointed 7/6/12 – 5/13/20			Ν						Ν																						
STEVEN WILSON Appointed 6/14/16 – 6/30/20																															

N – REPRESENTS ABSENCE

— WAS NOT APPOINTED AT THIS TIME

9/6/2018, Santa Rosa	
11/2018, Teleco	1
11/1/2018, Monterey	I
12/13/2018, Riverside	1
2/21/2019, Sacramento	
4/11/2019, Calabasas	
5/13/2019, Teleconference	
6/13/2019, Pomona	
8/8/2019, Santa Rosa	
9/26/2019, San Diego	
11/21/2019, Oakland	
1/16/2020, Sacramento	
3/12/2020, Monterey	
5/7/2020, Teleconference	
6/25/2020, Teleconference	
8/20/2020, Teleconference	
10/15/2020, Teleconference	
12/10/2020, Teleconference	
2/4/2021, Teleconference	
4/1/2021, Teleconference	
5/27/2021, Teleconference	
7/23/2021, Teleconference	
9/16/2021, Teleconference	
11/8/2021, Teleconference	
1/10/2022, Teleconference	
3/7/2022, Sacramento	
5/2/2022, Sacramento	
6/23/2022, Santa Rosa	
8/22/22, San Diego	
10/20/22, Riverside	
12/8/22, Sacramento	
2/2/23, Ventura	
4/13/23, Sacramento	
6/8/23, Sacramento	
	1

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

NAME OF BOARD MEMBER		FY 18/19				F	Y 19/	20			FY 2	0/21		FY 21/22						FY 22/23								
ALIREZA ASGARI, Professional Member Appointed 6/15/18 Reappointed 4/28/22						Ν																	Ν					
FELINO AMISTAD, Public Member Appointed 11/24/15 Reappointed 7/2/18; 2/22/23																												
ROSSANA D'ANTONIO , Professional Member Appointed 8/24/20																			Ν									
MARIA CRISTINA "TINA" GARCIA Appointed 9/7/23																												
MICHAEL HARTLEY, Professional Member Appointed 9/29/20																							Ν				Ν	
COBY KING, Public Member Appointed 5/29/13 Reappointed 7/19/16; 1/7/21		Ν						Ν																				
GUILLERMO MARTINEZ, Professional Member Appointed 5/19/23																												
ELIZABETH "BETSY" MATHIESON, Prof. Member Appointed 2/12/15 Reappointed 7/2/18; 2/22/23	Ν																											
FRANK RUFFINO, Public Member Appointed by the Senate 5/3/18 Reappointed 7/29/20; 6/30/23			Ν		Ν								Ν								Ν		Ν		Ν			
WILFREDO SANCHEZ, Public Member Appointed 9/29/20 Reappointed 5/19/23																Ν								Ν	Ν			
FERMIN VILLEGAS, Public Member Appointed by the Assembly 6/29/23																												
CHRISTINA WONG, Public Member Appointed 9/7/21																												

N – REPRESENTS ABSENCE

WAS NOT APPOINTED AT THIS TIME

Table 1b.	Board	Member	Roster
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Member Name	Date First Appointed	Date Reappointed	Date Term Expires	Appointing Authority	Type (public or professional)
Fel Amistad	11/24/2015	7/2/2018 2/22/2023	6/30/2026	Governor	Public
Alireza Asgari	6/15/2018	4/28/2022	6/30/2025	Governor	Professional
Rossana D'Antonio	8/24/2020	8/03/2023	6/30/2027	Governor	Professional
Cristina Garcia	9/07/2023	-	6/30/2026	Governor	Public
Michael Hartley	9/29/2020	9/07/2023	6/30/27	Governor	Professional
Coby King	5/29/2013	7/19/2016 1/07/2021	6/30/2024	Governor	Public
Guillermo Martinez	5/19/2023	-	6/30/2025	Governor	Professional
Elizabeth Mathieson	2/10/2015	7/2/2018 2/22/2023	6/30/2026	Governor	Professional
Frank Ruffino	5/02/2018	7/29/2020 6/30/2023	6/30/2027	Senate Rules	Public
Wilfredo Sanchez	9/29/2020	5/19/2023	6/30/2026	Governor	Public
Fermin Villegas	6/29/2023	-	6/30/2027	Assembly Speaker	Public
Christina Wong	9/07/2021	-	6/30/2024	Governor	Public

Committees of the Board

Prior to 2005, there were four active standing committees of the Board: Administration, Examination, Enforcement, and Legislation. Each committee was comprised of Board members. The Board eliminated the standing committees as a cost saving measure in 2004; currently, all issues are reviewed and discussed at the Board meetings. The Board has no plans to reinstate the standing committees at this time.

The Board also has the authority to appoint Technical Advisory Committees (TACs) under the provisions of Sections 6728, 7826, and 8715 of the B&P Code. The TACs may each consist of five technical members, all of whom are licensees of the Board, but none of whom are Board members. Two Board members, one professional member and one public member, are assigned as liaisons to the TAC. These committees are appointed as needed to advise Board members and staff on matters pertaining to the various branches of engineering, land surveying, and geology and geophysics. As of November 1, 2023, there are no appointed TAC members or active committees.

In addition to the above-noted standing committees, the President of the Board, with the concurrence of the other Board members, occasionally appoints special committees or workgroups to serve specific purposes. The life, charge, and operating procedures of such committees are determined by the establishing authority.

Internal Review and Reorganization

As a result of the Board's internal Business Modernization Study, conducted beginning in 2016, management of the Licensing and Examination Development Unit was divided into two separate units to accommodate the necessary improvements to application processing and to more fully provide management oversight, all in an effort to provide more effective service to our customer base.

Richard B. Moore, PLS, is the Executive Officer of the Board, having served in this position since July 1, 2011, after being appointed by the Board. Prior to this role at the Board, Mr. Moore served as the Board's Senior Registrar Land Surveyor from September 2009 through June 2011 and the Board's Land Surveyor Consultant from January 1, 2007 through August 2009 after working in private practice since 1980.

Nancy Eissler is the Board's Assistant Executive Officer, having served in this position since 2014. Ms. Eissler has worked for the Board for 33 years. Prior to serving as the Assistant Executive Officer for the Board, Ms. Eissler served as the Board's Enforcement Program Manager, the Board's liaison to the Office of the Attorney General, and as clerical support to the Administrative Services and Examination Development Units.

Currently, the Board is organized into four units, Administrative Services, Enforcement, Examination Development, and Licensing, which are all under the direction of the Assistant Executive Officer and the Executive Officer.

Strategic Planning

In the spring and summer of 2021, the Board revisited its Strategic Plan goals intended for the following five years and reaffirmed a goal to proactively monitor the objectives on a regular basis. The current 2022-2027 plan is published on the Board's website under Publications at <u>https://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/pubs/index.shtml</u>. The Board intends to revisit the current plan during 2024 in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order (N-16-22) related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) considerations.

All Legislation Sponsored by the Board and Affecting the Board Since the Last Sunset Review

2018 Legislative Session

- SB 920 Cannella (Chapter 150, Statutes of 2018): Extended the sunset date relating to the authorization for professional engineers and professional land surveyors to form Limited Liability Partnerships.
- SB 1098 Cannella (Chapter 154, Statutes of 2018): Board-sponsored legislation that amended the Geologist and Geophysicist Act to address the services for which the Board can charge fees and adjusted the statutory maximum of those fees.

2019 Legislative Session

- AB 1522 Low (Chapter 630, Statutes of 2019): 1) Extended the Board's sunset date to January 1, 2024; 2) amended provisions in the three Acts that require licensees to cooperate with the Board during investigations of the licensees themselves to review the sunset date of those provisions; 3) added a provision to the Geologist and Geophysicist Act to authorize the Board to pursue disciplinary action against a geologist-in-training certificate; 4) repealed an obsolete reporting provision from the Professional Engineers Act; and, 5) made conforming and nonsubstantive changes to the three Acts.
- SB 339 Jones (Chapter 145, Statutes of 2019): Added provisions to the three Acts that provide if a licensee under the Acts who is retained as an expert witness enters into a nondisclosure agreement, that agreement shall not be construed to prevent the licensee from reporting a potential violation of the Acts, as applicable to the licensee, to the Board, and that those provisions would not be construed to be, or act as, a waiver of any applicable attorney-client or attorney work product privileges.

2020 Legislative Session

• SB 1371 – Maintenance of the Codes (Chapter 370, Statutes of 2020) – Made nonsubstantive changes to B&P Code §6787.

2021 Legislative Session

- SB 414 Jones (Chapter 106, Statutes of 2021): Amended provisions of the Professional Land Surveyors' Act related to the definition of the practice of land surveying and made other nonsubstantive changes to the Act.
- SB 826 Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development (Chapter 188, Statutes of 2021): Amended sections of the three Acts to clarify that a person who fails a licensing examination may retake it upon payment of the examination fee but that an application fee is not required. These amendments were made at the Board's request.

2022 Legislative Session

• SB 1120 – Jones (Chapter 302, Statutes of 2022): Board-sponsored legislation that 1) Added provisions to the three Acts to require applicants and licensees to provide the Board with a valid email address (if they have one) and to notify the Board within

30 days of any change of that email address; 2) repealed the provision in the Professional Engineers Act that required the Board to mail a renewal application form to licensees prior to their expiration/renewal date; and, 3) repealed subsections of provisions in the Professional Engineers Act and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act relating to engineering and land surveying work performed by non-engineering and non-land surveying businesses and made conforming changes.

• SB 1443 – Roth (Chapter 625, Statutes of 2022): Extended the Board's sunset date to January 1, 2025.

2023 Legislative Session

No legislation made changes to the three Acts under the Board's jurisdiction.

All Regulation Changes Adopted by the Board Since the Last Sunset Review

The Following Regulatory Changes Became Effective from FY 2018/19 through FY 2022/23:

- Educational Requirements for Certification or Licensure as a Geologist-in-Training, Professional Geologist, Certified Engineering Geologist, Certified Hydrogeologist, and Professional Geophysicist (effective October 1, 2019) -16 CCR 3022, 3022.1, 3022.2, and 3031 Clarified the educational requirements for certification or licensure as Geologist-in-Training, Professional Geologist, Certified Engineering Geologist, Certified Hydrogeologist, and Professional Geophysicist.
- Fees Authorized Pursuant to the Professional Engineers Act, Professional Land Surveyors' Act, and Geologist and Geophysicist Act (effective January 1, 2021) - 16 CCR 407, 410, 3005, and 3010 Amended the fees authorized to be charged by the Board for license applications, license renewals, and replacement certificates to address the Board's structural imbalance.
- Substantial Relationship Criteria and Criteria for Rehabilitation (effective May 17, 2021) - 16 CCR 416, 418, 3060, and 3061 Amended regulations to conform to statutory changes made by Assembly Bill 2138 (Chiu, Ch. 995, Stats.2018).
- Review and Appeals of Engineering and Land Surveying Examinations (effective October 1, 2021) - 16 CCR 443 and 444

Repealed sections that had become obsolete by their own terms.

 Geology and Geophysics Examination Fees, Abandoned Applications, Postponements, and Examinations (effective June 29, 2023) – 16 CCR 3005, 3024, 3024.5, 3026, and 3031
 Added, amended, and repealed sections relating to payment of fees for national geology licensure examinations, abandonment of geology and geophysics licensure applications, postponement of geology and geophysics licensure examinations, and components and scoring of the geology and geophysics licensure examinations.

Board-initiated Studies - Continuing Education

During the Board's discussion of the recently adopted 2022-27 Strategic Plan, the Board established an objective to develop a strategy for implementing a continuing education requirement to help licensees maintain and improve their professional knowledge and awareness of new, pertinent laws. Subsequent Board discussions have centered on the establishment of a committee (represented by two board members and Board's executive leadership) to identify steps for evaluating the feasibility of such an implementation for its regulated licensees and to provide recommendations to the Board. The committee is currently in the early stages of gathering data from similar licensing boards across the nation and the professional communities within California.

National Associations

Due to the overall regulatory responsibilities assigned to the Board as it relates to the licensing of engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists, the Board retains a longstanding participatory membership in two national associations primarily related to the examination requirements for its various license types.

National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)

The Board is an active voting member of NCEES, which is a national non-profit organization composed of sixty-nine (69) member licensing boards representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. NCEES is dedicated to advancing professional licensure for engineers and surveyors. It develops, administers, and scores the examinations used for engineering and surveying licensure in the United States. Fifteen of the Board's 22 licenses/certifications require passage of the national engineering and land surveying examinations that are developed, scored, and administered by NCEES.

Membership with NCEES is categorized into four separate regional zones: Northeast; Southern; Central; and Western Zones. California is one of 15 states or territories that comprise the Western Zone.

NCEES regularly schedules two primary member meetings on an annual basis, an Interim Zone meeting for each zone, typically held in the spring, and the Annual Meeting, which is typically held in August. Each member board of NCEES is allowed one vote during the Interim Zone meeting and again during the Annual Meeting for actions associated with changes to the established policies or procedures related to exam development, exam administration, fees charged to applicants and to the Board, model licensing criteria, and overall NCEES organizational goals. Often, the actions to be voted on at these annual meetings will result in changes to the criteria that are considered acceptable for licensure and to the content of the exams. As such, in-person attendance by California Board representatives at these meetings is critical towards ensuring that these actions are not discriminatory for California applicants and licensees and that the content of the exams is appropriate for licensure in California with due regard to protecting the public health, safety, welfare, and property.

Even though the Board only holds only one of the council votes by membership, NCEES national exam candidates seeking licensure in California represent one-fourth of all engineering and land surveying examinations nationwide on an annual basis. This statistic, coupled with the disciplinary-specific nature of California's licensing model, are primary examples for why continued active participation on the national level is critical for California constituents.

Since the last Sunset Report, the topic of multi-state licensure (a licensed individual seeking comity or reciprocal licensing in one or more additional states) has increased in terms of discussion and focus on the national level. This requires representatives of the California Board, as well as other similar licensing boards outside of California, to be well-versed on how licensing in this regard is being conducted and accepted on a national level, all in preparation for ensuring that existing license holders from other jurisdictions are satisfying the same or equivalent criteria as California-based applicants are required to do.

Travel expenses to the meetings are funded through the member fees that the Board already pays and do not require an additional expenditure of Board funds.

Since the Board's last Sunset Report, representatives from the Board were generally granted approval to attend the spring Western Zone Interim Meetings and the August Annual Meetings. Most recently, the Board received approval from the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency and the Governor's Office to attend the 2023 Annual Meeting which was held in Boston, Massachusetts, in August and will be seeking state approval to travel for the 2024 Western Zone Interim Meeting scheduled to be held in the spring of 2024 in Bozeman, Montana.

Licensed members of the Board regularly collaborate with NCEES on the examination processes by serving on examination committees, participating in examination development workshops, and reviewing/evaluating changes to the national examination test specifications. More specifically, representatives from the Board have served on standing committees relating to Education, Finance, Examinations for Surveyors, Examinations for Engineers, Law Enforcement, and Member Board Administrators, in addition to several special purpose task forces related to technological advances affecting the practices of engineering and surveying.

Generally speaking, representatives from the Board provide a great deal of influence and leadership at NCEES with much involvement from Board Members and staff serving on many of the committees that are appointed each year. Executive Officer Richard Moore recently completed his fourth consecutive two-year term as the Western Zone Secretary-Treasurer and continues to actively serve on other NCEES committees. Enforcement Program Manager, Tiffany Criswell, is currently serving her second term on NCEES's Law Enforcement Committee. Board member Coby King is currently serving on NCEES's Advisory Committee on Council Activities (ACCA) after previously serving on the Special Committee on Bylaws. Board Member Alireza Ásgari, Ph.D., S.E., continues to serve NCEES relating to development of the structural engineering examination. Former Board Member Mohammad Qureshi, Ph.D., PE, is currently serving in the second year of his two-year term as Western Zone Vice-President (NCEES Board of Directors), and the Board recently nominated him as 2024-25 NCEES President-Elect (the election is scheduled to be held at the Western Zone Interim Meeting in spring 2024). Former Board Member Patrick Tami, PLS, is currently serving on the Surveying and Mapping Sciences Licensure Task Force.

National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)

The Board is an active voting member of ASBOG, a national non-profit organization composed of thirty (30) member licensing boards from across the nation. ASBOG is dedicated to advancing professional licensure for geologists. It develops, administers, and scores the national examinations predominantly used to license geologists in the United States.

ASBOG regularly schedules Council of Examiner Workshops twice a year and an Annual Meeting, usually held in the fall concurrent with the fall workshop. These meetings are generally held to evaluate examination content and determine exam policy and/or fees, and participation is critical at these meetings to ensure California's interests are expressed and that we are given consideration in decisions that will affect the Board and its licensees. Travel expenses to attend these meetings are the responsibility of the Board, and while this travel may involve the expenditure of Board funds, it is a minimal and necessary expense to ensure that California's interests are represented on a national scale. As with the aforementioned national engineering and surveying examinations, candidates seeking licensure in California represent one-quarter of all examinations for geologist licensing nationwide, on an annual basis.

While state travel approval to attend the national ASBOG meetings is more problematic, presumably due to the Board having to incur travel expenses, the Board has received approval more often since the last Sunset Report. The 2023 ASBOG Annual Meeting and Exam Workshop was held October 23-28, 2023 in Spokane, Washington. Geologist Board Member, Elizabeth Mathieson, PG, and Staff Senior Registrar Geologist, Joshua Goodwin, PG, were both in attendance representing the California Board.

As with the aforementioned Board involvement with NCEES, California has earned a great deal of influence among the ASBOG member boards.

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Fiscal Issues and Fund Condition

As a Special Fund agency, the Board receives no General Fund support and relies solely on fees set by statute, which are primarily collected as licensing and renewal fees.

The Board's budget authority is the Professional Engineer's, Land Surveyor's, and Geologist's Fund (0770). The Fund is appropriated from the Governor under the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency to DCA. The Board's Fund is not considered to be a "continuously appropriated fund." The reserve level for the program is defined in B&P Code Section 128.5(a) as "an amount that equals or is more than the agency's operating budget for the next two fiscal years." This law also requires fee changes to reduce surplus funds if the reserve exceeds 24 months. The Board operates within the budget established by the legislature and does not exceed the authorized expense threshold.

As of June 30, 2023, the reserve is projected at two months, with a \$2.4 million fund balance reserve for economic uncertainties. Beginning in FY 2019/20, the Board funded a Business Modernization effort entirely from the fund balance reserve. The Board closely monitors reserve, revenue, and expenditures presented in financial statements that are standing agenda items for all Board meetings. In the current economic climate with inflationary pressures, the costs of doing business have increased. Factors which impact the Board's expenses include increases in the Office of the Attorney General's hourly rates, general salary and benefit increases for Board and Department staff, and Department Pro Rata expenses.

