

FALL 2020

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

BULLETIN

This Is Our Licensing Issue: Digging Deeper: Understanding Our Certificate Holders and Licensees

Board staff continually tracks, researches, and analyzes trends and changes in our applicant and licensing population to examine growth and achievement. Each year our fall Bulletin focuses on this research. The report begins on page 3.

Please visit www.bpelsg.ca.gov for any COVID-19-related communications.

BREAKING NEWS: THE FIRST PHASE OF THE BOARD'S NEW APPLICATION/LICENSING PORTAL IS LIVE, AVAILABLE ONLINE THROUGH THE BOARD'S WEBSITE.

FEATURES

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Message from the Executive Officer

RICHARD B. MOORE, PLS

Just like many of our licensees, the Board is still adapting to our “new normal” in terms of how we operate and conduct business. March of this year was the last time our Board members met in person. Since then, the Board has held three meetings using an online hosting platform so that we can maintain our statutory responsibilities, and it is anticipated that future meetings through the end of 2020 and likely further into 2021 will continue in that same format. Just as in the past with in-person meetings, the public can comment on agenda topics while also providing the Board with general questions or concerns during the online format. Please monitor https://bpelsg.ca.gov/about_us/meetings for information on how to attend a future Board meeting or, better yet, subscribe to the Board’s email list at www.dca.ca.gov/webapps/bpelsg to receive notices when the Board adds new information to the website.

After a few months of uncertainty, the Board, in collaboration with Prometric’s computer-based testing (CBT) centers, was able to re-commence administration of the California state exams in July for the Civil exams with plans in the fall for the land surveying and geology state exams. While those CBT centers are still operating at less than full capacity for all clients due to local pandemic restrictions, the Board’s exams are still being administered. In late August, the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) announced that due to the restrictions in California pertaining to large group gatherings, all candidates scheduled to sit for national paper/pencil engineering exams in late October for the San Diego and Los Angeles regions will be moved to a site in Las Vegas, and candidates scheduled to test in the Bay Area and Sacramento regions will be moved to a site in Reno. Fortunately, the number of candidates scheduled for the Central Valley remain below the locally mandated threshold for safety and those exams are still planned for the Tulare site. Additionally, at this time, the paper/pencil geology exams

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BULLETIN

Message from the Executive Officer (continued from page 1)

provided by the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) are still forecast to be administered by the Board in the Sacramento area in early October.

Now for a little bit of better news: By the time this edition is published, the first phase of the Board's new application/licensing portal will be live, available online through the Board's website. Applicants seeking certification as either an engineer-in-training (EIT) or land surveyor-in-training (LSIT) will be able to connect with the Board by creating an online user profile, manage the entire application process, and connect directly with Board staff through that portal throughout the process. Additionally, this first phase will also allow for complaints to be completed and submitted to the Board, replacing the current manner of downloading a PDF form and sending that to the Board.

The Board is very excited about this change in how applicants and the public can connect with the Board and looks forward to subsequently integrating the remaining applications and license renewals to the portal.

Board News

Alireza Asgari, Ph.D., P.E., S.E., was elected by the Board as president, and **Natalie Alavi, P.E.**, as vice president for the fiscal year 2020-21.

Frank Ruffino has been reappointed to the Board.

New Board Members:

Rossana G. D'Antonio, P.E., of Malibu has been appointed to the Board. Ms. D'Antonio has been deputy director at the Los Angeles County Public Works Department since 2016, where she held multiple positions from 2001 to 2016, including assistant deputy director and principal engineer. She holds dual registrations as a civil and geotechnical engineer. She is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Industry Advisory Council at Cal Poly Pomona, Women's Media Center-SheSource, and the Society of Women Engineers (SWE). Ms. D'Antonio earned a Master of Business Administration degree in leadership and organizational behavior from Pepperdine University.

Michael S. Hartley, PLS, of Madera has been appointed to the Board. Hartley has been president of Bedrock Engineering Inc. since 2008. He was

survey manager at Michael Sutherland and Associates from 1991 to 2008. Hartley is a board member of the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) and a corporate member of the California Land Surveyors Association (CLSA). He is a member of the California State University, Fresno, GME Advisory Council and the Geomatics Engineering Foundation.

Wilfredo Sanchez of San Francisco has been appointed to the Board. Sanchez has been ranger department manager at Burning Man since 2001. He was senior architect at Apple Media Products from 2015 to 2018, security guard and manager at High Rock Security from 2008 to 2013, engineering manager at Apple Server Solutions from 2005 to 2015 and developer community manager at KnowNow, Inc. from 2001 to 2002. He was senior software engineer and open-source engineering lead at Apple Core OS Group from 1997 to 2001, software engineer at Disney Online from 1996 to 1997, and vice president at Agora Technology Group from 1994 to 1996. Sanchez is a member of the Apache Software Foundation, Python Software Foundation and Twisted Matrix Laboratories.

