1) Am I required to pass the NCEES PE Structural Exam before I apply for Structural Engineer (SE) licensure?

Yes. New applicants cannot submit an application for SE licensure until they have passed the NCEES PE Structural Exam. For details read Applying for Licensure as a Structural Engineer.

Legacy applicants (applicants who submitted a paper application, approved before the launch of SE applications in BPELSG Connect) do not need to submit an application in BPELSG Connect and do not need to contact the Board once they have passed the NCEES PE Structural Exam. For details read Applying for Licensure as a Structural Engineer.

2) What is the format of the new computer-based NCEES PE Structural Exam?

Please review the NCEES website for detailed information.

3) What are the exam requirements to become licensed as a SE in California?

An applicant must meet one of the following exam scenarios:

- Passed the Vertical and Lateral components of the computer-based NCEES PE Structural Exam (exam offered starting in April 2024)
  Or
- Passed the Vertical or Lateral component of the NCEES PE Structural Exam and the Vertical or Lateral component of the NCEES 16-hour Structural Exam;
  Or
- Passed the Vertical and Lateral components of the NCEES 16-hour Structural Exam (exam offered April 2011 to October 2023);
  Or
  Passed the NCEES SE II exam and Washington State SE III exam (exams no longer offered; accepted for comity licensure as a SE in California).

4) I have taken and passed the 8-hour NCEES SE I exam and the 8-hour NCEES SE II exam. Are these two exams accepted for licensure?

No. The NCEES SE I exam is considered a principles and practice level exam for initial licensure as a Professional Engineer.