Decreases in renewal licensing fee revenue could have a significant and detrimental impact on the Board's fund condition. Revenue from licensing renewals makes up 80% of the Board's total revenue. Fee increases, which became effective January 1, 2021, had a positive impact on the overall revenue; however, the volume of license renewal applications has trended down. In FY 2020/21, there was a 2% decrease in renewal application volume as compared to the like period of FY 2018/19, and there was a 4% decrease in renewal application volumes in FY 2021/22 as compared to FY 2019/20. Due to a backlog in approving Civil Engineer license applications, the Board is projecting a slight increase in license renewal applications for FY 2023/24 and FY 2024/25 as Board staff works through that backlog and individuals become licensed; however, if the trend continues downward while expenses increase, the fund could become insolvent without additional fee increases. Board staff continuously monitors these numbers and trends in order to react in a timely manner to issues that may impact the Board's fund.

(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24 ³	FY 2024/25 ³
Beginning Balance ¹	\$8,787	\$7,207	\$4,879	\$3,005	\$3,690	\$2,481	\$920
Revenues and Transfers	\$8,518	\$8,572	\$8,559	\$12,528	\$11,395	\$12,541	\$11,727
Total Revenue	\$17,305	\$15,779	\$13,438	\$15,533	\$15,085	\$15,023	\$12,647
Budget Authority						\$14,103	\$14,436
Expenditures	\$11,198	\$10,935	\$11,087	\$11,743	\$12,603		
Loans to General Fund ²	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$385)	\$0	\$0	\$0

Table 2. Fund Condition

(Dollars in Thousands)	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	FY 2023/24 ³	FY 2024/25 ³
Accrued Interest, Loans to General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Loans Repaid From General Fund	\$800	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Fund Balance	\$6,907	\$4,844	\$2,351	\$3,405	\$2,482	\$920	(\$1,789)
Months in Reserve	7.6	5.2	2.4	3.2	2.1	0.8	(1.5)

1 Actuals include prior year adjustments

2 Includes EO transfer to GF (AB 84)

3 Projections to full appropriations

General Fund Loans

The Board received the final payment to the General Fund loan made in FY 2011/12 of \$800,000 in FY 2018/19. The full loan has been repaid with total interest income of \$82,142.68. There are no outstanding loans at this time.

Expenditures by Program

Under the Board's internal accounting practices, the Licensing Unit is sustained by application fees, the Examination Unit is sustained by examination fees, and the Administration/Executive Services Unit, the Enforcement Unit, and pro rata are sustained by renewal fees.

The Board is composed of four units – Enforcement, Licensing, Examination, and Administration/Executive Services – that support and enforce its statutes and regulations.

The Enforcement Unit receives and investigates all complaints related to professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics, and pursues enforcement action, if warranted. This unit accounted for approximately 21% (\$2.4 million) of total expenses in FY 2022/23.

The Licensing Unit reviews and processes applications, processes licenses and certificates for all license types under the Board's authority, and licenses qualified candidates. This unit accounted for approximately 16% (\$1.8 million) of total expenses in FY 2022/23.

The Examination Unit develops and administers examinations, determines examination passing scores, and issues result notifications to licensure candidates. This unit accounted for approximately 27% (\$3 million) of total expenses in FY 2022/23.

The Administrative Services Unit supports the Enforcement, Licensing, and Examination Units and maintains the day-to-day operations at the Board. This unit accounted for approximately 22% (\$2.48 million) of total expenses in FY 2022/23. Administration costs include executive staff, board, administrative support, and fiscal services.

DCA pro rata is projected at \$2 million for FY 2023-24. DCA pro rata accounted for 15% of budgeted expenses (\$1.7 million) for FY 2022-23. Included in the DCA pro rata are expenses related to a new Business Modernization implementation. DCA pro rata expenses for Business Modernization allocated to the Board were \$127,000 in FY 2020/21, \$127,000 in FY 2021/22, and \$128,000 in FY 2022/23. \$122,000 is projected for FY 2023/24.

Table 3. Expenditures by Program Component

Table 5. Exp	enuitures	ыугн	Jyrain Cu			(แระ	dollars in thou	isanus)		
	FY 201	8/19	FY 201	9/20	FY 202	0/21	FY 202	1/22	FY 202	2/23
	Personnel Services	OE&E								
Enforcement	\$1,329	\$1,273	\$1,265	\$1,098	\$1,078	\$1,596	\$1,301	\$1,391	\$1,286	\$1,143
Examination	\$1,124	\$1,314	\$1,051	\$1,418	\$1,177	\$1,348	\$1,181	\$1,461	\$1,165	\$1,925
Licensing	\$851	\$304	\$1,168	\$354	\$988	\$466	\$1,217	\$368	\$1,376	\$466
Administration*	\$1,429	\$459	\$1,539	\$423	\$1,430	\$612	\$1,724	\$473	\$1,897	\$585
DCA Pro Rata	N/A	\$2,263	N/A	\$1,592	N/A	\$1,548	N/A	\$1,762	N/A	\$1,701
Diversion (if applicable)	N/A	N/A								
TOTALS	\$4,733	\$5,613	\$5,023	\$4,885	\$4,673	\$5,570	\$5,423	\$5,455	\$5,724	\$5,820

(list dollars in thousands)

*Administration includes costs for executive staff, board, administrative support, and fiscal services.

BreEZe and Business Modernization Expenses

Actual BreEZe expenses for the Board have totaled \$1,720,033 since FY 2009/10. The Board does not continue to fund any BreEZe development but has funded a Business Modernization effort beginning in FY 2019-20. Expenses related to this effort are directly allocated to project participants.

In November 2017, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) launched a Business Modernization initiative to address business and technology needs for programs that currently rely on legacy technology solutions. To embrace the unique nature of each program and to provide some process standardization, the Boards and Bureaus (Programs) within the DCA are following a methodical stepby-step approach to assist in moving their programs forward.

The Board is part of the Business Modernization Cohort 1 (BMC 1) Project that includes three other Programs to begin automation of the licensing, enforcement, educational, and administrative functions. This was created to address the business needs of DCA programs to better serve consumers, applicants, and licensees.

Fiscal Year	Expenses								
2019-20	\$389,404								
2020-21	\$959,859								
2021-22	\$631,634								
2022-23	\$538,470								
2023-24 (Projected)	\$794,000								

BPELSG Connect - Business Modernization Cohort 1 (BMC1)

Credit Card Fees are costs associated with payments made by applicants and licensees for application fees or renewal fees through the Board's online platform BPELSG Connect. These costs are not passed through to applicants and licensees; they are absorbed by the Board. As more initial applications are implemented in BPELSG Connect and online adoption of the platform for renewals increases, these costs are naturally expected to increase however, processing online card payments is more efficient than staff manually processing checks and the external users receive timely notice of receipt.

Credit Card Fees

Fiscal Year	Transaction Fees
2019-20	\$63,535
2020-21	\$87,900

2021-22	\$152,160	
2022-23	\$165,110	
2023-24 (Projected)	\$175,000	
2024-25 (Projected)	\$185,000	

License Renewal Cycles

Professional engineer and land surveyor licensees renew on a biennial cycle from the original assigned date of renewal. Renewals are staggered on a quarterly basis throughout the calendar year. Professional geologist and geophysicist licensees renew on a biennial cycle based on birth month and year the original license was issued.

The application fee for first-time licensure for professional engineers and land surveyors includes licensure through the first renewal quarter after the license is issued. Approximately one (1) to two (2) months after being notified of licensure, first-time licensees will receive a renewal notice for payment of the full renewal fee. Once renewed, the license will be valid for an additional two (2) years. Professional engineers and land surveyors are on biennial quarterly renewal cycles ending March 31, June 30, September 30, and December 31. The largest quarters, in terms of volume, are June (30% of active licenses renew) and September (26% active licenses renew).

The application fee for first-time licensure for professional geologists and geophysicists includes licensure through the end of the licensee's birth month after the license is issued. Approximately one (1) to two (2) months prior to the first-time licensee's birth month, a renewal notice for payment of the full renewal fee will be issued. Once renewed, the license will be due for renewal on a two (2) year cycle.

History of Fee Changes

The most recent fee change was effective June 29, 2023. The Office of Administrative Law approved the Board's proposed action to amend Title 16, California Code of Regulations sections 3005, 3024, and 3031, repeal Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 3026, and adopt Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 3024.5. This action re-aligned regulatory fees to account for policy modifications that required applicants to pay national exam fees directly to the national exam administrator. The examination system for Professional Geologists includes the national Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and Practice of Geology (PG) examinations that are administered through the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG). Applicants submit an application with the application fee to the Board. The Board then approves or denies the applicant and then authorizes the approved applicant to schedule to sit for one or both national ASBOG examinations. Until Spring 2023, the ASBOG examinations were pencil and paper examinations, and the examination fees were collected by the Board and paid to ASBOG. The examination transitioned to a computer-based testing (CBT) format with the Spring 2023 administration, and, with this regulatory change, applicants now register directly with ASBOG and pay the examination fees directly to ASBOG. The Board no longer collects the examination fees associated with the national examinations and passes them on to ASBOG.

On November 18, 2020, the Office of Administrative Law approved the Board's proposed action to amend Title 16, California Code of Regulations sections 407, 410, and 3005, and to adopt Title 16, California Code of Regulations section 3010. This regulatory action, which became effective on January 1, 2021, was needed to address structural imbalances in the Board's budget and to help

ensure future fiscal solvency. It standardized fees for services for all regulated professions under the Board's jurisdiction, such as aligning all renewal fees across all license types. As a result of the fee increase, the Board recognized a \$3,584 increase in revenue for FY 2021/22 over FY 2020/21.

The prior fee change for the Board was in FY 2012/13 which re-aligned regulatory fees to account for policy modifications that required applicants to pay national exam fees directly to the national exam administrator for engineering and land surveying examinations. The Board's fees decreased to reflect the cost of application, exam, and renewal evaluation and staff time. A complete restructuring reduced fees related to application fees for professional licensure (\$275 to \$125); application fees for the in-training certifications (\$100 to \$50); professional license renewal fees (\$125 to \$115); and one-time retired license fees (\$87.50 to \$62.50). It also added a state-specific exam administration fee of \$150.

(list revenue dollars in thousands)

Fee	Current Fee Amount	Statutory Limit	FY 2018/19 Revenue	FY 2019/20 Revenue	FY 2020/21 Revenue	FY 2021/22 Revenue	FY 2022/23 Revenue	% of Total Revenue					
Initial Application Fees ¹	Varies	See Comment	\$636	\$460	\$664	\$985	\$842	7.4%					
State Specific Examinations ²	\$175.00	See Comment	\$1,214	\$968	\$894	\$1,093	\$1,069	9.4%					
Biennial Renewal ³	\$180.00	\$400.00	\$6,259	\$6,833	\$6,707	\$10,142	\$9,047	79.4%					
Retired License ⁴	\$75.00	See Comment	\$28	\$31	\$41	\$58	\$52	.4%					
Delinquency Biennial Renewal⁵	\$90.00	See Comment	\$75	\$70	\$122	\$149	\$169	1.5%					
All Other Revenue	N/A	N/A	\$306	\$210	\$131	\$100	\$215	1.9%					
Total Revenue	N/A	N/A	\$8,518	\$8,572	\$8,559	\$12,527	\$11,394	100%					

Table 4. Fee Schedule and Revenue

(1) Fee authority for Initial Applications fees can be found in Business and Professions Codes Sections 6799(a)(1), 8805(a) and Section 7787 (a) and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 5, Article 1, Section 407 (b)(1-5) and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 29, Article 1, Section 3005 (b) (1-2). Current fee amounts for In-Training Certificates is \$75.00 and the statutory limit is \$100. Current fee amounts for all other licenses is \$175.00 and the statutory limit is \$400.00.

(2) Fee authority for State Specific Examination fees can be found in Business and Professions Code Sections 6799(a)(2), 8805(b) and Section 7787 (g), (h) and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Article 1, Section 407 (b)(1-5) and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 29, Article 1, Section 3005 (c) (1-5). Fees can be no greater than actual cost of the development and administration.

(3) Fee authority for Biennial Renewal fees can be found in Business and Professions Code Sections 6799(a)(3), 8805(c) and Section 7787 (d), (e) and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Article 1, Section 407 (d) and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 29, Article 1, Section 3005 (e) (1-2).

(4) Fee authority for Retired License fees can be found in Business and Professions Code Sections 6799(a)(4), 8805(d) and Section 7787 (i), and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Article 1, Section 407 (f) and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 29, Article 1, Section 3005 (h). Fees are limited to not more than 50% of PE or PLS application fee in effect at the time.

(5) Fee authority for Delinquent Biennial Renewal fees can be found in Business and Professions Code Sections 6799(a)(5), 8805€ and Section 7787 (f), and California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 5, Article 1, Section 407 and California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 29, Article 1, Section 3005 (f). Fees are limited to not more than 50% of the renewal fee in effect on the date of reinstatement.

Budget Change Proposals

There have been no Budget Change Proposals requested or approved in the last five years.

Staffing Issues

Implementation of BPELSG Connect has had a significant impact on workload and business processes for all of the Board's units, specifically the Administration Services and Licensing units.

Effective October 2021, the Administrative Services unit redirected a full-time Applicant Cashier Office Technician to the Licensing unit as 90% of the incoming application transactions were implemented in BPELSG Connect. Prior to October 2021, 60% of the duties performed by the Applicant Cashier were directly related to cashiering incoming initial applications, exam applications, and re-examination applications. The remaining initial and exam application cashiering duties were absorbed by staff in the Administration Services unit. The Licensing unit had a vacant Office Technician position, and the Office Technician was redirected to this vacant position.

Effective July 2022, the Licensing unit reclassified three Program Technician II (PT II) positions to Staff Services/Associate Governmental Program Analyst (SSA/AGPA) positions. Although the implementation of BPELSG Connect had a positive effect on average processing times, there was a significant increase in the rates of application submissions that has resulted in a backlog. To reduce processing times, the Licensing unit upgraded the Licensing Evaluator positions from PT II to SSA/AGPA which allow the Licensing Evaluators to perform more analytical tasks related to evaluating various requirements for certification or licensure related to education and experience criteria. Prior to the implementation of BPELSG Connect, there was a higher burden of data entry and assembling of paper application packages, making it difficult to include this analysis prior to submitting the application package to the Senior Registrars for technical review. With the introduction of BPELSG Connect, it is beneficial to have the Licensing Evaluators perform calculations to ensure the education, references and engagement records meet the minimum criteria before submitting the application for technical review. This change has resulted in applications being reviewed more thoroughly and additional deficiencies being identified and remediated in the Evaluator Initial Review stage, prior to the application being reviewed by the Senior Registrars. Board staff continue to study deficiency rates and types and improve applicant instructions and communications to reduce deficiencies and processing times.

Effective January 2023, the Board was able to reduce staffing levels by two Seasonal Clerks and one Office Assistant in response to changes in workload and business processes introduced with the implementation of BPELSG Connect. The Board continues to monitor workload and business processes and will make additional staffing level adjustments as needed with the vacant positions.

Vacancy Rates

Staffing Vacancy Rates are as follows:

- FY 2018/19 43.7 Authorized position / 1 vacancy 2%
- FY 2019/20 43.7 Authorized position / 3 vacancies 7%

- FY 2020/21 43.7 Authorized position / 3 vacancies 7%
- FY 2021/22 43.7 Authorized position / 4 vacancies 9%
- FY 2022/23 43.7 Authorized position / 3 vacancies 7%

The Board conducts regular reviews of staff duties and monitors staffing levels and duties based on changing operational needs. Participation in the Business Modernization initiative has changed requirements in the Administrative Services and Licensing units, and the Board has used redirections and reclassifications to best allocate staff resources and respond to these changing requirements. There are currently three vacant positions, and the Board is not pursuing recruitment efforts for these positions at this time pending further development of BPELSG Connect and ongoing assessments of operational needs. The Board actively recruits to refill vacant positions as needed.

Training and Development

Staff training is necessary to enhance and improve skills, performance, and customer service. The Board's mission is principally focused on consumer protection. Purposeful staff training and development support the Board's service delivery and support the achievement of its mission. DCA administers a wide variety of classes through their Strategic Organization, Leadership, and Individual Development (SOLID) program. Courses that SOLID provides are free to the Board staff. With a vast selection of courses to choose from, the Board staff can learn and enhance their skills at any time in any class or way that they choose. SOLID's Learning Management System (LMS) is used to assign training to Board staff and monitor progress.

Additionally, the Board can arrange more specific training for any staff whose duties require more specialized knowledge than those offered by SOLID. In these instances, the Board can contract with outside organizations as budgetary limitations allow. 'Outside' training costs are minimal and not a source of significant expenses.

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Licensing Program Performance Targets (Initial Applications)

The Board's application guidelines are governed by different statutory requirements which pose challenges in using a metric from the date the application is submitted until the applicant is licensed as some licensure competency requirements include passing state specific examinations after the initial application has been approved in technical review. Scheduling examinations and re-examinations is performed by the approved applicant. The application review process includes a background review including fingerprints and a state and federal criminal history check. The background review is performed concurrently with an initial evaluation by Licensing unit staff and depending on the responsiveness of the DOJ process, usually prior to a technical review performed by a Senior Registrar. The evaluator's initial review is done to ensure the submitted application and required associated documentation is complete. The technical review is performed after the evaluator's initial review once the submitted application is considered complete.

The best indicator of the licensing unit performance is reporting, across all license types, the number of days it takes for applications to be deemed complete in the evaluator initial review stage and then subsequently approved by technical review.

The Board measures the performance of the licensing program by monitoring the processing cycle days for various stages of application review:

- Number of days from application submission date to date of completion of evaluator initial review,
- Number of days from completion of evaluator initial review to approval in technical review,
- Total number of days from application submission date to approval in technical review.

Formalized license performance measures are reported to DCA based on the number of days required for a complete (not deficient) application to be approved in technical review from the date of submission. The Engineer-in-Training (EIT) and Land Surveyor-in-Training (LSIT) applications do not require technical review and these metrics are from the date the application was submitted until the certificate was issued.

Board reporting capabilities are limited by access to data in department-wide reporting tools. As these tools have been upgraded. Board staff have gained greater access to raw data related to applications tracking and licenses. In late 2019, DCA Office of Information Services (OIS) added Applicant Tracking System (ATS) and Consumer Affairs Systems (CAS) data to the IBM Cognos Analytics platform, referred to by the department as Quality Business Interactive Reporting Tool (QBIRT). This has enhanced the Board's ability to extract data from ATS and CAS for use in developing and monitoring key performance indicators. Late 2021, DCA OIS began working on an interim data package to include data for the BPELSG Connect platform, and Board staff have worked with OIS to gain access to data extracts for use in developing and monitoring key performance indicators for BPELSG Connect related applications actions. DCA OIS is in the process of redesigning a more mature data package intended for use by all Business Modernization participants. Until this standardized data package and reporting is available, the reporting to provide metrics on the BPELSG Connect application deficiencies is manually performed and time-intensive creating barriers to effectively assessing performance measures and introducing timely and effective process efficiencies. The Board continues to work with DCA OIS to gain access to additional reporting, and it is anticipated the standardized BPELGS Connect data package and reports will be available by 2025.