Board Members

President: Alireza Asgari, Ph.D., P.E., S.E.

Vice President: Natalie Alavi, P.E.

Public Members:

Fel Amistad, Ph.D.

Duane Friel

Kathy Jones Irish

Coby King, Esq.

Asha Brooks Lang

Frank Ruffino

Wilfredo Sanchez

Professional Members:

Natalie Alavi, P.E.

Alireza Asgari, Ph.D., P.E., S.E.

Rossana D'Antonio P.E.

Michael S. Hartley PLS

Eric Johnson, P.E.

Elizabeth Mathieson, P.G., CEG

Mohammad Qureshi, Ph.D., P.E.

Executive Officer: Richard B. Moore, PLS

Assistant Executive Officer: Nancy Eissler

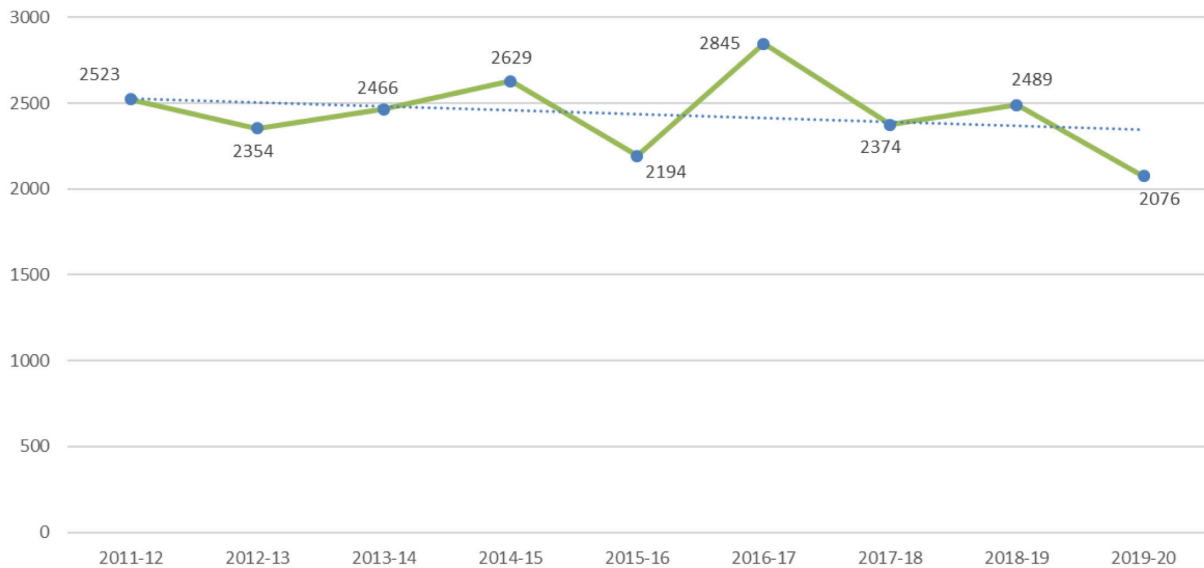
Bulletin Editor: Brooke C. Phayer

Digging Deeper: Understanding Our Certificate Holders and Licensees

Board staff continually tracks, researches, and analyzes trends and changes in our applicant and licensing population to examine growth and achievement. Each year our fall *Bulletin* focuses on this research. In this report we share with our stakeholders information regarding our applicants and licensees.

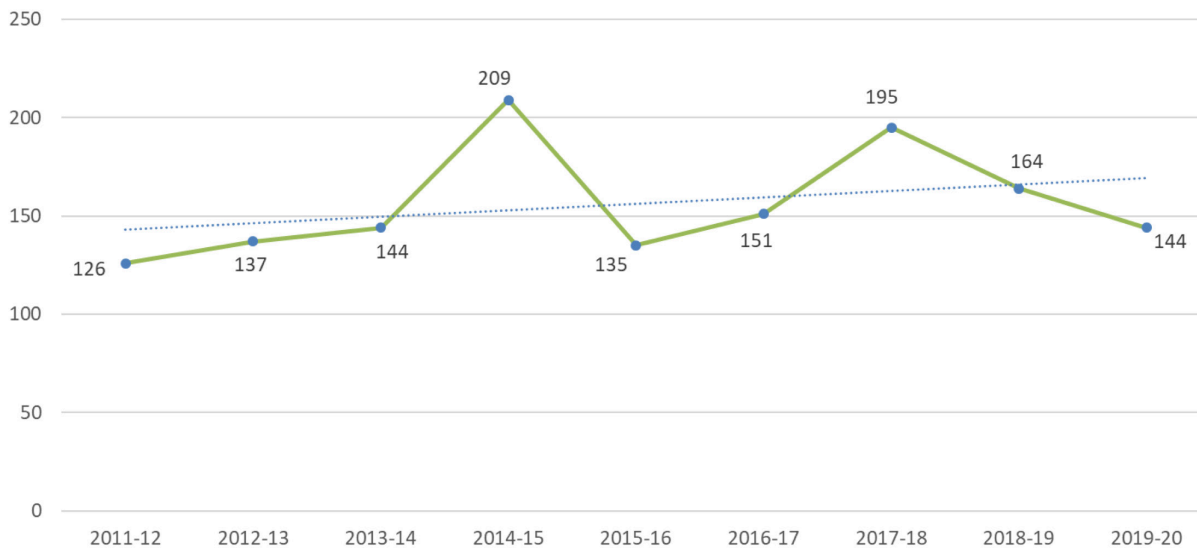
Total Number of Licenses Issued Annually—Practice Acts