Factors that impact processing timelines includes application volume, rate and type of application deficiencies issued, and business processes. Historically, legacy paper forms for initial applications were received in the Administration Services unit and payments were cashiered before being released to the Licensing unit to begin processing. With the implementation of BPELSG Connect, applications submitted with non-credit card forms of payment are still held by the Administration Services unit before being released electronically to Licensing unit staff; however, all credit card forms of payment are immediately released to the Licensing unit. With the implementation of BPELSG Connect, at least 90% of the new initial applications are paid electronically online with a credit card, thereby significantly reducing the historical delay in staff manually processing application and licensing payments.

The first phase of the Board's system, known as BPELSG Connect, successfully transitioned the Engineer-in-Training (EIT) and Land Surveyor-in-Training (LSIT) application process to an online process which can be managed both by the applicant and Board staff.

The implementation of BPELSG Connect had a significant positive impact on processing times for EIT and LSIT initial applications. The performance target for application processing is 60 days for complete applications from the date of submission to application approval. With the implementation of BPELSG Connect, the licensing program has been meeting or exceeding the performance targets for approving EIT and LSIT initial applications. Since the launch of BPELSG Connect for these applications, there has been an 8% decrease in applications received and a corresponding drop in applications approved; however, the average processing days has decreased significantly from averaging 83 days for review and approval in the 33 months preceding the launch to an average of 13 days for applications received and approved since the launch of BPELSG Connect. The Board believes the decrease in applications received is primarily aligned with the changes observed nationwide in the engineering and surveying industries as well as social events which have contributed to this impact.

In June 2021, Phase 3 launched with functionality extending the ability for applicants to submit applications for Professional Engineer licenses which do not require a state exam component. This phase included Professional Engineer initial applications in the following disciplines: Agricultural, Chemical, Control System, Electrical, Fire Protection, Industrial, Mechanical, Metallurgical, Nuclear, and Petroleum. Prior to BPELSG Connect, applications were submitted on paper forms, and Board staff used ATS and CAS to track applications and licenses. With the implementation of BPELSG Connect, the licensing program has been meeting or exceeding the performance targets for approving initial applications for license types associated with Phase 3 launch of BPELSG Connect. For initial applications in these license types, the number of applications received outpaced the number of applications approved in the year after Phase 3 of BPELSG Connect was launched. In FY 2021/22 and 2022/23, the number of applications approved kept pace with the volume of applications received. There was an 26% increase in the volume of initial applications received in the 24 months after the Phase 3 BPELSG Connect launch over the preceding period and a 42% increase in the applications approved. The average processing days dropped from 107 days on average to 83 days. The implementation of Phase 3 of BPELSG Connect had a significant and positive impact as the Board staff were able to absorb the increase in volume and improve the average processing days.

In November 2021, the Board launched Release 3.5 of its BPELSG Connect online platform, which featured the addition of submittal and processing for both Civil Engineer and Land Surveyor license applications, both of which require an additional state exam component, and refinements to existing application functionality. The new functionality allowed existing legacy applicants (those applicants in-process prior to the release of Phase 3.5) to apply to the Board to schedule for state examinations and re-examinations and automated the notifications to approved applicants to transmit exam eligibility within the BPELSG Connect platform.

The Board received a record number of initial Civil Engineer applications during the latter half of FY 2021/22 and into FY 2022/23 with applications received outpacing application approvals in FY 2021/22 and FY 2022/23. In the 20 months since the BPELSG Connect implementation for Civil Engineer initial applications, the Board recorded a 69% increase in application volumes over the prior 20 months. While the platform increased efficiencies and Board staff were able to approve 20% more applications than in the prior period, the licensing program has not met processing targets for Civil Engineer applications; therefore, the processing timelines have increased. The Board has been studying this issue and found the Civil Engineer applications are taking significantly longer in the technical review stage than other Professional Engineering applications with a much higher rate of work experience-related deficiencies issued during technical review. The Board will continue to monitor the deficiency rates and processing timelines to identify if process improvements (technical within BPELSG Connect and/or in business processes) are warranted.

As of November 1, 2023, there are 664 applications pending Technical Review and 234 applications with deficiencies, pending action by the applicant to remediate the deficiency. Assuming 155 new initial application submissions per month, and an average approval rate of 200 applications per month, the Board anticipates meeting the target processing guidelines of 60 days for complete (not deficient) applications by summer 2024. The Board has assigned additional staff resources in reviewing Civil Engineer initial applications and expects to begin meeting the processing target timelines by summer 2024.

Additionally, Professional Land Surveyor initial applications were included in the Phase 3.5 launch of BPELSG Connect. The performance target for application processing is 60 days for complete applications from the date of submission to application approval. With the implementation of BPELSG Connect, the licensing program has met the performance targets for approving Professional Land Surveyor initial applications. Since the launch of BPELSG Connect, the number of applications approved has largely kept pace with the volume of applications received.

The Board subsequently launched Maintenance and Operations (M&O) Phase 3 in Spring 2023 with the Geologist-in-Training and Professional Geologist initial applications. This functionality was launched concurrently with changes in the ASBOG national examination requirements as applicants must now apply to the Board to establish eligibility to sit for the national Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and Practice of Geology (PG) but pay the examinations fees directly to ASBOG and schedule to sit for the exams through the ASBOG third party computer-based-testing (CBT) examination administrator. The performance target for application processing is 60 days for complete applications from the date of submission to application approval. Historically, the Board has been able to process and approve as many complete Geologist-in-Training and Professional Geology applications received on a semi-annual basis based on the applications' final filing dates. The business process before the implementation of these initial applications in BPESLG Connect did not include tracking processing times for complete versus incomplete applications; however, the Professional Geologists initial applications approved in FY 2022/23 on average were approved within 65 days. The Geologist-in-Training applications averaged 104 review days before approval for the most recent fiscal year. It is expected that these applications will meet or exceed the target processing cycle times when the applications have fully transitioned to BPELSG Connect.

The remaining initial applications for license types including Certified Engineering Geologist, Certified Hydrogeologist, Geotechnical Engineer, Professional Geophysicist, Structural Engineer, and Traffic Engineer are continuing to be accepted by the Board as paper applications and processed in the legacy ATS system. Business processes for these applications do not allow for measuring processing cycle times for complete versus incomplete (deficient) applications, and the average processing times for these applications exceed the 60-day targets, likely due to inclusion of the incomplete/deficient applications. The Board is working to implement these initial applications for the

remaining license types into BPELSG Connect during FY 2023/24 and expects the implementation to have a positive effect on the licensing performance measures.

Licensing Program Performance Targets (Renewal Applications)

Phase 2 of BPELSG Connect went live for license renewals in January 2021, and there was an immediate and significant adoption of the online platform by licensees. As of July 2023, 80% of active (those eligible for renewal) licenses have BPELSG Connect profiles linked and licensees may elect to renew their license in BPELSG Connect. The Board has an aggressive processing target for renewal applications and generally meets or exceeds the targets. Factors that affect processing times are volume and changes in business processes.

Phase 2 also included functionality to allow applicants and licensees to make address changes in BPELSG Connect through their user dashboards. Prior to the Phase 2 release, address changes were requested by applicants and licensees in writing or through a web form. Board staff updated applicant and licensee addresses in ATS and CAS. Tasks and duties associated with the address changes accounted for 30% of a full time Board staff member and the Board estimates there were approximately 7,500 annual address change requests. By 2022, the number received by the Board decreased to approximately 3,800 requests. Based on decreases in staff time associated with these activities and other operational efficiencies related to implementation of BPELSG Connect, the Board was able to reduce staffing requirements by one seasonal clerk in the Administrative Services unit.

The Professional Engineers Act, specifically Business and Professions Code section 6795.1, required the Board to mail licensees renewal application forms within 60 to 90 days of the license expiration date. This section was repealed in 2022 because there is no longer a renewal application "form." The Board was then able to change the reminder renewal notices to include instruction for licensees to create BPELSG Connect accounts and renew their licenses online. As expected, this increased online participation for renewal transactions. Online participation for renewal transactions in FY 2022/23 was 90%.

Effective January 1, 2023, new laws were enacted that required applicants and licensees to provide the Board with a valid email address (if they have one) and to notify the Board within thirty (30) days of any change of their email address. Business and Professions Code sections 6767, 7856, and 8753 were added to the Professional Engineers Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, respectively.

Applicants are required to initially provide their email address at the time of application; licensees are required to initially provide their email address at the time of renewal. Applicants and licensees are also required to notify the Board within thirty (30) days of any change of their email address. These sections do not require applicants and licensees to obtain an email address if they do not already have one. However, email is the preferred method of communication because it allows for more timely communication regarding application and license status.

Table 6. Licensee Population

		FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Active ¹	115	111	107	103	99
	Out of State	27	28	26	23	23
	Out of Country	2	1	2	2	2
Agricultural Engineer	Delinquent/Expired	17	17	14	22	19
0	Retired Status if applicable	45	47	49	51	54
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ²	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	1,908	1,917	1,880	1,840	1,820
	Out of State	538	492	532	487	500
Chemical	Out of Country	13	12	9	9	8
Engineer	Delinquent/Expired	200	216	223	326	313
-	Retired Status if applicable	138	149	163	179	195
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	57,320	57,847	57,806	57,479	57,447
	Out of State	14,704	13,785	14,618	13,882	13,892
	Out of Country	692	625	685	643	644
Civil Engineer	Delinquent/Expired	5,291	5,316	5,326	5,717	4,498
-	Retired Status if applicable	2,474	2,707	2,946	3,303	3,575
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	3	3	1	1	0
	Out of State	1	1	0	0	0
	Out of Country	0	0	0	0	0
	Delinquent/Expired	1	1	3	2	3
Consulting Engineer	Retired Status if applicable	5	5	5	5	5
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	842	842	792	773	715
	Out of State	302	269	274	264	245
	Out of Country	3	4	3	3	3
	Delinquent/Expired	210	205	213	327	250
Control Systems Engineer	Retired Status <i>if</i> applicable	325	330	346	357	373
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	115	142	135	115	111
	Out of State	86	90	75	62	61
	Out of Country	0	0	0	0	0
	Delinquent/Expired	48	48	48	49	41
Corrosion Engineer	Retired Status if applicable	46	48	49	52	53
-	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0

¹ Active status is defined as able to practice. This includes licensees that are renewed, current, and active. ² Other is defined as a status type that does not allow practice in California, other than retired or inactive.

		FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	10,283	10,619	10,593	10,854	10,921
	Out of State	3,398	3,705	4,024	4,046	4,168
	Out of Country	56	52	56	57	56
	Delinquent/Expired	1,515	1,532	1,544	1,594	1,332
Electrical	Retired Status if	666	710	779	835	922
Engineer	applicable					
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	822	850	888	953	985
	Out of State	460	440	499	531	562
	Out of Country	12	12	13	11	12
	Delinquent/Expired	81	84	74	87	91
Fire Protection	Retired Status if	75	79	82	86	93
Engineer	<i>applicable</i> Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	1,378	1,317	-	-	0 1,324
	Out of State	214	210	1,364 201	1,338 191	1,324
	Out of State	11	210	10	8	109
	Delinguent/Expired	71	71	82	153	110
Geotechnical	Retired Status <i>if</i>					
Engineer	applicable	82	92	100	117	129
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	256	263	241	243	213
	Out of State	82	78	74	70	62
	Out of Country	1	2	1	2	1
	Delinquent/Expired	55	55	55	55	74
Industrial Engineer	Retired Status if applicable	157	159	163	168	179
Liginool	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	243	228	204	180	148
	Out of State	101	106	88	75	68
	Out of Country	4	7	4	6	3
	Delinquent/Expired	84	66	62	60	89
Manufacturing	Retired Status <i>if</i>	208	213	218	221	231
Engineer	applicable	200		210	221	231
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	15,323	15,612	15,548	15,411	15,452
	Out of State	5,298	4,991	5,339	5,153	5,264
	Out of Country	154	138	151	151	147
	Delinquent/Expired	1,302	1,373	1,389	1,525	1,761
Mechanical Engineer	Retired Status if applicable	1,027	1,124	1,228	1,353	1,467
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	194	190	192	187	190
	Out of State	56	57	56	53	60
	Out of Country	1	1	1	2	1

		FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
	Delinquent/Expired	30	34	26	46	43
Metallurgical Engineer	Retired Status if applicable	54	56	57	63	64
-	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	295	270	258	204	195
	Out of State	122	142	111	93	88
	Out of Country	1	1	1	1	1
	Delinquent/Expired	81	74	58	61	77
Nuclear Engineer	Retired Status if applicable	161	171	173	186	188
-	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	312	314	310	289	284
	Out of State	160	154	154	138	139
	Out of Country	5	6	4	4	4
	Delinquent/Expired	36	39	36	39	39
Petroleum Engineer	Retired Status <i>if</i> applicable	34	35	37	40	42
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	0	0	0	0	0
	Out of State	0	0	0	0	0
	Out of Country	0	0	0	0	0
	Delinquent/Expired	1	0	0	0	0
Photogrammetric Surveyor	Retired Status if applicable	0	0	0	0	0
-	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	4,118	4,086	4,013	3,956	3,892
	Out of State	709	626	693	481	643
	Out of Country	8	5	7	7	3
	Delinquent/Expired	214	218	208	209	334
Professional Land Surveyor	Retired Status <i>if</i> applicable	287	313	346	386	429
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	283	257	204	176	142
	Out of State	134	153	108	89	74
	Out of Country	2	2	1	0	0
	Delinquent/Expired	105	89	96	92	96
Quality Engineer	Retired Status <i>if</i> applicable	286	292	307	313	318
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0
	Active ²	256	251	233	186	160
	Out of State	117	137	112	96	81
	Out of Country	0	0	0	0	0
Safety Engineer	Delinquent/Expired	67	55	42	81	76
	Retired Status if applicable	158	165	172	181	188
	Inactive	0	0	0	0	0
	Other ³	0	0	0	0	0

end 2018/19 2019/20 2020/21 2021/22 2022/23 Active ² 4,358 4,395 4,375 4,451 4,504 Out of State 1,133 1,061 1,161 1,150 1,105 Delinquent/Expired 178 187 183 275 297 Refired Status if applicable 179 196 212 246 260 Inactive 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 Out of State 170 156 1,528 1,509 1,492 1,479 Out of State 170 156 162 154 148 Out of Country 6 7 6 7 16 Delinquent/Expired 83 88 97 142 136 Inactive 0 0 0 0 0 0 Delinquent/Expired 357 358 376 568 588 Professional Geologist Refired Status if applica			FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
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Hydrogeologistapplicable1012131725Inactive000000Other3000000Active2154148147150144Out of State6162596260Out of Country44444Delinquent/Expired2120181922Retired Status if applicable777710Inactive000000		Delinquent/Expired	34	43	43	85	93
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Out of Country44444Delinquent/Expired2120181922Professional GeophysicistRetired Status if applicable777710Inactive000000		Active ²	154	148	147	150	144
Out of Country44444Delinquent/Expired2120181922Professional GeophysicistRetired Status if applicable777710Inactive000000		Out of State	61	62	59	62	60
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Inactive 0<		Retired Status if					
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		Other ³					

Note: 'Out of State' and 'Out of Country' are two mutually exclusive categories. A licensee should not be counted in both.

The Board's business processes have been significantly impacted as the Board has transitioned initial, re-examination, and renewal license applications from the legacy paper applications to the online BPELSG Connect platform. The legacy business processes did not include identifying and reporting license performance measures for applications that were submitted complete (with no deficiencies) versus applications submitted with deficiencies, and the Board did not track and report pending applications. As the Board has implemented initial applications in BPELSG Connect, tracking and reporting complete versus incomplete applications has been incorporated into business processes, and the Board has begun to study and track additional performance indicators.

Information reported in Table 7a Licensing Data by Type is aggregated between legacy ATS data and BPELSG Connect data. The Board can track initial and renewal license applications but, at this time, cannot track individual examination and re-examination applications. Board reporting capabilities are limited by access to data in department-wide reporting tools. As these tools have been upgraded, Board staff have gained greater access to raw data related to applications tracking and licenses. In late 2019, DCA Office of Information Services (OIS) added Applicant Tracking System (ATS) and Consumer Affairs Systems (CAS) data to the IBM Cognos Analytics platform, referred to by the department as Quality Business Interactive Reporting Tool (QBIRT). This has enhanced the Board's ability to extract data from ATS and CAS. Late 2021, DCA OIS began working on an interim data package to include data for the BPELSG Connect platform, and Board staff have worked with OIS to gain access to data extracts. DCA OIS is in the process of re-designing a more mature data package intended for use by all Business Modernization participants. The Board anticipates developing more comprehensive reporting and tracking for all types of initial, re-examination, and renewal applications once DCA OIS completes the work on re-designing the QBIRT BPELSG Connect data package.

Historically, license applications that required state examinations included license and exam application fees with the original application submission. In BPESLG Connect applicants pay examination fees only after they are approved in technical review, however there are no additional applications and/or application requirements and the Board does not have the ability at this time to report on examination and re-examination application volumes. The licensure competency requirements vary between license types and not all license types are required to sit for a California state examination. Applicants that are required to pass California state examinations may request to sit for examinations and re-examinations in BPELSG Connect. Due to limitations (discussed above) related to the reporting capabilities at this time, the Board is not able to report the number of examination and re-examination requests that have been received. As the QBIRT data package is updated the Board anticipates being able to report this information.

The Board is reporting licenses issued in Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type. The Board reports applications approved in Technical Review to DCA for the publication of License Performance Measures. The Cycle Times reported in Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type correspond to the cycle times reported for License Performance Measures.

The Board does not track applications 'Closed' at this time. Initial license applications are either approved or pending, and renewal license applications are approved.

The Board does not track Pending Applications on a fiscal year basis; however, as soon as the BPELSG Connect implementation and reporting is finalized, the Board anticipates being able to accurately record and report the pending applications at the close of the fiscal year.

Table 7a. Licensing Data by Type

		Pen	ding Applic	ations	Cycle Times			
Application Received Type	Approved/ Closed Issued	Total (Close of FY)	Complete (within Board control)*	Incomplete (outside Board control)*	Complete Apps	Incomplete Apps	combined, IF unable to separate out	

Agricultural Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	2	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	191
	(Renewal)	43	43	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	1	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	66	66	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	4	4	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	84
	(Renewal)	57	57	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	5	4	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	91	N/A
	(Renewal)	54	54	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	5	2	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	46	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	41	41	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

Certified Engineering Geologist

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	43	24	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	73
	(Renewal)	726	726	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	5
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	9	29	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	91
	(Renewal)	682	682	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	29	11	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	108
	(Renewal)	704	704	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	40	19	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	62
	(Renewal)	725	725	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	20	12	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	65
	(Renewal)	639	639	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	8

Certified Hydrogeologist

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	25	22	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	70
	(Renewal)	457	457	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	11	11	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	108
	(Renewal)	443	443	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	12	9	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	99
	(Renewal)	479	479	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

2021/22	(License)	24	9	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	96
	(Renewal)	415	415	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	10	11	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	98
	(Renewal)	463	463	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	7

Chemical Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	61	54	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	82
	(Renewal)	943	943	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	46	41	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	73
	(Renewal)	899	899	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	45	39	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	86
	(Renewal)	942	942	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	58	61	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	73	105	N/A
	(Renewal)	930	930	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	60	51	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	33	90	N/A
	(Renewal)	892	892	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Civil Engineer

FY		N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
Γĭ	(Exam)		IN/A					IN/A		
2018/19	(License)	1,689	1,350	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	117
	(Renewal)	26,471	26,471	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	1,634	1,082	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	130
	(Renewal)	30,254	30,254	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	1,143	1,088	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	126
	(Renewal)	27,655	27,655	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	2,217	1,375	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	116	169	N/A
	(Renewal)	30,445	30,445	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	1,829	1,193	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	143	199	N/A
	(Renewal)	26,979	26,979	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Consulting Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	3	3	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	11
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	0	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	1	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	1

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	0	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	0	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

Control System Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	27	19	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	47
	(Renewal)	483	483	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	22	15	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	78
	(Renewal)	349	349	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	28	29	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	69
	(Renewal)	437	437	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	27	30	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	75	82	N/A
	(Renewal)	360	360	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	33	30	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	48	97	N/A
	(Renewal)	360	360	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4

Corrosion Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	52	52	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	94	94	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	56	56	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	65	65	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	46	46	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

Electrical Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	415	432	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	141
	(Renewal)	5,034	5,034	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	409	398	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	110
	(Renewal)	5,384	5,384	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	407	298	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	124
	(Renewal)	5,704	5,704	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	607	645	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	81	113	N/A
	(Renewal)	5,133	5,133	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	485	488	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	35	105	N/A
	(Renewal)	5,694	5,694	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Engineer-in-Training

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	3,331	3,461	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	76
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	2,688	2,760	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	55
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	3,173	3,113	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	22
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	2,800	2,830	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	11	19	N/A
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	2,396	2,401	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	10	92	N/A
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

Fire Protection Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	40	36	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	109
	(Renewal)	406	406	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	39	32	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	67
	(Renewal)	424	424	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	55	57	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	105
	(Renewal)	470	470	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	92	88	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	68	106	N/A
	(Renewal)	471	471	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	67	65	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	28	67	N/A
	(Renewal)	511	511	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Geologist-In-Training

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	306	188	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	283	115	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	33
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	180	159	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	27
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	201	155	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	58
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	234	127	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	104
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

Geotechnical Engineer

ГУ		NI/A	N1/A					N1/A	N1/A	N1/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	73	6	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	117
	(Renewal)	591	591	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	48	30	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	150
	(Renewal)	732	732	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	32	220	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	103
	(Renewal)	622	622	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	5
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	41	24	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	211
	(Renewal)	603	603	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	39	21	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	128
	(Renewal)	42	42	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	7

Industrial Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	4	5	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	47
	(Renewal)	163	163	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	4	5	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	63
	(Renewal)	98	98	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	6	3	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	63
	(Renewal)	132	132	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	10	13	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	83	141	N/A
	(Renewal)	116	116	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	10	9	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	39	83	N/A
	(Renewal)	106	106	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	5

Land Surveyor

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	212	62	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	74
	(Renewal)	2,144	2,144	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	60	40	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	98
	(Renewal)	1,920	1,920	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	77	59	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	78
	(Renewal)	1,976	1,976	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	5

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	114	84	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	100	104	N/A
	(Renewal)	1,988	1,988	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	120	109	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	47	86	N/A
	(Renewal)	1,885	1,885	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4

Land Surveyor-In-training

FY	(Ever)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Exam)							-		
2018/19	(License)	78	81	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	37
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	70	66	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	31
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	122	118	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	75
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	139	130	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	10	38	26
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	135	136	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	11	69	N/A
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

Manufacturing Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	· /									
2018/19	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	126	126	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	111	111	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	17
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	130	130	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	58	58	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	6
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	81	81	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	8

Mechanical Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	537	519	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	65
	(Renewal)	6,877	6,877	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	440	469	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	81
	(Renewal)	8,541	8,541	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	466	407	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	67
	(Renewal)	7,992	7,992	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	669	674	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	78	113	N/A
	(Renewal)	7,539	7,539	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	563	547	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	39	97	N/A
	(Renewal)	7,839	7,839	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Metallurgical Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	7	5	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	56
	(Renewal)	79	79	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	7	6	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	42
	(Renewal)	105	105	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	10	7	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	65
	(Renewal)	89	89	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	18	16	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	91	93	N/A
	(Renewal)	100	100	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	16	13	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	34	69	N/A
	(Renewal)	93	93	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Nuclear Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	1	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	75	75	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	7	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	193	193	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	1	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	28
	(Renewal)	79	79	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	1	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	72	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	137	137	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	3	3	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	57	N/A
	(Renewal)	71	71	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Petroleum Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	6	5	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	119
	(Renewal)	139	139	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	0	9	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	61
	(Renewal)	172	172	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	11	11	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	70
	(Renewal)	153	153	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	7	6	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	78	N/A
	(Renewal)	143	143	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	11	8	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	31	78	N/A
	(Renewal)	138	138	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

Photogrammetric Surveyor

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FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	1	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	0	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	0	0	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A

Professional Geologist

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	329	126	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	96
	(Renewal)	2,527	2,527	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	134	86	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	84
	(Renewal)	2,441	2,441	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	151	108	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	132
	(Renewal)	2,540	2,540	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	197	134	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	72
	(Renewal)	2,509	2,509	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	142	119	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	65
	(Renewal)	2,452	2,452	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

Professional Geophysicist

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	6	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	251
	(Renewal)	91	91	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	6	1	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	107
	(Renewal)	60	60	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	9	2	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	203
	(Renewal)	81	81	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	2	4	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	57
	(Renewal)	73	73	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	2	3	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	203
	(Renewal)	68	68	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3

Quality Engineer

			1							
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	152	152	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	99	99	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	67	67	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	134	134	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	74	74	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	6

Safety Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	1,967	1,967	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	148	148	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	105	105	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	92	92	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
	(Renewal)	68	68	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	5

Structural Engineer

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2018/19	(License)	205	117	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	207
	(Renewal)	101	101	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	157	80	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	170
	(Renewal)	2,292	2,292	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	178	69	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	169
	(Renewal)	2,047	2,047	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	5

FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	175	169	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	125
	(Renewal)	2,368	2,368	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	155	151	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	127
	(Renewal)	2,025	2,025	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4

Traffic Engineer

ΓV		NI/A	NI/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	NI/A	N/A	N/A
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A					N/A		
2018/19	(License)	88	39	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	76
	(Renewal)	686	686	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2019/20	(License)	54	36	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	51
	(Renewal)	829	829	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2020/21	(License)	32	30	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	113
	(Renewal)	821	821	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	4
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021/22	(License)	49	29	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	253
	(Renewal)	688	688	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	3
FY	(Exam)	N/A	N/A	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	N/A
2022/23	(License)	62	33	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	114
	(Renewal)	799	799	NDA	NDA	NDA	NDA	N/A	N/A	2

* Optional. List if tracked by the board.

Table 7b. License Denial

	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
License Applications Denied (no hearing requested)	0	0	0	0	0
SOIs Filed	3	0	1	2	2
Average Days to File SOI (from request for hearing to SOI filed)	195	N/A	53	59	75
SOIs Declined	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SOIs Withdrawn	1	N/A	1	0	2
SOIs Dismissed (license granted)	0	N/A	0	0	0
SOIs Granted (license denied)	2	N/A	0	2	0
License Issued with Probation / Probationary License Issued	0	N/A	0	0	0
Average Days to Complete (from SOI filing to outcome)	184	N/A	26	261	93

Beginning July 1, 2015, the Board required all new applicants to furnish to the Department of Justice (DOJ) a full set of fingerprints for conducting a criminal history record check and to undergo a state and federal level criminal offender record information search, conducted through DOJ. This requirement applied only to new licensees; it did not apply to anyone who was licensed before that date unless they were to apply for a new license. The legislation (SB 543, Ch. 448, Stats.2011) that authorized the Board to obtain criminal history information specified that it would apply only to individuals seeking a new license and not to those already licensed (B&P Code § 144(c)), even though the Board had sought to be able to obtain criminal history on all licensees as well as applicants.

During the application process from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020, the Board would check prior unlawful acts of the applicant. The application form contained a question requiring the applicant to notify the Board of any criminal history and to provide the Board with any related court documents. The question required the applicant to answer under penalty of perjury (acknowledged when they

signed the application). The Licensing and Enforcement Units would utilize court records and statements and information from the applicants to complete a thorough review of all issues prior to issuing a license. All information reviewed to determine if the crimes or acts were substantially related, as defined in the Board's regulations (16 CCR 416 and 3060), to professional practice based on the license type for which the applicant was applying. Additionally, any evidence of rehabilitation submitted by the applicant would be reviewed and considered, as required by the Board's regulations (16 CCR 418 and 3061). Following the review, a determination would be made as to whether the application for licensure should be denied based on the crimes or acts to ensure protection of the public.

With the passage of Assembly Bill (AB) 2138 (Ch. 995, Stats.2018), which became operative on July 1, 2020, the Board was no longer able to require an applicant to self-disclose criminal history and/or unlawful acts during the application process. However, the Board is still able to require applicants to be fingerprinted and to obtain and review their criminal history through DOJ. The Board, through its Licensing and Enforcement Units, must then decide if the crime for which an applicant has been convicted falls within the provisions of the statutes, as well as the regulations that define the substantial relationship criteria. The Board may deny issuing a license if the applicant has committed a crime that is considered substantially related to the gualifications, functions, and duties of the profession in which they seek licensure. As indicated, the substantial relationship criteria is established in the Board's regulations (16 CCR 416 and 3060). In addition to determining if the crime falls within the provisions of the statutes and is substantially related, the Board must consider evidence of rehabilitation supplied by the applicant. The evidence that must be considered is described in the Board's regulations (16 CCR 418 and 3061). The Board can no longer require an applicant to provide evidence of rehabilitation but is allowed to invite the applicant to provide such information if they so choose. As noted in Section 1 - Background and Description of the Board and Regulated Profession, in 2001, the Board updated these regulations to conform to the statutory changes made by AB 2138.

The Board has not sent "No Longer Interested" notifications to DOJ because the fingerprint/criminal history program only became effective July 1, 2015. Therefore, the individuals who have submitted fingerprints are either still in the process of obtaining licensure or have obtained, and are now maintaining, a license. As such, the Board is still interested in receiving criminal history reports and subsequent arrest reports for them. The Board anticipates sending "No Longer Interested" notifications to DOJ when it is appropriate.

Applicants are required to advise the Board if they have ever had an engineering, land surveying, geologist, or geophysicist related certificate or license denied, disciplined, suspended, surrendered, or revoked in any state. Furthermore, NCEES maintains an enforcement database that can be used by its member boards to communicate disciplinary actions for engineering and surveying licensees. Board staff can look up disciplinary actions entered by other NCEES member boards. However, the database is not consistently used by all member boards.

The Board requires primary source documentation for all educational transcripts submitted by applicants desiring equivalent experience credit for education. Applicants that are claiming educational credit must request official transcripts for all engineering, surveying, geology, and geophysics degrees. If the university/college provides electronic transcripts, they must be sent directly from the university/college via email to <u>BPELSG.Transcripts@dca.ca.gov</u>, an email address dedicated to receiving these transcripts electronically. If the university/college provides paper transcripts, they must be mailed to the Board in the original sealed envelope. Unsealed transcripts are not accepted. Foreign transcripts that are not in English do not need to be sealed, but applicants

must submit the original transcripts along with a notarized English translation. Degree evaluations are not accepted.

All court documents submitted must be certified by the court. All applicants (excluding Traffic Engineers, Geotechnical Engineers, Structural Engineers, Certified Engineering Geologists, Certified Hydrogeologists, and Professional Geophysicists) use the Online BPELSG Connect Portal to submit their initial application to the Board. During the application submittal process, the applicant will complete Part A of the Work Experience Engagement/Reference in BPELSG Connect. Contact information for each professional reference is required. After the applicant submits their application in BPELSG Connect, each of the applicant's professional references is automatically emailed a copy of Part A of the Work Experience Engagement/Reference through the BPELSG Connect system with a link that instructs them to securely complete Part B. Part B must be personally completed by the professional reference, not the applicant. On Part B, the professional reference is asked to confirm their relationship with the applicant, professional supervision, and confirm the applicant's claimed experience within the engagement/reference. Traffic Engineer, Geotechnical Engineer, Structural Engineer, Certified Engineering Geologist, Certified Hydrogeologist, and Professional Geophysicist applicants submitted paper applications that include a Work Experience Engagement/Reference form that requires the same information from the applicants and references as required in BPELSG Connect. With the paper applications, the references must sign the forms and return them to the applicant in a sealed envelope that is submitted to the Board with the application forms by the applicants.

All out-of-state and out-of-country applicants must meet the same requirements as in-state applicants. All foreign language documents must be accompanied by a notarized English translation. The Board does not accept credentialed evaluations of educational transcripts. All work experience claimed by an applicant that was gained out of California must be verified by a reference who is legally authorized to perform the work in the location were the experience was gained.

As required by law, the Board includes on every application for licensure a question asking if the applicant is serving in, or has previously served in, the military. However, applicants are not required to answer this question. Therefore, any statistical data regarding this information would not necessarily be reflective of the actual status of all applicants.

Education and experience gained while serving in the military has always been considered when determining eligibility for licensure, just as education and experience from non-military sources is considered. As long as the education and work experience meet the qualifying requirements of the Board's laws and regulations, it does not matter if they were gained while the applicant was serving in the military. As such, it is unnecessary for the Board to adopt any regulations pursuant to B&P Code § 35. The actual number of applicants claiming military experience on their application is unknown, as this information is not tracked.

The Board tracks and reports license renewals from active-duty military personnel under the provisions of B&P Code §114.3. Licensees are responsible to keep their licenses current. If military service prevents them from doing so, the Board will waive any delinquency fees that may accumulate during their active military service. There has been only a minor, negligible effect on the Board's revenues. This information can be found in the DCA Annual Report each year.

The Board tracks and reports applications from active-duty military spouses/registered domestic partners that meet the requirements for expedited licensure processing under the provisions of B&P Code §115.5. The Board provides information on its website and its application forms regarding who

qualifies for the expedited application process and what information must be submitted as proof of qualification. This information can be found in the DCA Annual Report each year.

School Approvals & Continuing Education/Competency Requirements

The approval of schools is not within the scope of the Board's licensing authority. Additionally, the Board's laws and regulations currently do not require its licensees to complete continuing education and/or competency programs.

Section 4 – Enforcement Program

The Enforcement Unit of the Board is composed of one program manager, eight full-time analysts, one part-time Retired Annuitant analyst, and one full-time clerical. In addition, there are four Senior Registrars (two engineers, one land surveyor, and one geologist) whose duties include providing assistance to the Enforcement Unit with its various responsibilities. The Enforcement Unit is primarily responsible for the investigation of complaints related to professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics.

Complaints are investigated against both licensed and unlicensed individuals and are typically submitted by consumers, other licensees, and public agencies. Complaints range from unlicensed practice of professional services to failure by licensees to meet the standard of care. The Board does not operate within a statute of limitations; therefore, complaints regarding projects that occurred many years ago can be investigated. With the professions regulated by the Board, it can often be years before issues with the work come to light. For example, a land surveyor may perform a survey and fail to comply with the laws by not filing the appropriate maps with the proper jurisdiction, but this failure is not discovered until many years later when a neighboring property owner has a survey done. As such, it would not serve to protect the public if the Board were required to operate under a statute of limitations.

Since the Board does not have a statute of limitations for investigating complaints, cases are typically investigated on a first-in basis, with the exception of cases that involve allegations that may present potential imminent threats to public safety.

Complaints investigated by the Enforcement Unit are often complex due to the technical nature of the engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics professions. The majority of cases against licensees involve allegations of negligence and/or incompetence in their professional practice. The Enforcement Unit must take reasonable efforts to obtain evidence from all of the parties involved and then retain the services of an independent Technical Expert Consultant to review all of the evidence and opine as to whether or not the subject failed to perform his or her services in accordance with the standards of the practices or has violated other laws in his or her professional practice. The Enforcement Unit maintains a pool of licensees, who are independently employed in their own private practices, to serve as experts. The most appropriate expert is selected to review a case based on the nature of the work involved as well as the location of the project as they relate to the expert's areas of expertise.

The Enforcement Unit also utilizes DCA's Division of Investigation (DOI) as a resource to assist in collecting evidence for its investigations, particularly those involving allegations of unlicensed practice or when there is a lack of response from parties involved. DOI also assists the Board with prosecutorial actions against unlicensed practitioners in cases where violations of the Board's laws are classified as criminal violations. In addition, there are related Penal Code violations tied to unlicensed activity that are considered felony

violations. In these cases, DOI will assist the Board by referring the cases to local District Attorneys' Offices for consideration of the filing of criminal charges.

As a result of its investigations, the Board may issue administrative citations to both licensed and unlicensed individuals. The citations may contain an order of abatement, an order to pay an administrative fine to the Board in the maximum amount of \$5,000 per violation, or both. Although unlicensed activity may be charged as a criminal misdemeanor by a District Attorney, most District Attorneys are unwilling to expend their limited resources on crimes that they view as minor and can be handled administratively. By issuing a citation, the Board can put the unlicensed individual on notice regarding their actions that constitute a violation of the laws, as well as provide public notice to consumers and other individuals. Citations are also issued to licensees who have violated the laws but are not deemed to be a threat to the health and safety of the general public. The issuance of a citation gives the Board the authority to enforce compliance from the licensee, since the failure to comply with a citation order can lead to further and more serious - disciplinary action against the licensee. The Board's issuance of the citation serves as a reminder to the licensee and other licensees that he or she must follow the laws and regulations that govern licensure and that there are professional and monetary consequences if those laws are ignored or violated.

Another outcome of the Board's investigations, particularly in cases where the investigation reveals that licensees have failed to meet the standard of care or have demonstrated incompetency in the professional practice, is to seek formal disciplinary action, which includes referring cases to the Office of the Attorney General to serve as the Board's attorneys in the prosecution of these matters. Disciplinary action sought against a licensee is conducted under procedures prescribed by the Administrative Procedures Act, which includes the filing of an Accusation outlining the alleged violations and describing what action the Board is seeking, such as the suspension or revocation of a license. Accusations can be settled through a stipulated settlement process or the matter can be heard before an Administrative Law Judge, who then issues a proposed decision for the Board's consideration.