(Civil, Electrical, Land Surveyor, Mechanical, Geologist, Geophysicist)



Total Number of Licenses Issued Annually—Title Acts

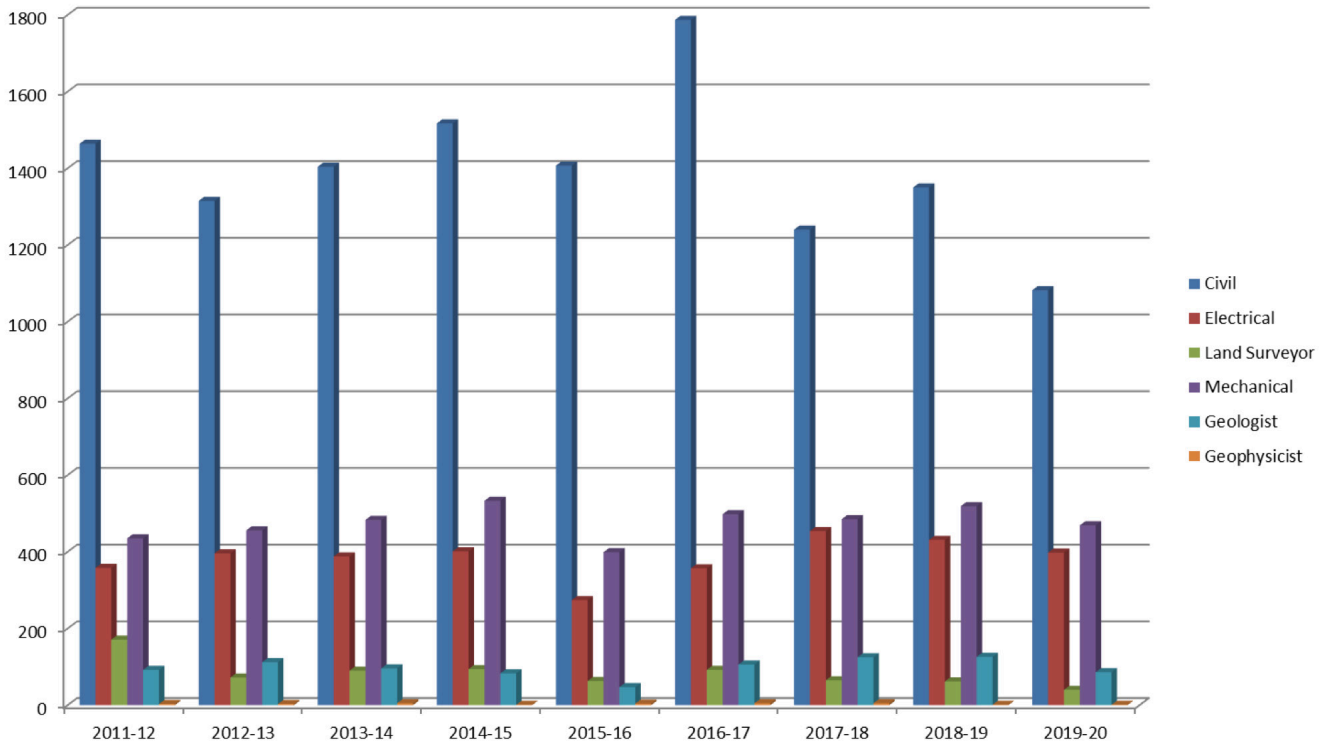
(Agricultural, Chemical, Control Systems, Fire Protection, Industrial, Metallurgical, Nuclear, Petroleum, Traffic)