For the purposes of resolving disciplinary cases without the additional expense and uncertainty of further proceedings for both the respondent and the Board, the parties often enter into stipulated agreements. Stipulated settlements often result in stayed revocations with probationary terms and conditions that can include requirements to take college and ethics courses, take and pass an examination on the Board's laws and regulations, notify clients of the disciplinary action, and pay the Board's costs for investigation and prosecution of the matter. The Board is precluded from settling cases "pre-accusation," pursuant to Government Code section 11415.60(b). [See Table 9a for statistics regrading Disciplinary Action results.]

In addition to the investigation of complaints, the Enforcement Unit responds to all inquiries (telephone, email, and letter) related to the complaint process; the status of licenses, including previous complaint or disciplinary history; and the laws and regulations related to the practices of professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics. The Enforcement Unit staff is responsible for responding to inquiries submitted by sources such as consumers/clients, licensees, professional associations, and public agencies, or forwarding them to staff or legal counsel, particularly if inquiries are specific to technical areas of professional practice or interpretation of the Board's laws.

Furthermore, the Enforcement Unit is responsible for implementing all enforcementrelated legislation, and for coordinating all enforcement-related regulatory proposals. The Reporting of Legal Actions Program (B&P Code §§ 6770, et seq., and 8776, et seq.), which became operative in 2008, requires all professional engineers and land surveyors, insurance companies, and courts to report criminal convictions and civil action judgments, settlements, and arbitration awards. Settlements are required to be reported if the dollar amount exceeds \$50,000. Judgments are required to be reported for amounts \$25,000 or greater. Reported settlement amounts have averaged approximately \$663,000 over the last three fiscal years.

Initially, there were difficulties in receiving the appropriate documentation from these sources or determining the appropriate licensee(s) involved, which severely affected the efficiency of investigating those cases. However, the Enforcement Unit has been able to work through these difficulties to more efficiently process cases. While reporting by licensees and insurance companies has greatly improved since implementation of the program, the Board does not receive reports from courts related to convictions and judgments.

	FY	FY	FY	FY	FY
	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
COMPLAINTS					
Intake					
Received	369	377	405	435	507
Closed without Referral for Investigation	62	52	50	84	149
Referred to INV	314	330	352	344	361
Pending (close of FY)	8	6	3	11	7
Conviction / Arrest					
CONV Received	3	1	1	1	2
CONV Closed Without Referral for Investigation	0	0	0	0	0
CONV Referred to INV	3	1	1	1	2
CONV Pending (close of FY)	0	0	0	1	0
Source of Complaint ¹					
Public	128	129	139	166	201
Licensee/Professional Groups	80	57	85	43	51
Governmental Agencies	11	6	17	37	31

Table 9a. Enforcement Statistics

¹ Source of complaint refers to complaints and convictions received. The summation of intake and convictions should match the total of source of complaint.

	02	405	00	75	<u> </u>
Internal	93	105	89	75	68
Other	1	0	0	0	0
Anonymous	2	26	8	28	36
Average Time to Refer for			_		_
Investigation (from receipt of complaint /	10	11	5	4	7
conviction to referral for investigation)					
Average Time to Closure (from					
receipt of complaint / conviction to closure at intake) ^A					
Average Time at Intake (from					
receipt of complaint / conviction to closure or					
referral for investigation) ^A					
INVESTIGATION					
Desk Investigations					
Opened	328	331	363	364	363
Closed	301	335	315	375	304
Average days to close (from	236	277	274	279	291
assignment to investigation closure)					
Pending (close of FY)	247	239	285	271	352
Non-Sworn Investigation	Ν	OT APPLIC	ABLE TO TH	IS BOARD	
Sworn Investigation	N	OT APPLIC	ABLE TO TH	IS BOARD	
All investigations ²	NOT	E: SAME A	S DESK INV	ESTIGATIO	NS
Opened	328	331	363	364	363
Closed	301	335	315	375	304
Average days for all investigation					
outcomes (from start of investigation to	236	277	274	279	285
investigation closure or referral for	230	211	274	219	205
prosecution) ^A					
Average days for investigation					
closures (from start of investigation to					
investigation closure) ^A					
Average days for investigation					
when referring for prosecution (from					
start of investigation to referral for					
prosecution) ^A					
Average days from receipt of					
complaint to investigation closure ^A					
Pending (close of FY)	247	239	285	271	352
CITATION AND FINE					
Citations Issued	76	79	95	84	78

^A The Board does not normally track the statistics in the rows left blank. We are still working to calculate these statistics and will have them for the final report.

² The summation of desk, non-sworn, and sworn investigations should match the total of all investigations.

Average Days to Complete (from					
complaint receipt / inspection conducted to	236	505	533	475	456
citation issued)					
Amount of Fines Assessed	\$94,500	\$140,350	\$143,500	\$155,900	\$105,250
Amount of Fines Reduced,	\$3,500	\$0	\$0	\$0	0
Withdrawn, Dismissed					
Amount Collected	\$48,000	\$84,467	\$108,625	\$129,965	\$73,210
CRIMINAL ACTION					
Referred for Criminal Prosecution	6	8	2	1	3
ACCUSATION					
Accusations Filed	39	35	38	19	35
Accusations Declined	0	0	0	0	0
Accusations Withdrawn	2	2	0	3	2
Accusations Dismissed	0	1	1	0	1
Average Days from Referral to					•
Accusations Filed (from AG referral to	177	92	97	87	159
Accusation filed)					
INTERIM ACTION					
ISO & TRO Issued	0	0	0	0	0
PC 23 Orders Issued	1	0	0	0	0
Other Suspension/Restriction			0		
Orders Issued	0	0	0	0	0
Referred for Diversion	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Petition to Compel Examination		N1/A	N1/A	N1/A	N1/A
Ordered	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
DISCIPLINE					
AG Cases Initiated (cases referred	34	38	30	35	37
to the AG in that year)	54				57
AG Cases Pending Pre-	11	3	13	15	7
Accusation (close of FY)					•
AG Cases Pending Post-	43	29	33	17	36
Accusation (close of FY)	_				
DISCIPLINARY OUTCOMES (does not include subsequent discipline; see					
below)					
Revocation	4	4	5	3	2
	4	2	1	1	
Surrender	0		0	0	1 0
Suspension only	-	0		-	
Probation with Suspension	0	0	0	1	0
Probation only	11	12	10	5	4
Public Reprimand / Public	6	7	7	2	2
Reproval / Public Letter of Reprimand			-		
Other	0	0	0	1	0
DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS (includes					
Accusations and Subsequent Discipline)					
Proposed Decision	4	3	4	4	2
Default Decision	4	3	4	3	3
Stipulations	17	27	27	14	7
Average Days to Complete After		21	21		,
Accusation (from Accusation filed to imposing formal discipline)	316	328	295	339	272

Average Days from Closure of										
Investigation to Imposing Formal	550	490	358	450	360					
Discipline										
Average Days to Impose										
Discipline (from complaint receipt to	935	737	541	743	611					
imposing formal discipline)										
PROBATION	1		1	1	1					
Probations Completed	9	10	11	7	5					
Probationers Pending (close of FY)	43	40	37	30	21					
Probationers Tolled	1	1	1	1	1					
Petitions to Revoke Probation /										
Accusation and Petition to Revoke	8	8	16	5	5					
Probation Filed										
SUBSEQUENT DISCIPLINE ³	SUBSEQUENT DISCIPLINE ³									
Probations Revoked	1	2	4	5	2					
Probationers License	0	2	5	2	0					
Surrendered	0	2		2	0					
Additional Probation Only	1	4	3	1	1					
Suspension Only Added	0	0	0	0	0					
Other Conditions Added Only	0	0	0	0	0					
Other Probation Outcome	1	0	0	0	0					
SUBSTANCE ABUSING LICENSEES	NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS BOARD									
PETITIONS										
Petition for Termination or	1	0	0	2	0					
Modification Granted	I	0	0	2	0					
Petition for Termination or	0	0	0	1	0					
Modification Denied	0	0	0	1	0					
Petition for Reinstatement	1	0	1	0	0					
Granted	•	•								
Petition for Reinstatement Denied	0	0	1	1	1					
DIVERSION NOT APPLICABLE TO THIS BOARD										

 $^{^{\}rm 3}$ Do not include these numbers in the Disciplinary Outcomes section above.

	i comone / tg.	ng					
	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23	Cases Closed	Average %
Investigations (Average	%)						
Closed Within:							
90 Days	56 (18.6%)	29 (8.7%)	54 (17.1%)	53 (14.1%)	54 (17.8%)	246	15.1%
91 - 180 Days	56 (18.6%)	64 (19.1%)	61 (19.4%)	64 (17.1%)	75 (24.7%)	320	19.6%
181 - 1 Year	125 (41.5%)	142 (42.4%)	107 (34.0%)	154 (41.1%)	71 (23.4%)	599	36.7%
1 - 2 Years	63 (20.9%)	98 (29.3%)	88 (27.9%	96 (25.6%)	100 (32.9%)	445	27.3%
2 - 3 Years	1 (0.3%)	1 (0.3%)	5 (1.6%)	7 (1.9%)	4 (1.4%)	18	1.1%
Over 3 Years	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.3%)	0 (0.0%)	1 (0.3%)	0 (0.0%)	2	.001%
Total Investigation Cases Closed	301	335	315	375	304	1,630	
Attorney General Cases	(Average %)						
Closed Within:							
0 - 1 Year	7 (23.3%)	7 (19.4%)	10 (33.3%)	4 (17.4%)	3 (21.4%)	31	23.3%
1 - 2 Years	7 (23.3%)	12 (33.3%)	13 (43.4%)	8 (34.8%)	6 (42.9%)	46	34.6%
2 - 3 Years	3 (10%)	12 (33.3%)	6 (20.0%)	8 (34.8%)	3 (21.4%)	32	24.1%
3 - 4 Years	4 (13.4%)	4 (11.2%%)	1 (3.3%)	1 (4.3%)	2 (14.3%)	12	9.0%
Over 4 Years	9 (30%)	1 (2.8%)	0 (0.0%)	2 (8.7%)	0 (0.0%)	12	9.0%
Total Attorney General Cases Closed	30	36	30	23	14	133	

 Table 10. Enforcement Aging

As set by the Board in its 2015-2018 Strategic Plan, the current target for staff-level completion of complaint investigations is an average of 180 days, with the overall goal of no cases reaching one year old during the investigative phase. Since the last Sunset Report, the average days to close investigation cases have increased from approximately eight months to nine months. [See statistics for Average Days for Investigation Closures in Table 9a.]

Contributing factors affecting increases in investigative timeframes include increases in the number complaints received; difficulties recruiting independent Technical Expert Consultants in certain areas of expertise; adapting to the implementation of BPELSG Connect, the Board's online licensing and complaint system; and adapting to major changes to the Board's file management processes, due largely in part to the transition to primarily electronic files and communication during and after the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown.

The implementation of BPELSG Connect for the submittal of complaints and the processing of enforcement investigation cases, beginning in September 2020, has resulted in a number of both successes and challenges. The Complaint Portal, completed online, replaces the traditional mail-in complaint form with physical supporting documents. Complainants can input all relevant information related to a complaint and upload documents to support their allegations.

The online submission of complaints provides an easier and cost-free means to submit complaint information. This process eliminates the cost of reproduction of documents

and mailing of complaint packages. In addition, complainants can opt to submit complaints anonymously, which was not always understood as an available option with mail-in complaints. The accessibility and ease of use has resulted in a substantial increase of complaint submissions.

However, the ease of use of the Complaint Portal presents a number of challenges that has resulted in a noticeable increase in the length of time needed to review the complaints, especially upon intake. The number of cases received has increased significantly. Furthermore, trends in completing the complaint input process by the complainant range from simple mistakes made hurrying through typing into input fields, input of less comprehensive narrative needed to fully explain allegations, lack of documentation to support allegations, submittal of complaints that are not within the Board's authority to investigate, and the upload of illegible or incomplete documents. The lack of a full, comprehensive complaint package increases the amount of work Enforcement Unit staff experience during the intake and initial investigation phases to fully gather sufficient evidence to support allegations. When submitted anonymously, the lack of complete information and documentation can severely hamper the Board's ability to investigate a complaint.

The "back office" portion of the Complaint Portal was implemented in February 2022, providing an online platform for Enforcement Unit staff to review complaint narratives and documents, input statistical information and complaint milestones, and upload electronic documents, as a means to both manage the complaint file online and gather statistical data. Improvements to BPELSG Connect are ongoing to efficiently evaluate workload by Enforcement Unit staff, which was laborious or not readily discernible when managing paper files.

The Board has also been working on improving the review of cases by independent Technical Expert Consultants. Independent Technical Expert Consultants are licensees with whom the Board contracts to provide a review of the technical issues involved in the complaint investigation cases. These professionals provide an opinion related to the standard of care in the professional practice or other laws related to the practices of professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics and whether or not the subject of the investigation complied with the laws and standards. The experts are usually employed full-time in their own practice; as such, this often causes some reviews to extend beyond the normally requested 30 days. Furthermore, choosing experts based on their knowledge of particular areas of expertise or geographic areas can be a challenge based on the choice of experts populating the current list of experts.

The Board has been actively working to improve the expert selection process and training to enhance the quality of expert services and expand the selection of experts based on their areas of expertise. Notification of the need for more experts has been sent to the Board's email subscribers posted on the Board's web site, publications for training have been updated, and in-person training sessions were held in 2018 by Board Staff and a Deputy Attorney General with existing experts at locations in Northern and Southern California. As a more significant number of new experts accrue, additional training

sessions will be scheduled. In the meantime, experts are provided materials to inform them of the role and expectations of the expert, as well as procedures for serving as an expert.

The Board is currently developing an online renewal assessment as set forth by B&P Code §§ 6795.2, 8801.5, and 7881.5, which became effective on January 1, 2017. This requirement was enacted because of a goal previously identified as a means to educate licensees about changes to the Board's laws and reducing complaints submitted simply because of their lack of knowledge of such changes. This assessment will include review of the laws most commonly violated which are not specifically practice-related. For instance, for many years after written contracts became required for licensees in 2001, numerous complaints were received alleging that a written contract was not executed; in other cases, it became apparent during the Board's investigation that compliance with the written contract statute was not fulfilled. The response from many licensees was that they were unaware of the new law, even though the Board had publicized it several times in its newsletter, on its website, and many times through in-person outreach opportunities. A review of records from this past fiscal year indicates that almost 40% of our active investigations involve some aspect of non-compliance with laws that have become effective within the last 10 to 20 years. The Board is currently working to develop the content of the assessment. However, since the laws mandate that the assessment must be conducted online, rather than through outreach opportunities, the Board intends to implement this online assessment in BPELSG Connect in 2024 as part of the license renewal process, subject to the availability of suitable development resources.

Despite the Enforcement Unit's aggressive efforts to reduce processing times for its complaint investigations, the Board is heavily impacted by DOI's delays in processing cases. Over the last four fiscal years, 52% of the completed cases that were referred to DOI took more than a year to process. Because DOI also investigates cases on behalf of other boards and bureaus within DCA, it must set priorities for its investigations. Those cases that present evidence of an immediate threat to the public health, safety, and welfare receive the highest priority. Since there is rarely the same level of "immediate threat" relating to the practices of professional engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics as there might be with cases involving nursing or other healing arts professions, DOI does not give this Board's cases the highest priority. The inability of DOI to timely investigate its cases contributes to the overall aging of the Board's complaint investigation cases and, on occasion, causes statutes of limitations to expire on cases that could potentially be prosecuted in criminal court. It would be beneficial to all boards and bureaus if DOI were able to increase the number of investigators it employs and to also create specific units within DOI to handle specific types of cases or to work with specific boards, such as the unit of investigators that focuses on cases from the Medical Board of California. This operational change would allow DOI to better distribute workload and prioritize cases so that the Board's cases are not set aside when other cases that seem to demonstrate a more immediate threat to the public are submitted by other boards and bureaus.

DOI leadership has made efforts to streamline a number of services to its clients, notably by utilizing its Enforcement Support Unit (ESU) to better serve clients in the initial review process or to assist in matters that do not require sworn investigator positions. The Board would also like to collaborate with DOI in efforts to more effectively investigate the Board's cases through a closer working relationship among DOI Investigators, Board staff, and the Board's independent Technical Expert Consultants. The Board would also like to explore training tools to better equip DOI Investigators with information regarding the laws unique to the Board's practices, as the majority of cases referred to DOI are related to business structures or the practices of professional engineering, land surveying, and geology, which often contain technical terminology not readily understood by DOI Investigators.

In addition to the implementation of new laws and other processes, Enforcement Unit staff has continued to be effective with its current organizational make-up. Continuing to dedicate duties of one analyst position to issuing citations and conducting informal conferences and one analyst position to preparing and sending citations to the Office of the Attorney General for processing formal appeals has ensured no backlog in the processing of post-investigation cases and enabled the remaining staff analysts to focus heavily on the processing of complaint investigations.

The Board realizes that, while significant efforts have been made to reduce the aging of cases to what it determines are acceptable levels, continuing to develop ideas for improvements with its own internal process as well as protocols for working collaboratively with other divisions and agencies will ensure achieving its goals.

Despite the Board's aggressive efforts to reduce the internal backlog and aging of its complaint investigations, significantly protracted processing times remain a challenge, specifically for cases that are referred to the Office of the Attorney General and Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) that involve citation appeals and formal disciplinary actions. The Office of the Attorney General handles cases for all of the boards and bureaus within DCA, and they are heavily inundated. OAH hears matters for multiple agencies in addition to DCA. The Board would like to see a reduction in the overall processing time for formal disciplinary cases, including the investigation time and the time to pursue the action, to an average of 540 days, as mandated by DCA. The average has been significantly reduced over the last five fiscal years, at one point reaching this goal. By the end of FY 2022/23, the goal was only exceeded by a little more than two months.

Effective January 1, 2018, pursuant to B&P Code §312.2, the Office of the Attorney General is required to report certain statistical information relating to the adjudication of its cases to DCA, the Governor, and the Legislature. While the Board has no control over the processing times for the Office of the Attorney General, Board staff has seen a more concerted effort by the Office of the Attorney General to monitor the Board's cases and work collaboratively with Board staff to reduce aging of cases. This is evidenced by the reduction of aging from the referral of cases to the filing of accusations. (92 days average during FY 2019/20 through FY 2021/22). [See Table 9a for statistics regarding Accusations.]

OAH is also required to report certain statistical information related to the processing of its cases. While the Board does not collaborate with the agency in efforts to focus on aging cases, there has been a significant reduction in the average number of days between the submittal to OAH of a request to set a hearing and the issuance of a proposed decision from 185 days in FY 2018/19 to 101 days in FY 2021/22 (according to OAH's Caseload Statistics and Hearing Timeframe Reports for the last three fiscal years).