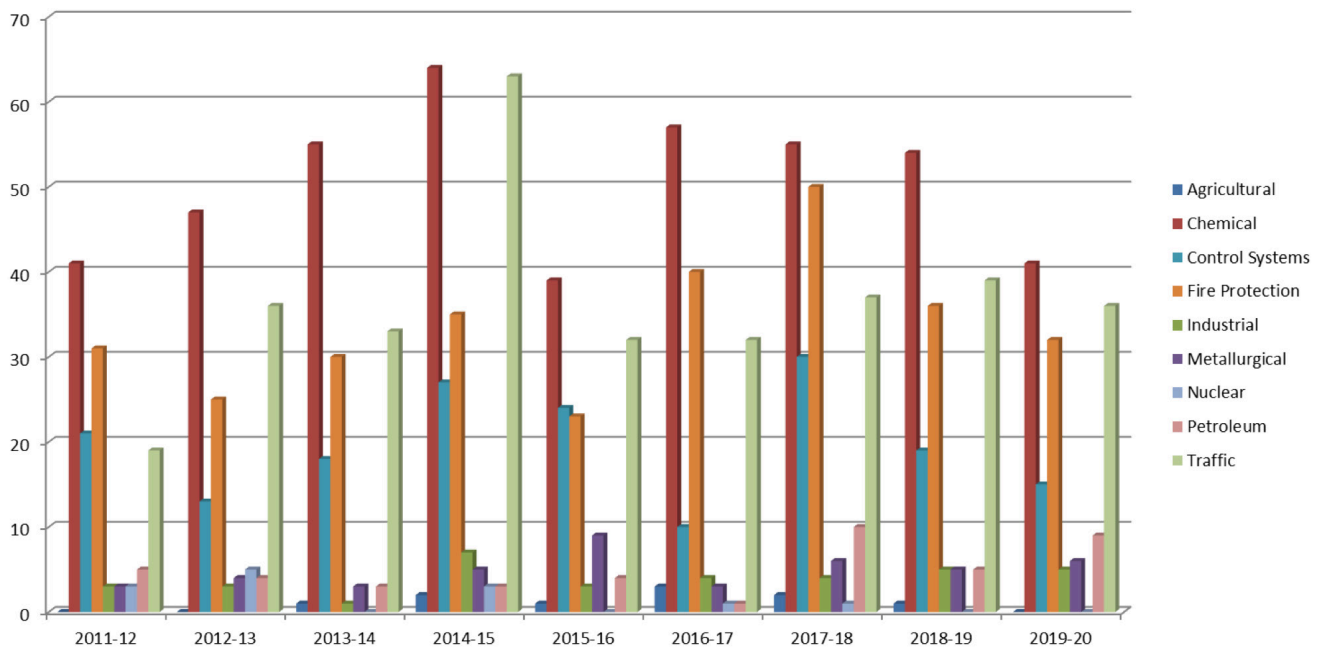
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Digging Deeper (continued from page 3)

Total Number of Licenses Issued Annually—Practice Acts



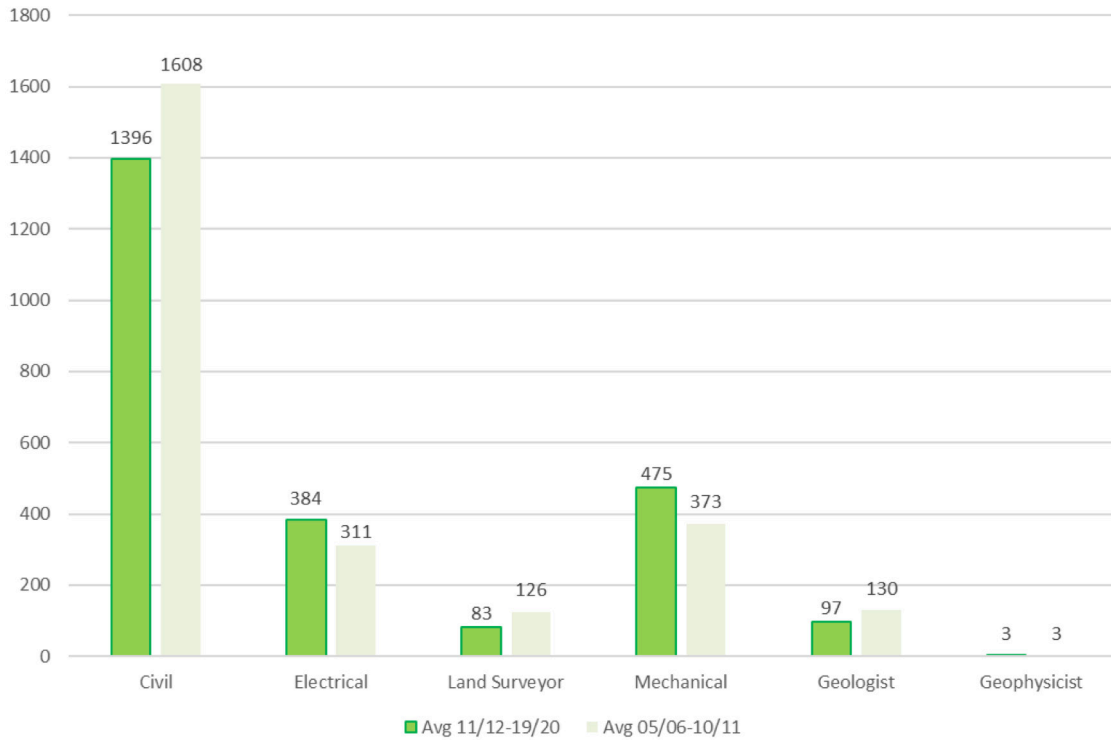
Total Number of Licenses Issued Annually—Title Acts



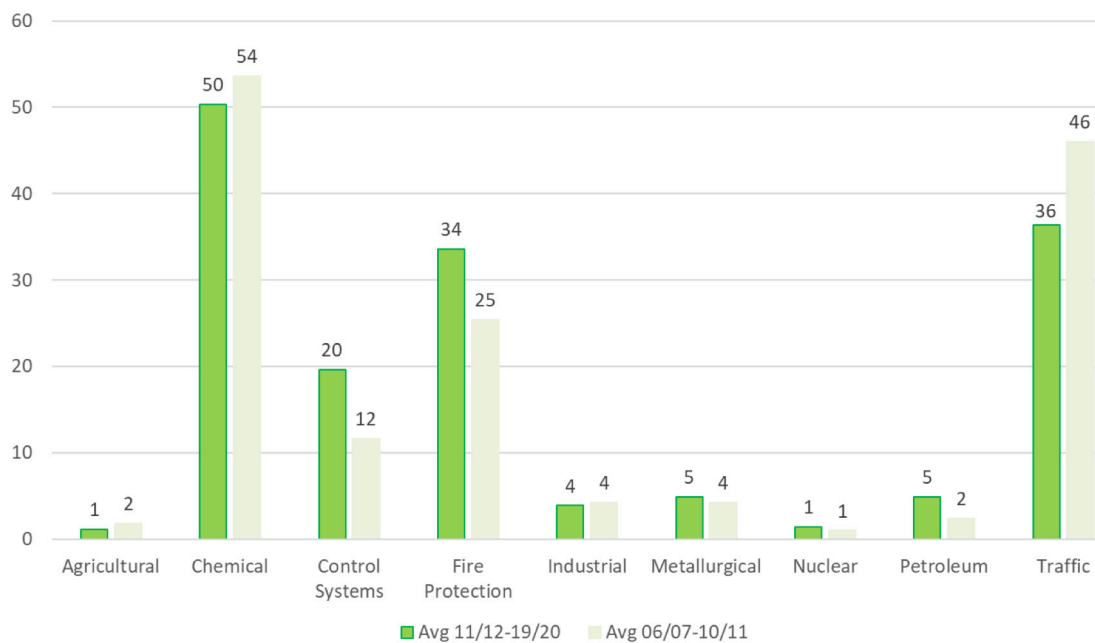
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Digging Deeper (continued from page 4)

Average Number of Licenses Issued Annually—Practice Acts



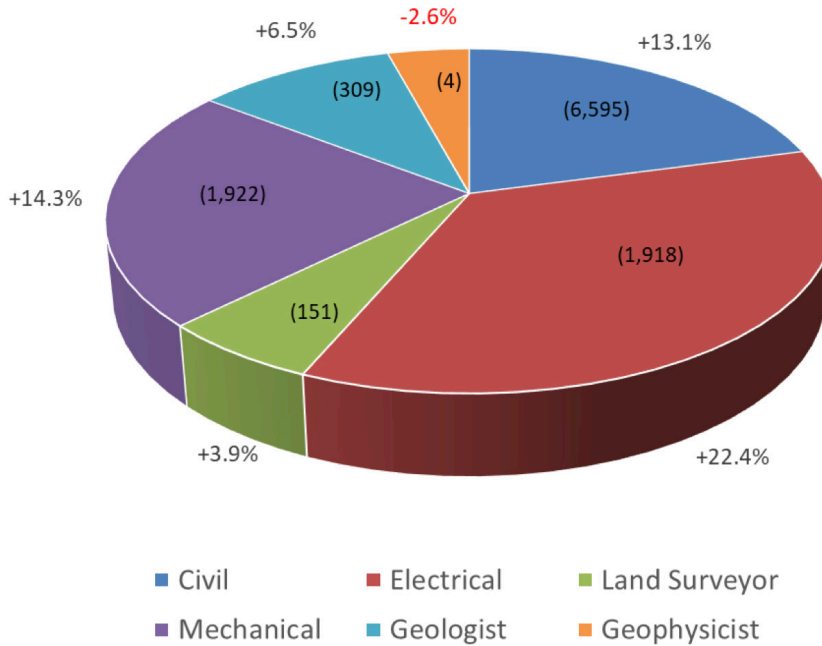
Average Number of Licenses Issued Annually—Title Acts