The Board would like to pursue other means to improve the effectiveness of the Enforcement Unit's processing of its complaint investigations, particularly those related to unlicensed practice. While issuing an administrative citation is an effective means of disclosing unlicensed activity to the public and emphasizing the severity and gravity of such violations, it is not always effective in motivating violators to cease and desist. Many choose to pay the fines and continue to offer and practice, while others choose to ignore the administrative citation altogether. The use of the internet to advertise professional engineering, land surveying, and geologic services continues to be on the rise. Business by unlicensed individuals is often conducted solely through internet advertisements, either using broker/referral websites or individual sites for companies. Communication is often through email and mobile telephone service, and payment is made through online payment options. This process can severely hinder ability by the consumer or the Board to pursue remedies if a breach of contract or fraud occurs. Therefore, the Enforcement Unit would like to research additional means of effectively inhibiting solicitation of illegal activities. For instance, current law provides the Board, through the issuance of an administrative citation, authority to order individuals advertising professional services in telephone directories to disconnect telephone services regulated by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). Legislation enacted in 2015 broadened this to include any advertising, not just a listing in a telephone directory. However, many unlicensed individuals operate through mobile telephone services, which are not regulated by the PUC. In addition, there is currently no authority to require violators to shut down websites illegally advertising professional services or to require the online broker/referral websites to remove the listings. The Board would like to collaborate with the online broker/referral sites to better educate their online customers and the public of possible licensure requirements, as well as easily identify and investigate those in violation of the Board's laws.

Another serious problem regarding unlicensed activity is unlicensed individuals operating engineering and land surveying businesses without having an appropriately licensed individual as an owner, partner, or officer in responsible charge. Currently, companies offering professional engineering and land surveying services are required to provide an Organization Record (OR) form, filed free of charge, which lists the licensed professional(s) in responsible charge of professional services offered and performed. During the 2022 legislative session, the Board sponsored legislation (Ch. 302, Stats.2022) that repealed a subdivision in Business and Professions Code section 6738 and 8729 that was widely misinterpreted as allowing non-engineering and non-land surveying businesses to offer professional engineering or land surveying services as long as the business then contracted with a licensee to be in responsible charge of the work.

Although this was not at all what the subdivision stated, the Board determined that the best course of action was to repeal it to prevent any future misunderstandings or misuse of the law. This change became effective January 1, 2023. Currently, there is not a requirement for geological and geophysical companies to file an OR form, although the Geologist and Geophysicist Act does require a professional geologist or geophysicist, as appropriate, to be an owner, partner, or officer of the business and in responsible charge of the professional services offered and performed. The Board has been exploring a means to integrate certain data elements into the BPELSG Connect system that will better enable the tracking of licensees' association with engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics businesses offering services in California.

Cite and Fine

The Board may issue administrative citations to both licensed and unlicensed individuals. The citations may contain an order of abatement or an order to pay an administrative fine to the Board in the maximum amount of \$5,000 per violation or both. Citations may be issued to unlicensed individuals when the investigation reveals that the unlicensed person violated the Board's laws by committing acts that require licensure. Although unlicensed activity may be charged as a criminal misdemeanor through the District Attorney's Office, most District Attorneys are unwilling to expend their limited resources on crimes that they view as minor and can be handled administratively.

By issuing a citation, the Board puts the unlicensed individual on notice regarding his or her actions that constitute a violation of the laws, as well as providing public notice to potential concerned or affected individuals. Citations are also issued to licensees who have violated the laws but are not deemed to be a threat to the health and safety of the general public. For example, many of the land surveying complaints investigated by the Enforcement Unit involve the failure of the licensee to file a Record of Survey or a Corner Record with the County Surveyor's Office in the time and manner required by law. A citation can be issued to the licensee containing an order of abatement ordering him or her to file the required record; by issuing the citation ordering the licensee to comply with the law, the Board is ensuring that the public is protected by the maintenance of the public records of lands. The majority of citations issued to unlicensed individuals are for violations involving offering to practice, which includes executing the written contract with the client, and operating a business as the sole owner through which the professional services are offered. The most common violations for which citations are issued to licensed individuals involve failing to file or resubmit survey maps to the County Surveyors' Offices in the time and manner required by law and failing to execute a written contract that includes all of the elements required by law. The issuance of a citation also gives the Board the authority to enforce compliance from the licensee, because a failure to comply with a citation order can lead to further - and more serious - disciplinary action against the licensee. The Board's issuance of the citation serves as a reminder to the licensee and other licensees that he or she must follow the laws and regulations under which he or she is granted licensure and that there are professional and monetary consequences if he or she does not.

Citations become final 30 days after issuance unless they are appealed. The cited person may appeal the citation by requesting an informal conference with the Board's Executive Officer or a formal administrative hearing before an Administrative Law Judge or both. On average, 50% of the citations issued are appealed. Typically, the cited person requests both an informal conference and a formal appeal hearing. There have been 156 informal conferences held over the last four fiscal years. Sixty-five citations have been referred to the Office of the Attorney General for formal appeal.

Following the informal conference, the Executive Officer may dismiss, modify, or affirm the citation. If the citation is dismissed, it is considered final immediately upon issuance of the dismissal. If the citation is modified or affirmed, then it becomes final 30 days after issuance of the modification or affirmation, unless the cited person has already requested a formal administrative hearing or does so upon receipt of the modification or affirmation. A fine is not considered assessed until the citation becomes final. If a fine is assessed, it becomes due and payable 30 days after the citation becomes final. The Board will extend the time in which the payment must be made and allow the cited person to make payments if so requested.

Currently, there is a high outstanding balance of fines owed to the Board. This circumstance usually exists when a fine is assessed against an unlicensed person, and the Board has had, until recently, limited recourse to collect the fines. Most licensees pay the fines because failure to do so could result in their not being able to renew their licenses or in formal disciplinary action being taken against their licenses for failure to comply with the citation orders. In many cases, the Board is unable to locate the unlicensed person to pursue collection, and the Board was only able to collect unpaid fines through the use of the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) refund intercept program through tax refunds, lottery winnings, and unclaimed property. However, the occurrences when the Board receives funds are rare. There are 138 outstanding accounts that have been referred to FTB, with an outstanding balance to be collected of \$525,500. There have been 24 instances of receiving funds, totally approximately \$60,000. In addition to the relative lack of success of the FTB program in recovering fines, staff time expended is approximately two hours per account to process, including writing letters to the subject and referring the matter to DOI for the collection of personal information required to refer to FTB. It is noted that accounts can only be referred to FTB in the event a Social Security Number is available. This is possible only if the person has been an applicant or if a person's identity is unique enough for it to be ascertained by DOI staff.

In FY2022/23, a Department-Wide account with a collection agency was created to allow boards to pursue another avenue to collect outstanding fines. This process is still in its infancy, with trainings planned in the future to assist Board Staff in sending fines owed by unlicensed individuals to the collection agency for processing. While Board Staff has yet to initiate this process, we are excited to have the opportunity to do so and hopefully provide more of a deterrent for unlicensed practice.

Cost Recovery and Restitution

Cost Recovery Efforts

The Enforcement Expenditures include the Office of the Attorney General, OAH and Court Reporters (for hearings conducted by OAH), Evidence/Witness (Technical Expert Consultants on all cases, not just those that are referred to the AG's Office), and DOI line items.

Resolution of the formal disciplinary process can result in either the revocation or surrender of a license or a revocation that is stayed with probationary terms. Cost recovery of the Board's expenditures is often ordered as part of a disciplinary decision issued by the Board, either through adoption of a proposed decision prepared by an Administrative Law Judge or a stipulated settlement as agreed to by the respondent and the Executive Officer. However, cost recovery is seldom sought as part of a surrender or complete revocation, as these results eliminate the respondent's authority to practice and, likely, his or her primary source of income.

The Board has found that it is much more successful in obtaining full recovery of the costs ordered if the respondents/probationers are allowed to make payments to the Board during the period of probation, rather than requiring them to make one payment shortly after the decision becomes effective. If the reimbursement of the costs is ordered as a condition of probation, which it is in the majority of cases, the only recourse the Board has if the respondent/probationer fails to pay is to terminate the probation and either suspend or revoke the license. If the Board does that, then it cannot collect any of the costs. Therefore, while it may take longer for the Board to receive reimbursement of its costs by allowing the respondents/probationers to make payments, the Board is ultimately more successful in obtaining the cost recovery as ordered. The Board does not use FTB to collect cost recovery.

Table 11. Cost Recovery ⁴ (list dollars in thousa)								
	FY 2018/19	FY 2019/20	FY 2020/21	FY 2021/22	FY 2022/23			
Total Enforcement Expenditures	\$1.273 (in mill)	\$1.098 (in mill)	\$1.596 (in mill)	\$1.391 (in mill)	\$1.143 (in mill)			
Potential Cases for Recovery *	23	25	24	14	11			
Cases Recovery Ordered	20	22	20	11	7			
Amount of Cost Recovery Ordered	\$109,423.85	\$121,180.12	\$106,534.00	\$47,043.13	\$72,164.75			
Amount Collected (at end of fiscal year; costs may be paid over several years)	\$22,726.05	\$111,930.22	\$133,271.00	\$51,257.40	\$43,544.78			

* "Potential Cases for Recovery" are those cases in which disciplinary action has been taken based on violation of the license practice act.

⁴ Cost recovery may include information from prior fiscal years.

Restitution Provided To Consumers

Pursuant to Government Code Section 11519(d), the Board may order a licensee to pay restitution as a condition of probation. Restitution may not be ordered in a disciplinary decision that does not include probation, unless it is agreed to in a stipulated settlement. Additionally, restitution cannot be ordered through an administrative citation. Typically, the restitution ordered is the amount the consumer paid to the licensee for the services, or the amount the consumer paid to another licensee to re-do the work, and may also include fees the consumer had to pay to a governmental agency, such as plan or map checking fees or permit fees. However, it does not include punitive damages, which are appropriately left within the purview of the civil courts.

Table 12. Restitution

(list dollars in thousands) FY 2019/20 FY 2020/21 FY 2021/22 FY 2022/23 FY 2018/19 \$7,900.00 Amount Ordered \$0 \$6,900.00 \$0 \$0 Amount Collected \$0 \$0 \$6,900.00 \$0 \$0

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Section 5 – Public Information Policies

Public Information

The Board maintains its own website and regularly provides updates at <u>http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov</u>. The website contains information for consumers, licensees, and applicants, including the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the regulations associated with the three Acts; the Board *Bulletin* (newsletter); notices of Board meetings; Board meeting minutes; notices of rulemaking proposals; and information regarding applying for licensure. The Board's on-line presence is intended to expand the reach and quality of its external communications, improve service delivery, connect and interact with stakeholders, and enhance public access to Board policies and programs.

Meeting Materials

Meeting materials for Board Meetings are made available within a week following the posting of the meeting's Official Notice and Agenda. The Official Notice and Agenda is posted at least 10 days in advance of every meeting. The notices for Board meetings remain on the homepage only until the date of the meeting but can still be accessed through the Board Meetings page.

<u>Minutes</u>

It is the Board's policy to maintain the agenda, meeting materials, and minutes for five years on the Board's website. Draft minutes are not posted online since they are not considered official until the Board approves and adopts them. Once approved and adopted by the Board, Board meeting minutes are generally posted the next business day following the Board meeting at which they were approved and adopted.

Webcasting and Meeting Calendar

It is important to understand there is a difference between "webcasting" a meeting and holding a meeting via a virtual/remote platform. Webcasting is simply a static video recording; it does not allow for the viewer to interact with the meeting attendees. A virtual/remote platform, such as WebEx, Zoom, or Teams, allows for all of the meeting attendees, public and Board members, to be in remote locations and still participate in the meeting and communicate in real time.

As the Board indicated in its last two (2014/2015 & 2018/2019) Sunset Reports and Responses, the Board has considered webcasting its meetings in the past. However, the Board believes that providing opportunities for the public to actually participate in the discussions at Board meetings is of prime importance, and webcasting does not allow for such actual participation by the public. As the Board noted in its previous Sunset Reports and Responses, the Board was not inclined to webcast its meetings because doing so does not enhance the public's opportunities to interact with the Board. However, as the

Board previously noted, it was supportive of video conferencing its meetings since that would allow for the public to participate from remote locations. The Board's hesitation over video conferencing at that time was related to the technology and logistics involved.

After the onset of the pandemic in early 2020, the Board quickly transitioned to virtually held Board meetings primarily using WebEx, an online hosting platform, to facilitate the public board meeting process. While the Board, like many other organizations during this time, did experience some initial adjustments related to mobile platform standardization, the transition did occur in fairly expedient fashion. Prior to the pandemic, the Board rarely experienced much audience in terms of physical attendance by members of the public , but it was observed during height of the pandemic that, on average, 10-20 public participants did attend the virtual meetings, providing a similar level of public comments as in prior years. Subsequently, as the effects of the pandemic eased through 2021-22 and the Board began to transition to a hybrid (physical and virtual participation) format, it was observed that physical attendance by members of the public mirrored the 5-10 individuals generally present in years prior while participation virtually slightly exceeded that norm.

During 2023, and after evaluating the inconsistencies associated with ensuring there would be reliable internet services to support virtual access wherever the Board held its meetings in the state, the Board elected to schedule half of its scheduled meetings in Sacramento at the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) headquarters, which is equipped to allow for hybrid-type meetings, with the remaining meetings held throughout the state, which allows suitable participation by members of the public who wish to attend in person. The Board intends to evaluate this policy on an annual basis due to the fluid nature of reliable internet services and to address any changes which may become necessary due to revisions in legislation related to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act pertaining to public meetings.

The Board establishes an annual calendar for Board meetings that is approved by the Board at the end of the prior year. Following approval, the meeting calendar is posted on the Board's website.

Website and Outreach Information

In addition to the information included in the "Public Information" section above, one of the main links on the Board's homepage is dedicated to the consumer and includes such information as how to use the License Search, how to file a complaint, and the Consumer Guides to engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics. The public can check on the license status of the person(s) they are considering hiring using the online License Search feature. This feature provides information on the Board's licensees including their license numbers, issue dates, expiration dates, and addresses of record. The License Search feature also provides links to accusations filed and disciplinary actions taken against the licensee. Consumers can also find out how to file a complaint with the Board

regarding engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics issues. Complaints are now submitted through the BPELSG Connect system [see more information in Section 4 – Enforcement].

The Board has a Social Media program, which includes the notification and distribution of information that the Board wishes to distribute to its stakeholders. This active Social Media Program, supported by Facebook and X (formally known as Twitter), provides dynamic platforms to channel the Board's distribution of pertinent information and related content as well as expands its reach to the consumer population.

In addition, the Board maintains a database of all professional engineering, land surveying, geological, and geophysical professional organizations active in California. The database contains all contact information for the organizations, and we regularly reach out to them in our effort to keep them engaged in their respective disciplines in our state. Also, at the request of professional societies and state and local governmental agencies, Board staff will attend meetings to discuss any legislative or regulatory changes in the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act; regulatory and enforcement issues; and other topics related to the Board. These outreach meetings also serve to keep the lines of communication open between the Board and state and local governmental agencies, licensees, and professional associations.

The Board also maintains a repository of information for the public which is obtained from a notification submitted by local public agencies that contains the name and contact information of any licensees employed by and practicing engineering or land surveying at a city, county, city and county, district, and special district. This information is required to be submitted to the Board by each public entity. The Board has created a form to facilitate this required notification; this form is referred to as the Notice of Department Designation (NODD) form. When a consumer contacts the Board needing to interact with a public entity related to engineering or land surveying services, the information from the NODD can be shared with the public.

Additionally, the Board provides extensive information for applicants and licensees on the Board's website, as well as information explaining the required qualifications for licensure. Information for licensees includes specific pages addressing the written contract laws, the Codes of Professional Conduct, and the Reporting of Legal Actions Program.

The Board also has a College Outreach program to encourage college students and professors to seek licensure. This program is discussed in more depth in Section 7 – Workforce Development and Job Creation.

Complaint Disclosure Policy

The Board's Policy on Disclosure of Complaints and Disciplinary Actions was formally adopted by the Board in July 1994. Prior to formally adopting a disclosure policy, the Board observed an informal policy that followed the same guidelines and principles that were then expressed in the formal policy adopted in 1994. The Board reviews its disclosure policy and updates it as needed. The Board's disclosure policy is consistent with DCA's policies on disclosure of complaint information and posting of disciplinary action information on the internet.

It is the policy of the Board to provide information to the public regarding complaints and disciplinary actions resulting from violations of the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the Regulations of the Board. The Board keeps records of complaint investigation cases that do not result in citations or formal disciplinary actions for five years. The Board discloses the following information upon request after the completion of an investigation:

- Number of complaints against the individual
- Date the complaint was received
- Disposition of the complaint, such as compliance obtained, mediated/resolved, referred for formal legal and/or disciplinary action, or any other action taken against the subject.

If the complaint is still in the investigation stage or if the investigation reveals that there was no violation of the law, no information is disclosed.

The Board keeps records of citations and formal disciplinary actions (accusations and decisions) and discloses the information as required by law. The information provided includes the:

- Action taken
- Reason(s) for the action
- Date of the action.

If the matter is final, information regarding compliance with the order is also provided. If the citation or decision on the accusation is not yet final, its procedural status is provided.

The Board also publicizes its enforcement actions by publishing articles in the Board's newsletter, posting the information on the Board's website as required by B&P Code section 27, and by providing information to other states' regulatory boards.

Section 6 – Online Practice Issues

In recent years, the Board's Enforcement Unit has been called upon to investigate the way in which professional engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists are advertising their services via the Internet. In general, under the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the Regulations of the Board, internet advertising is no different than advertising in paper publications, such as magazines or telephone directories. If a professional engineering, land surveying, geology, or geophysics company has a website through which they are offering their professional services, then they must meet all of the same requirements as any other professional engineering, land surveying, geology, or geophysics company that offers services in California. The Board has required companies to make modifications to their websites to ensure that they are in compliance with California's laws, such as clarifying what services they are allowed to perform in California.

One of the issues that the Board's Enforcement Unit is faced with pertaining to the advertising of these services involves online broker/referral websites. Since most consumers are interested in services related to their personal homes and property, the Board more often encounters issues that involve the procurement of land surveying services and, to a lesser degree, engineering, geology, and geophysics services. Online sites such as angi.com, upwork.com, and freelancer.com provide a one-stop location where consumers can research individuals (or companies) in their regional area who perform the services that they need and pay the individuals and companies directly through the online platform. Many times, these sites include ratings from past customers on how well the services were performed. These online sites allow anyone to list themselves as offering, providing, and performing these services without any verification of licensure. The proliferation of these online sites leads consumers into unknowingly thinking that if the individual or company is listed on this site and has a good rating, then they must be appropriately licensed. The Board's Enforcement Unit has encountered situations where this is not the case, and the consumer may be harmed by the services for which they contracted.