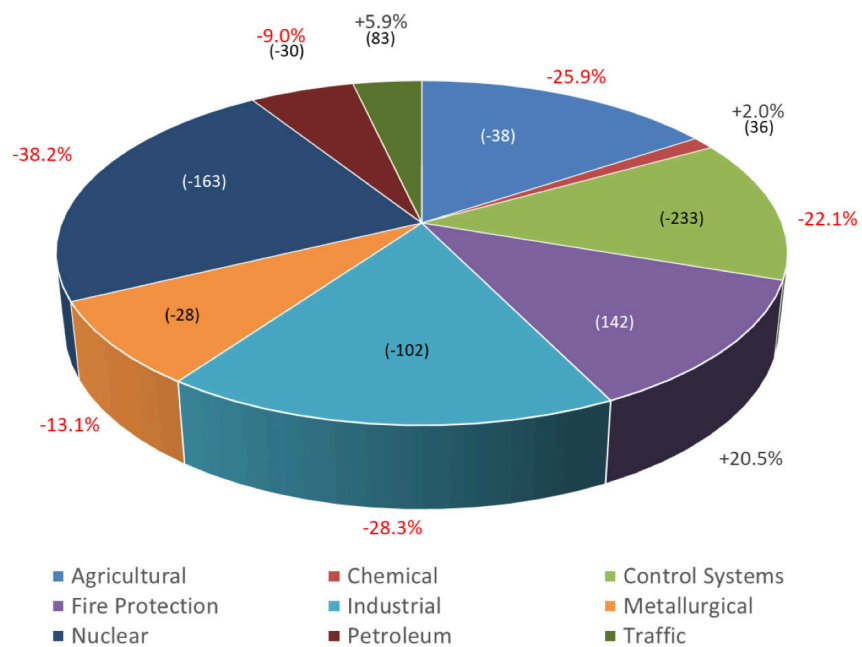
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Digging Deeper (continued from page 5)

Change in Number of Active Practice Act Licenses (2011-20)



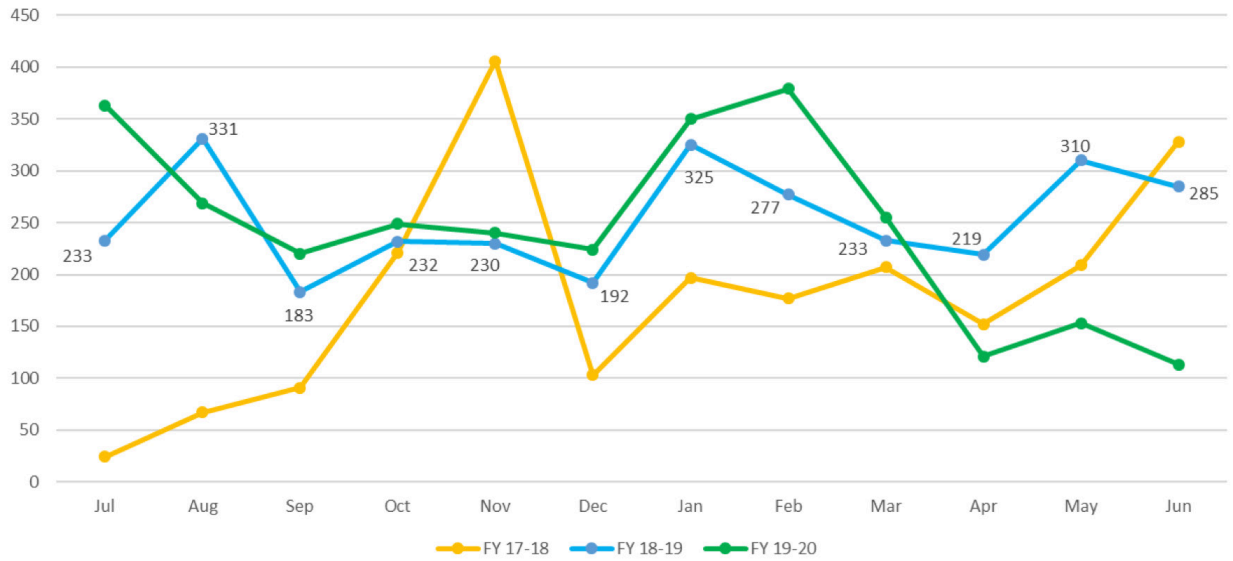
Change in Number of Active Title Act Licenses (2011-20)



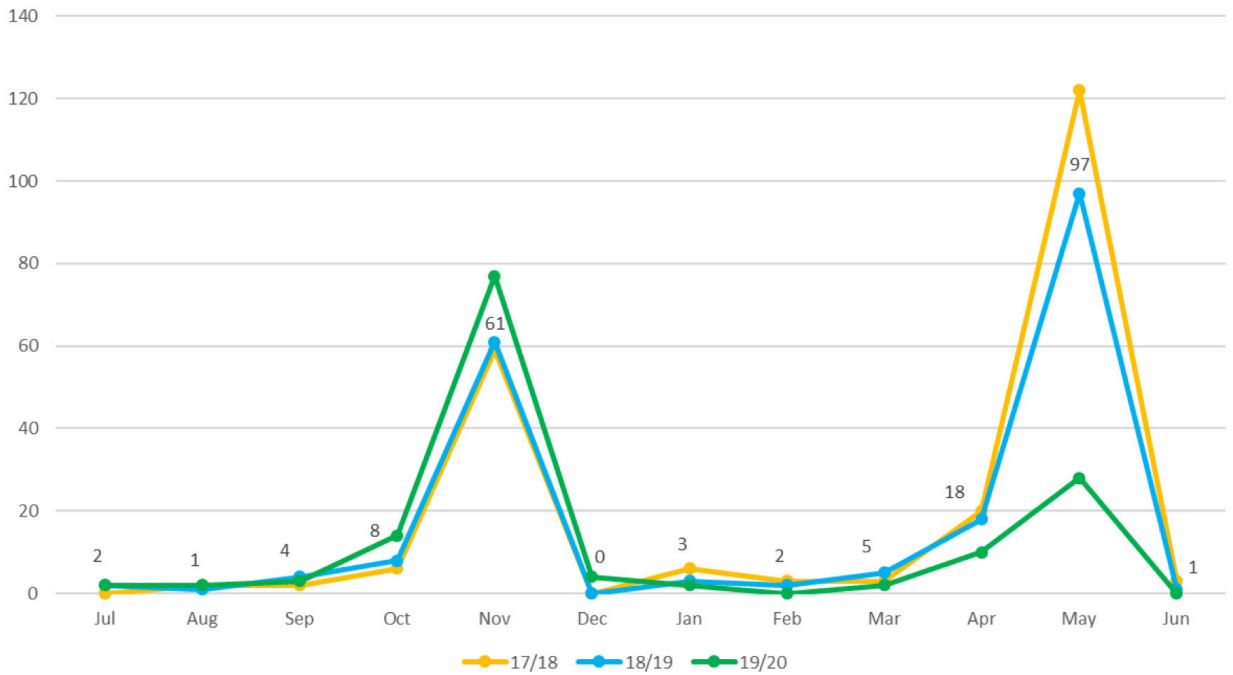
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Digging Deeper (continued from page 6)

Initial P.E./PLS Applications Received by Month



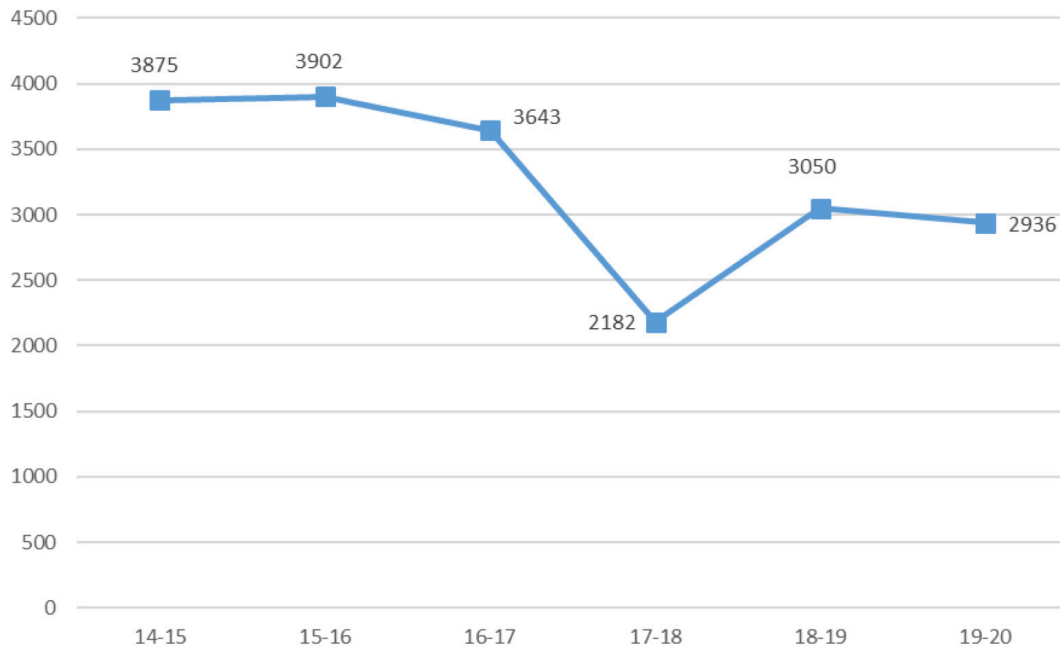
Initial P.G./PGp Applications Received by Month