There are other instances involving online sites such as <u>www.craigslist.org</u> where anyone can advertise services without any sort of standardized manner that a consumer can use to compare one advertisement to another or to have the option of knowing past performances. It is recognized that sites such as this are not as sophisticated as the previously mentioned broker/referral sites, and the consumer is choosing to research these sites at their own risk.

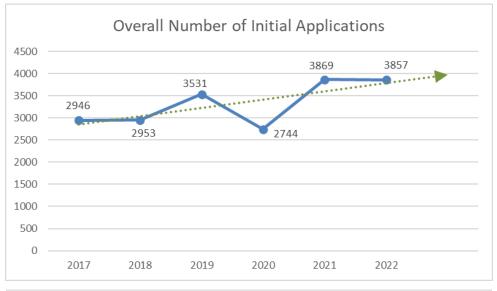
Furthermore, business by unlicensed individuals is often conducted solely through internet advertisements, either using broker/referral websites or individual sites for companies. Communication is often through email and mobile telephone service, and payment is made through online payment options. This process can severely hinder ability by the consumer or the Board to pursue remedies if a breach of contract or fraud occurs.

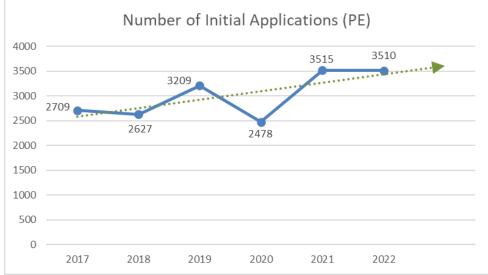
While there are laws that allow the Board to issue citations to unlicensed individuals who are illegally advertising professional services and include an order to disconnect the land line telephone number listed in the advertisement, there is no authority to disconnect cellular telephone lines. Furthermore, there is no authority to require violators to shut down websites from which they are illegally advertising professional services or to require the online broker/referral websites to remove the listings. The Board would like to collaborate with the online broker/referral sites to better educate their online customers and the public of possible licensure requirements, as well as easily identify and investigate those in violation of the Board's laws.

Section 7 – Workforce Development and Job Creation

It is not the role of the Board to create jobs or provide job training in the professions it regulates; the Board's duty is to ensure that individuals who are seeking licensure are qualified to practice with due regard to the health, safety, welfare, and property of the public. However, the Board does have impact on the workforce in the length of time it takes for individuals to obtain licensure. To ensure that qualified individuals obtain licensure as timely as possible, the Board has established targeted timeframes for processing applications and an effective outreach plan. The Board has identified the need for targeted timeframes for processing applications for examination and initial licensure to allow for qualified individuals to quickly enter the profession.

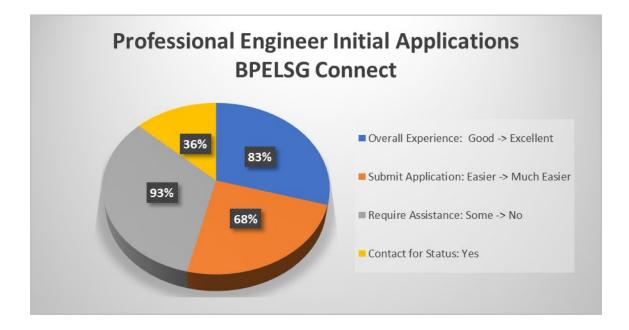
Additionally, since the introduction of BPELSG Connect, the Board has received historical high volumes of initial applications, particularly for the Professional Engineer license types, which has contributed a negative impact to the targeted timeframes for licensure and lengthened the time for the Board to complete the application review process.





The Board provides a link to a customer satisfaction survey as part of the online application process in BPELSG Connect and the responses, from those who submitted initial applications for a Professional Engineer license (348 of the total 2,427 responses), indicates that the application submittal and review process has generally trended in a positive direction.

As can be seen in the following chart, 83% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while only 68% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, while 93% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, 36% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the application.



The Board regularly monitors the feedback from this survey for indications where enhancements can be implemented to improve the processes.

More detailed information on the volume of applications and processing timeframes is discussed under Section 3 – Licensing Program.

By 2013, the Board had transitioned all of its state examinations to be administered through the computer-based testing (CBT) method, using a nationally recognized organization that has testing centers throughout North America. This allows individuals to take the examinations in locations most convenient to them. It also allows the Board to issue the examination results in a shorter period of time (generally reducing the period from three months to one month after the examination is administered).

Following along very shortly after, both national providers of examinations, National Council of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (NCEES) and the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) began transitioning their national examinations to

CBT in 2014 and have mostly completed that transition. More information on the national examinations can be found under Section 3 – Licensing Program.

Additionally, the Board has established targeted timeframes to ensure that individuals renewing a license do not experience lapses in practice rights. In addition, as part of its quarterly newsletter, the Board provides current information regarding requirements for licensure, examination information, and public interest pieces that impact the licensee and the consumer.

The College Outreach Program provides information regarding career development, initial licensing, and examination requirements to college students and professors. The purpose of this program is to provide information and education to professionals, students, and consumers in the application of the Professional Engineers Act, the Professional Land Surveyors' Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics professions. Board members and staff make it a priority to attend ABET visits as observers. ABET is the national accreditation organization for engineering and land surveying programs. Attendance at college outreach activities, such as "Engineering Day," at California campuses is also a high priority of the Board.

In addition, the Board maintains a database of all college engineering, land surveying, and geology programs in California. The database contains all contact information for the deans and department chairs of the disciplines that it oversees. In the spring and fall, the Board sends updates to all stakeholders to notify them of changes or updates to Board practices, as well as to give the schools a contact point should they have questions about Board practices.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts

The Board began efforts to recognize diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) considerations during its Strategic Plan revisions in 2021 (more information on the Board's 2022-27 Strategic Plan can be found under Section 1 – History of the Board) by initially including objectives which relate to these considerations.

Subsequently in 2023, the Board revisited a couple objectives related to DEI and discussed ways to revise each objective to communicate the intended goal more clearly.

Additionally, the Board intends to revisit the current plan during 2024 in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order (N-16-22) related to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) considerations.

Recently, DCA provided workshops related to DEI in several formats; for Board leadership, managers, and board members. The Board's managers and executive leadership has participated in these workshops to continually familiarize ourselves with DEI concerns and solutions.

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Section 8 – Current Issues

DCA's Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative

Following the failed passage of Senate Bill 1111 (Negrete McLeod) in 2010, DCA recommended that the boards consider adopting regulations to implement some of the provisions proposed in the legislation as a way to implement the Consumer Protection Enforcement Initiative (CPEI). The following is the list of the items DCA prepared as its "CPEI SB 1111 (4/12/10 version) Proposed Changes through Regulations," along with the recommendation from DCA as to what action could be taken to accomplish the item. As indicated in the Board's last two (2014/2015 & 2018/2019) Sunset Reports and Responses, the majority of these items applied to the healing arts boards since those boards were the focus of the CPEI and SB 1111. Following the DCA list of items is the action taken by the Board or the reason that no action was taken.

<u>DCA LIST</u>

Board delegation to Executive Officer regarding stipulated settlements to revoke or surrender license

Permit the Board to delegate to the Executive Officer the authority to adopt a "stipulated settlement" if an action to revoke a license has been filed and the licensee agrees to surrender the license, without requiring the Board to vote to adopt the settlement.

Recommend: Amend regulations.

Revocation for sexual misconduct

Require an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) who has issued a decision finding that a licensee engaged in any act of sexual contact with a patient or who has committed or been convicted of sexual misconduct to order revocation which may not be stayed. Recommend: Amend regulations/disciplinary guidelines.

Denial of application for registered sex offender

Require the Board to deny a license to an applicant or revoke the license of a licensee who is registered as a sex offender.

Recommend: Amend the regulations pertaining to applicant requirements and disciplinary guidelines.

Confidentiality agreements regarding settlements

Confidentiality agreements regarding settlements can cause delay and thwart a Board's effort to investigate possible cases of misconduct, thereby preventing the Board from performing its most basic function – protection of the public.

Recommend: Define in regulation that participating in confidentiality agreements regarding settlements is unprofessional conduct.

Failure to provide documents and Failure to comply with court order

Require a licensee to comply with a request for medical records or a court order issued in enforcement of a subpoena for medical records.

Recommend: Define in regulation that failure to provide documents and noncompliance with a court order is unprofessional conduct.

Psychological or medical evaluation of applicant

Authorize the Board to order an applicant for licensure to be examined by a physician or psychologist if it appears that the applicant may be unable to safely practice the licensed profession due to a physical or mental illness; authorize the Board to deny the application if the applicant refuses to comply with the order; and prohibit the Board from issuing a license until it receives evidence of the applicant's ability to safely practice.

Recommend: Amend regulations pertaining to applicant requirements that a psychological or medical evaluation may be required.

Sexual misconduct

Currently defined in B&P Code §726.

Recommend: Define in regulation that sexual misconduct is unprofessional conduct.

Failure to provide information or cooperate in an investigation

Make it unprofessional conduct for a licensee to fail to furnish information in a timely manner or cooperate in a disciplinary investigation.

Recommend: Define in regulation that failure to provide information or cooperate in an investigation is unprofessional conduct.

Failure to report an arrest, conviction, etc.

Require a licensee to report to the Board any felony indictment or charge or any felony or misdemeanor conviction.

Recommend: Define in regulation that failure to report an arrest, conviction, etc. is unprofessional conduct.

BOARD ACTION OR REASON FOR NO ACTION

Revocation for sexual misconduct

Denial of application for registered sex offender Sexual misconduct

The Board does not believe there is a sufficient nexus to the Board's regulated professions, as there would be to the healing arts professions, to require the <u>automatic</u> denial or revocation of a license if the person had been convicted of a sexually-based offense, as was proposed by several of the items. The Board already has the statutory authority to deny or revoke a license based on a conviction of a crime that is substantially related to the regulated practice and regulations that define the substantial relationship and that address the rehabilitation evidence that the Board must consider prior to denying or revoking the license. The Board believes these laws are sufficient to ensure public protection in the event that an applicant or licensee is convicted of a sexually-based offense.

Psychological or medical evaluation of applicant

The Board also did not believe there was a sufficient nexus to its regulated professions, as there was for the healing arts professions, to support requiring applicants to submit to psychological or medical evaluations as a condition for licensure.

Confidentiality agreements regarding settlements

Legislation [Stats. 2012, Ch. 561, Sec. 1. (AB 2570)] was passed in 2012 to add a provision to the Business and Professions Code (Section 143.5) to prohibit licensees from including conditions in civil settlements that would prevent a consumer from filing a complaint or cooperating with the licensing boards during an investigation. As such, there is no need for the Board to adopt a regulation addressing that issue.

Failure to provide information or cooperate in an investigation

Failure to provide documents and Failure to comply with court order

As the Board noted in its 2014/2015 Sunset Review and Response, the Board did not have the statutory authority to adopt regulations to require a licensee to cooperate with the Board and its staff or other representatives (such as DOI or the AG's Office) during the course of an investigation. As such, the Board could not pursue regulations to address this and sought to obtain the Committees' assistance to enact a statutory requirement similar to that already in place for the Contractors State License Board (Business and Professions Code section 7111.1). Sections 6775.2, 7860.2, and 8780.2 were added to the B&P Code, effective January 1, 2016, to address this issue (Chapter 428, Statutes of 2015).

Failure to report an arrest, conviction, etc.

The Board's statutes already require its licensees to report convictions; therefore, there is no need for the Board to enact regulations for such a requirement.

Board delegation to Executive Officer regarding stipulated settlements to revoke or surrender license

The Board is the final decision maker in matters relating to formal disciplinary actions taken against licensees. The Board did not believe it was appropriate to abrogate its responsibility to make these decisions, especially in cases that involve taking away a licensee's right to practice. Furthermore, allowing the person (the Executive Officer) who has the ultimate authority to negotiate a settlement to be the one to adopt the settlement as a final decision gives the appearance of a conflict of interest, bias, and lack of oversight by the Board. Additionally, the Board's statutes indicate that a person must wait three years to petition the Board for reinstatement of a revoked license, unless the Board specifies a shorter period of time in its order of adoption of the final decision; when considering whether to adopt a default decision that orders the revocation of a license, the Board always considers whether it should reduce that time period, and sometimes chooses to do so. This is a decision that must be made by the Board. Finally, the Board does not believe that allowing the Executive Officer to adopt default decisions and stipulations for surrender or revocation would have much impact on the aging of the Board's cases, which was the stated reason for DCA's recommendation of such delegation. The Board meets often enough to take action without delay and can also vote on formal disciplinary actions via mail ballot. As such, the Board voted to decline to amend its regulations to delegate the authority to adopt default decisions and stipulations for surrender or revocation to its Executive Officer.

IT Issues and BreEZe

The Board is not utilizing BreEZe because it is one of 19 boards and bureaus in the former Release 3 implementation of BreEZe.

As a result of the Board's 2015/2016 Business Modernization Study, the Board subsequently worked, in concert with the DCA Office of Information Services (OIS) through the California Department of Technology's (CDT) Project Approval Lifecycle (PAL) process, towards acquiring a new application licensing management system. In September 2020, the Board, together with three other programs and the Department's Office of Information Services (OIS), known as "Business Modernization Cohort 1", launched Phase 1 of its new integrated application and license management system. The Board's implementation of this system is referred to as BPELSG Connect and was primarily established in a phased approach which assisted with the adoption of the system:

Phase	Туре	When	Applicant/Licensee/Consumer		
1	Engineer-In-Training (EIT) Land Surveyor- In-Training (LSIT)	September 2020	Applicant		
	Online Complaint Submittal	2020	Consumer		
2	License Renewals	January 2021	Licensee		
3	Professional Engineer (no state exam)	June 2021	Applicant		
3.5	Professional Civil Engineer and Professional Land Surveyor and Re- examination of state exams for legacy/existing applicants	November 2021	Applicant		
4	System enhancements	April 2022	Applicant, Licensee, Consumer		
5	System enhancements	October 2022	Applicant, Licensee, Consumer		

6	System enhancements	February 2023	Applicant, Licensee, Consumer
7	Geologist-In-Training (GIT) and Professional Geologist (PG)	April 2023	Applicant

Applicants can complete, submit, and monitor applications for certification or licensure within the online BPELSG Connect system. The Board anticipates the integration of the remaining license type applications, enforcement case monitoring, and license renewal assessment during the 2024-25 timeframe. Licensees can also pay their renewal fees through BPELSG Connect online via credit card, which expedites the renewal process. Information on applications and licensure in BPELSG Connect is discussed in more depth under Section 3 – Licensing Program and for complaint investigations under Section 4 – Enforcement Program.

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Section 9 – Board Actions and Responses to COVID-19.

While individuals regulated by the Board were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in much the same way as the general public, it is the Board's understanding that the majority of engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists were deemed as "Essential Workers" by state and local public agencies during the pandemic because the services normally provided by these individuals supported the health, safety, and welfare of the public in addition to the state's developing infrastructure.

The pandemic did have a temporary impact on the Board's ability to provide complete services pertaining to the licensure process, primarily impacting the ability for the Board's examination vendors to administer necessary examinations. The state and national examinations used by the Board were canceled for the Spring 2020 administrations. The administration of these examinations slowly began to become increasingly available for scheduling on a limited basis through the remainder of 2020 and into 2021. Even then, due to the nature and priority of other license populations who were deemed essential for health care purposes, the Board's applicants did experience limited availability of testing accommodations while the testing centers were operating under federal, state, and local exposure mandates.

By 2022, both the national examination vendors and the testing centers for the Board's state examinations had made adjustments to the administration schedules both within California and across the nation for the Board's applicants. As of the time of this report, all of the examinations have returned to a regular schedule for administering examinations.

The Board has not implemented, and does not foresee the need to implement, any statutory revisions, updates, or changes due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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Section 10 -

Board Action and Response to Prior Sunset Issues

The Board was last reviewed in 2018-2019 by the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions and the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development. During that review, the Committees addressed eight issues. The issues, and the Board's actions, are described below.

ISSUE #1: What is the status of the long term fund condition?

In 2018-2019, the Committees requested that the Board advised them on the source of its excess expenditures and whether anticipated fee increases would be sufficient to prevent further shortfalls in the near future. In response, the Board described issues it had encountered obtaining necessary reports in a timely manner due to the transition to the FI\$Cal system and the efforts Board staff took to monitor its revenue and expenditures without those reports. The Board also described its plans to adjust its fees to avoid a structural imbalance in its fund. At the time, the Board was hopeful that the changes to the fees would go into effect in 2020.

The Board did adopt fee changes through the regulatory process; the new fees became effective on January 1, 2021. These fee changes were needed to address structural imbalances in the Board's budget and to help ensure future fiscal solvency. It standardized fees for services for all regulated professions under the Board's jurisdiction, such as aligning all renewal fees across all license types. As a result of the fee increase, the Board recognized a \$3,584 increase in revenue for FY 2021/22 over FY 2020/21.

Decreases in renewal licensing fee revenue could have a significant and detrimental impact on the Board's fund condition. Revenue from licensing renewals makes up 80% of the Board's total revenue. Fee increases, which became effective January 1, 2021, had a positive impact on the overall revenue; however, the volume of license renewal applications has trended down. In FY 2020/21, there was a 2% decrease in renewal application volume as compared to the like period of FY 2018/19, and there was a 4% decrease in renewal application volumes in FY 2021/22 as compared to FY 2019/20. Due to a backlog in approving Civil Engineer license applications, the Board is projecting a slight increase in license renewal applications for FY 2023/24 and FY 2024/25 as Board staff works through that backlog and individuals become licensed; however, if the trend continues downward while expenses increase, the fund could become insolvent without additional fee increases. Board staff continuously monitors these numbers and trends in order to react in a timely manner to issues that may impact the Board's fund.

As of June 30, 2023, the reserve is projected at two months, with a \$2.42 million fund balance reserve for economic uncertainties. Beginning in FY 2019/20, the Board funded a Business Modernization effort entirely from the fund balance reserve. The Board closely monitors reserve, revenue, and expenditures presented in financial statements that are standing agenda items for all Board meetings. In the current economic climate with inflationary pressures, the costs of doing business have increased. Factors which impact the Board's expenses include increases in the Office of the Attorney General's

hourly rates, general salary and benefit increases for Board and Department staff, and Department Pro Rata expenses.

More information about the Board's expenditures and budget are described in Section 2 – Fiscal and Staff.

ISSUE #2: Does the Board need more staff in order to meet its performance goals? In 2018-2019, the Committees requested that the Board advise them on what additional steps the Board would be taking to address licensing delays and what efforts it had made to offer year-round examinations and whether additional action would be necessary to expedite licensing timelines. In response, the Board described the licensure process in effect at the time, including that many of the examinations are national examinations over which the Board has no say in how often they are administered.

Since that time, the Board has developed and launched BPELSG Connect, its online application and licensing management system for almost all of its license types. As described in other sections of this report, this new online system allows applicants to submit their applications through the online portal, allows the references to complete experience verification information online, allows applicants to schedule and re-schedule state examinations, and allows applicants to monitor the status of their application without having to contact Board staff. While this new system initially helped to reduce the time it took for Board staff to review and process applications, a significant increase in the volume of new applications received, especially in the civil engineering discipline, in the last few years has had an impact on the Board's ability to review the applicants in the time frames it has established. The Board has redirected resources to provide further staff to review these applicants and is making progress in reducing the backlog. More information regarding this issue is available in Sections 1 and 3 of this report.

ISSUE #3: Does the new test for determining employment status, as prescribed in the court decision *Dynamex Operations West Inc. v. Superior Court*, have any potential implications for licensees of the Board working as independent contractors?

In 2018-2019, the Committees requested that the Board advise them on what impact, if any, the *Dynamex* decision would have on the Board and its licensees. In response to the Committees' request, the Board reviewed and discussed the *Dynamex* decision at its April 2019 Board meeting. At that time, based on a review of the decision and the Board's operations, it did not appear that the decision would have an impact on the Board's operations. This has proven to be true over the last few years.

ISSUE #4: Why are the Board's enforcement timeframes increasing?

In 2018-2019, the Committees requested that the Board advise them on where it believes the bottlenecks are in its investigation and disciplinary process, in addition to any backlog with the Division of Investigation (DOI), what viable solutions would be to address the backlogs, and what additional steps the Board had taken to increase productivity between

DOI and the Board what assistance the Committees might be able to provided. At the time, the Board responded by describing the steps it had taken to reduce the time it takes to investigate complaint cases through additional staffing and concerted efforts to improve efficiency while still maintaining the integrity of its investigations, including its interactions with DOI.

The Board is continuing to work on reducing its enforcement timeframes. More information about the efforts are described in Section 4 – Enforcement Program of this report.

ISSUE #5: What is the Board doing to counteract unlicensed activity?

In 2018-2019, the Committees requested that the Board advise them on its ongoing efforts to combat unlicensed activity and what outreach efforts have been pursued to education unlicensed operators. At the time, the Board responded by describing the efforts it was taking to counteract unlicensed activity, including outreach to licensed and unlicensed individuals and governmental agencies.

The Board is continuing to work on counteracting unlicensed activity. More information about the efforts are described in Section 4 – Enforcement Program of this report.

ISSUE #6: What is the status of BreEZe implementation by the Board?

In 2018-2019, the Committees requested that the Board describe the status of its BreEZe implementation. As the Board noted at the time, the Board is not utilizing BreEZe because it is one of 19 boards and bureaus in the former Release 3 implementation of BreEZe that were removed from the BreEZe project entirely in 2015.

The Board was included as one of the programs in the Department's Business Modernization Cohort 1. A new online application and licensing system, known as BPELSG Connect, has been developed and launched as part of this effort. Applicants for licensure now submit their applications and schedule examinations through the online portal. Licensees are able to renew their licenses online. Both applicants and licenses have the ability to update their addresses and verify their application and license status through BPELSG Connect. In addition, complaints are also able to be submitted online through the BPELSG Connect system. This system is described in more detail in the previous sections of this report. More information regarding the BPELSG Connect system is available in several other sections of this report.

ISSUE #7: Is there a need for technical cleanup?

Since the last Sunset Review, legislation has been enacted to standardize and provide technical clean-up of various provisions in the Professional Engineers Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act. This legislation is summarized in Section 1 – Background and Description of the Board and Regulated Profession, All Legislation Sponsored by the Board and Affecting the Board Since the

Last Sunset Review. Other clean-up legislation identified by the Board is addressed under Section 11 – New Issues.

ISSUE #8: Should the licensing and regulation of professional engineers, land surveyors, and geologists be continued and be regulated by the current Board membership? Legislation enacted in 2020 (AB 1522 (Low), Chapter 630, Statutes of 2019) continued the regulation of professional engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists by the Board for another four years. The Board believes the information contained in this report supports the continued operation of the Board. The Board has identified three new issues to address with the Committees. These issues are described below, along with any action needed to address them.

FIRST NEW ISSUE - TECHNICAL, CLEAN-UP LEGISLATION

In accordance with Strategic Plan Goal 3 to ensure that statutes strengthen and support the Board's mandate and mission, Board staff continuously reviews the laws to determine if any technical, clean-up changes need to be made. The following are the sections that have been identified as needing amendment or addition. The Board has specific language ready to provide to the Legislature to accomplish these changes.

Over the last five years, the Board has sponsored legislation or been included in omnibus legislation by the Senate Committee on Business, Professions and Economic Development to effect changes to the Professional Engineers Act, the Geologist and Geophysicist Act, and the Professional Land Surveyors' Act. As such, at the time of this report, there is only one section of the Business and Professions Code that the Board believes needs to be changed. If other sections come to the Board's attention, they will be described in the Board's Response to the Sunset Review Background Paper.

Amend Section 130 of the Business and Professions Code

Section 130 needs to be amended to remove the name of the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

As part of the sunset review process and legislation in 2006, Business and Professions Code section 6712 was amended to change the terms of appointment of our Board Members from June 1 to June 30. (Ch. 658, Stats.2006 [SB 1476, Figueroa, as amended June 21, 2006]) Based on historical notes, it appears that the Board was supposed to be removed from the list in Section 130 at that time since the date of the terms of appointment was being changed in the Professional Engineers Act. However, we are not able to find any information indicating that there was a specific reason why the Board was not removed from Section 130 at that time. We believe it was simply an oversight that was only recently discovered.

The appointing authorities (Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, and Senate Rules Committee) are all aware that the Board Member terms end on June 30, and that is the date listed in appointment and other personnel documents when someone is appointed or reappointed to the Board.

We believe the Board should be removed from Section 130 to conform with existing statutes as well as to avoid any confusion that might arise by having two sections listing different expiration dates.

SECOND NEW ISSUE - CONTINUING EDUCATION

During the Board's discussion on the recently adopted 2022-27 Strategic Plan, the Board established an objective to develop a strategy for implementing a continuing education

requirement to help licensees maintain and improve their professional knowledge and awareness of new, pertinent laws. Subsequent Board discussions have centered on the establishment of a committee (represented by two board members and Board's executive leadership) to identify steps for evaluating the feasibility of such an implementation for its regulated licensees and to provide recommendations to the Board. The committee is currently in the early stages of gathering data from similar licensing boards across the nation and the professional communities within California.

At this time, there is no action the Board is asking the Committees to take on this issue. As indicated, the Board has just begun looking into this issue but wanted to bring it to the Committees' attention. Should the Board choose to move forward with such a program in the future following its in-depth study, the Board would seek legislative support at that time.

THIRD NEW ISSUE – EXPERIENCE IN LIEU OF EDUCATION TO QUALIFY FOR CERTIFICATION OR LICENSURE AS A GEOLOGIST-IN-TRAINING, PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST, AND PROFESSIONAL GEOPHYSICIST

Over the last several years, the Board has made changes to its statutes and regulations relating to the approved educational course work required to obtain certification or licensure as a Geologist-in-Training, Professional Geologist, or Professional Geophysicist. While the changes have been helpful to applicants and Board reviewers, it appears that there are still issues with the educational requirements that prevent otherwise qualified individuals from obtaining licensure.

For example, one of the requirements is that applicants complete a specified number of semester or quarter hours in field course work. However, during the pandemic, most field courses were cancelled by the universities or were converted to online lecture-type courses, which do not meet the requirements of the Board's regulations for a field course. Based on anecdotal information from inquiries the Board has received, this is preventing people from obtaining licensure. In addition, with changes in the educational requirements over time, individuals who may have completed their course work many years ago but are just now applying for licensure many now no longer qualify.

While education is a required component for certification or licensure as a Geologist-in-Training, Professional Geologist, or Professional Geophysicist, it is not required for certification or licensure as an Engineer-in-Training, Professional Engineer, Land Surveyor-in-Training, or Professional Land Surveyor. They may use educational credit in lieu of some of the required work experience. The Board plans to study this issue over the next few years to determine if geologist and geophysicist applicants should be able to substitute work experience for some of the required educational components.

At this time, there is no action the Board is asking the Committees to take on this issue. As indicated, the Board has just begun looking into this issue but wanted to bring it to the Committees' attention. Should the Board choose to move forward with such a proposal in the future following its in-depth review, the Board would seek legislative support at that time.

Complainant Satisfaction Survey

Since 1993, the Board has sent a Complainant Satisfaction Survey to the complainant whenever a complaint investigation case is closed, along with a self-addressed, prepaid postage envelope. The survey is sent with the letter notifying the complainant of the results of the investigation and that the case has been closed. A survey is not sent if there is no named complainant (such as anonymous complaints).

If the survey response includes questions or negative comments, the complainant is contacted to clarify concerns and/or answer any questions. However, there will always be some consumers who do not understand the limits of the Board's jurisdiction and authority and are not satisfied with the responses they receive from the Board when the outcome of the investigation is not what they wanted. For FY 2018/19 through FY 2022/23, the Board mailed approximately 1,200 surveys but received only 35 responses, a 3% response rate. As has been noted by the Committees and the Board during prior Sunset Reviews, the Board receives very few completed surveys in comparison to the number mailed.

A number of the responses received are typically from people who are dissatisfied with the outcome of the investigation of their complaints. That dissatisfaction usually arises from a lack of understanding of the Board's jurisdictional authority and legislative mandate to protect all of the public of California, rather than to provide satisfaction to one individual consumer. This is illustrated by the lower percentages of positive responses for Questions 6 and 7 in the table that follows. In addition, the responses from those not satisfied with the outcome may not be providing a thoughtful and helpful response. For instance, there were a number of responses indicating they were not notified of the outcome of the complaint, even though the survey form is sent out with the letter notifying them of the outcome of the complaint. Other responses included derogatory language.

However, despite the various dissatisfied responses to various questions, it is noted that the majority of those who responded found the representative understood the problem, found the process to be fair, would contact the Board again, or refer the Board to others. This is an indication of outside acknowledgment that the Board is succeeding in continuing to process complaints with fairness to the parties involved.

		Percentage of Positive Reponses				
QUESTIONS		2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
1	Was our representative courteous?	85%	85%	100%	100%	80%
2	Did you feel that the representative who handled your complaint understood your problem?	43%	78%	89%	100%	80%
3	Were you made aware that your complaint was closed?	71%	85%	89%	100%	80%
4	Did our representative deal with your problem in a fair and reasonable manner?	43%	56%	89%	100%	80%

FY 2018/19- FY 2022/23 COMPLAINANT SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS

5	How satisfied were you with the time it took for us to resolve your complaint?	57%	45%	78%	100%	67%
6	How satisfied were you with the explanation you were provided regarding the outcome of your complaint?	43%	67%	89%	100%	33%
7	Overall, how satisfied were you with the way in which we handled your complaint?	57%	56%	89%	100%	33%
8	Would you contact us again in a similar situation?	57%	67%	89%	100%	67%
9	Would you recommend us to a friend or family member experiencing a similar situation?	57%	67%	89%	100%	67%
	TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSES RECEIVED		9	9	5	5

The following is a sampling of the comments, both negative and positive, received on the Complainant Satisfaction Surveys:

"Thank you for your time and effort in resolving this complaint...My only suggestion is to speed up the process if possible."

"[The Board's Enforcement Analyst] was extremely competent and thorough in handling this matter in a timely and professional manner."

"Problem was solved better than expected, but it took quite some time."

"I am heartened that you take these things so seriously."

"I have almost no idea how the complaint was investigated or handled. So I do not know if you understood the point I was trying to address or not. Still think [Subject of Investigation] is a crook trying to defraud the government."

"Although we were mostly reimbursed for our advance, there was no requirement in your enforcement action for us to be repaid, just you for your admin fee."

"If a 5th grader can instantly understand which direction water flows, why does it take almost 7 months for the State of California to ignore the data?"

"You people are a joke."

"In our complaint, we feel misrepresentation, negligence and incompetence was not dealt with properly to the point we strongly feel this engineer should <u>not</u> be able to continue his practice. We were appalled at your conclusion."

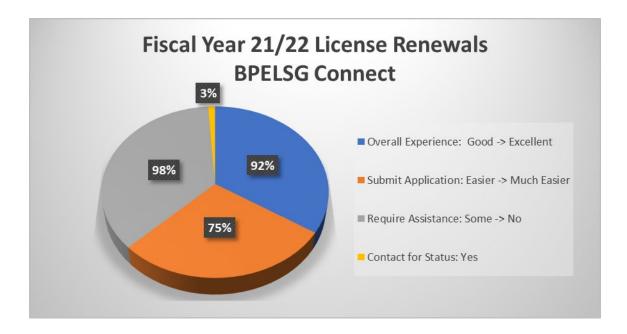
"Big THANK YOU to [The Board's Enforcement Analyst]. She is a great asset to the Board. Very professional and excellent customer skills."

BPELSG Customer Satisfaction Survey

In September 2021, the Board began providing a link to a customer satisfaction survey as part of the online initial application process and the license renewals process in BPELSG Connect.

Fiscal Year 2021/22 – License Renewals

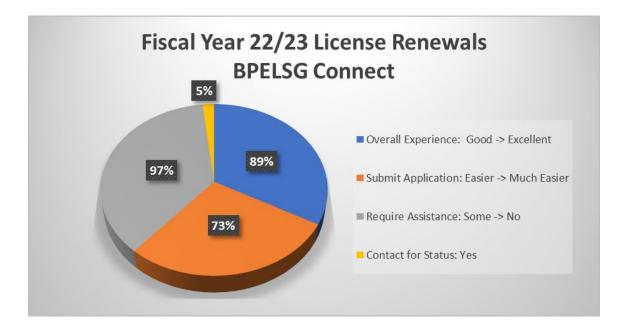
A total of 632 responses from those who submitted license renewals for all professional level licenses during this time indicates that the license renewal process has generally trended in a positive direction. Note: License renewals in BPELSG Connect began in January 2021.



As can be seen in the above chart, 92% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while 75% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, 98% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, while only 3% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the renewal application.

Fiscal Year 2022/23 – License Renewals

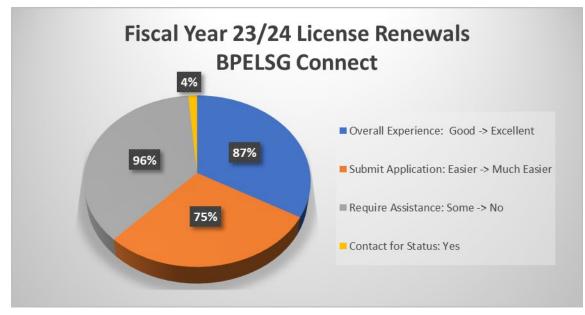
A total of 798 responses from those who submitted license renewals for all professional level licenses during this time indicates that the license renewal process has generally trended in a positive direction.



As can be seen in the above chart, 89% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while 73% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, 97% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, while only 8% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the renewal application.

Fiscal Year 2023/24 (through October 31, 2023) – License Renewals

A total of 264 responses from those who submitted license renewals for all professional level licenses during this time indicates that the license renewal process has generally trended in a positive direction.

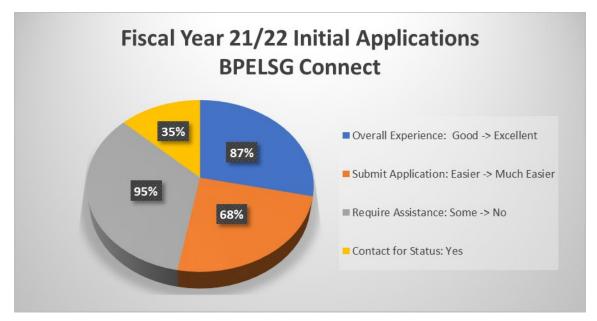


As can be seen in the above chart, 87% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while 75% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, 96% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, while only 4% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the renewal application.

Overall, the responses for the Board's license renewal process in BPELSG Connect has remained relatively consistent with above average ratings.

Fiscal Year 2021/22 - Initial Applications

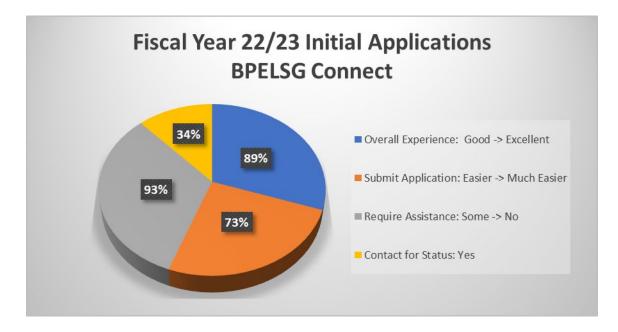
A total of 118 responses from those who submitted initial applications for all professional licenses during this time indicates that the license application process has generally trended in a positive direction. Note: Initial applications for professional engineer (PE) licenses (which do not require a state exam) launched in mid-June 2022. Initial applications for civil engineer licenses and professional land surveyor licenses (both of which require state exams) launched in January 2022.



As can be seen in the above chart, 87% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while 68% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, 95% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, while only 35% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the renewal application.

Fiscal Year 2022/23 – Initial Applications

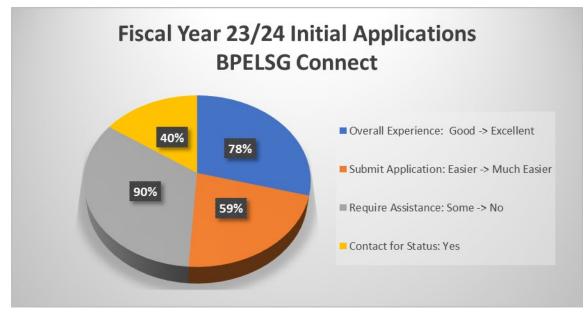
A total of 169 responses from those who submitted initial applications for all professional licenses during this time indicates that the license application process has generally trended in a positive direction. Note: Initial applications for professional geologist license was added in March 2023.



As can be seen in the above chart, 89% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while 73% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, 93% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, while 34% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the renewal application.

Fiscal Year 2023/24 (through October 31, 2023) - Initial Applications

A total of 52 responses from those who submitted initial applications for all professional licenses during this time indicates that the license application process has generally trended in a positive direction.



As can be seen in the above chart, 78% of the respondents believed the process in BPELSG Connect was good to excellent while only 59% felt the process was easier to much easier than initially expected. Additionally, 90% of the respondents required some to no assistance from Board staff, while 40% still contacted the Board by traditional means (phone, email, etc.) to check on the status of the renewal application.

Overall, the responses for the Board's license renewal process in BPELSG Connect are positive but reflect a decreasing level of satisfaction mostly attributed to status inquiries and the increased review timeframe and higher volumes of professional engineer applications.

The Board regularly monitors the feedback from this survey for indications where enhancements can be implemented to improve the processes.