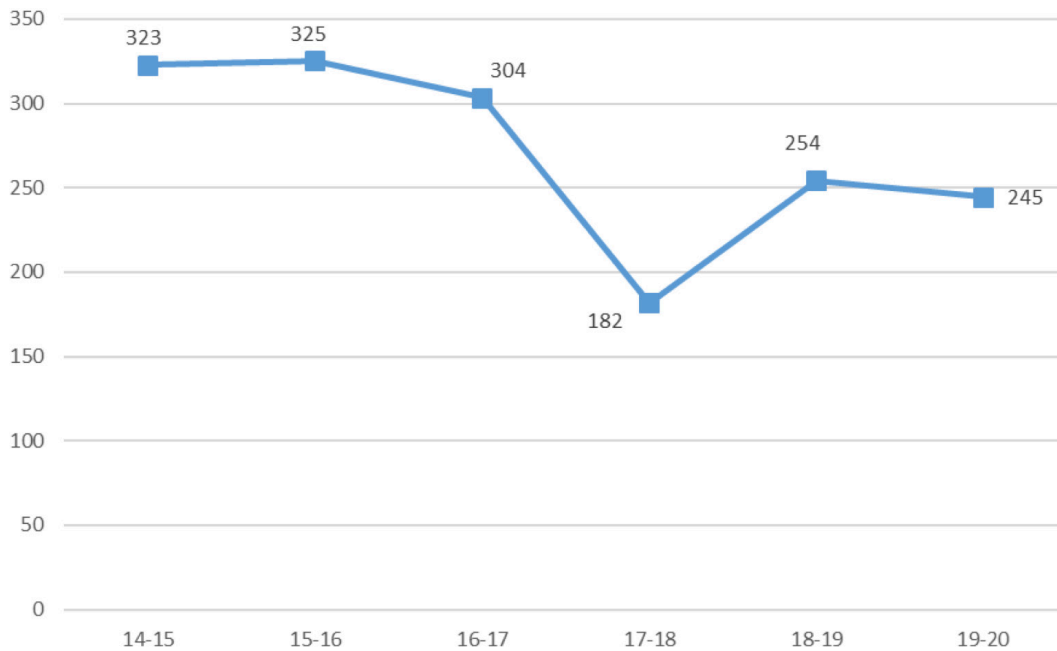
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Digging Deeper (continued from page 7)

Total Initial P.E./PLS Applications by Fiscal Year



Average Monthly P.E./PLS Applications by Fiscal Year



Get to Know Our Licensees

Joanna Leu, P.E., Senior Water Resources Engineer



Why did you become an engineer?

My mom worked for the California Department of Water Resources when I was applying to colleges. She would bring home publications that discussed California's water delivery infrastructure, how water played an integral role in land

development, agriculture, and the environment; I found that fascinating. I always enjoyed and excelled in math, science, and problem-solving, so engineering seemed like a good fit as a career choice.

What positions have you held as you advanced your career?

I participated in a Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Program at UC Davis, where they paired you up with a graduate student doing research in your area of interest. That opportunity furthered my understanding of the many facets of civil engineering and focused my interest in water resources, specifically participating in projects that would protect the environment through improved water quality and habitat restoration. My research involved boating down the Sacramento River to collect water temperatures, recording flow in Clear Creek downstream of Whiskeytown Reservoir, and modeling hydrodynamics of the Delta—so fun! I started my career as a project engineer doing drainage design and hydraulic modeling. As I moved into a senior engineer role, I focused more on flood-risk management, serving as a project manager and mentor to many junior engineers.

Do you have any family members or relatives in your field?

Not in my immediate family—I was the first. However, I married into a family full of engineers. My father-in-law is a civil engineer. He had three boys who all grew up to be engineers, two civil and one structural. My husband and I have three boys—with two parents working in civil engineering, we're curious to see who will become the next generation of engineers in the family.

Where did you attend school (post high school), and what degrees do you hold?

I attended UC Davis for my B.S. degree in civil and environmental engineering and stayed for a Master's degree. Go Aggies!

What value does your professional license represent to you, and how has it helped in your career?

I felt my many years of schooling, working in industry, and countless evenings of studying all paid off when I passed the California professional engineers' exam. Now I could officially call myself a civil engineer! Having my professional license has allowed me to advance my career and be recognized by my peers and clients at a higher level.

What are your responsibilities and duties in your current position?

I'm currently serving as a project manager on several projects within the Central Valley focused on flood-damage reduction, life safety, agricultural sustainability, and proposed actions to improve system resiliency in the face of climate change. I pull together the scope of work, budget, schedule, enhance client relations, develop internal strategies to achieve our proposed deliverables, and of course, leveraging our existing work to develop new project opportunities. I still have my hand in some technical analyses, but serve more as a technical advisor to my junior colleagues.

Briefly discuss the biggest challenges you face as an engineer, specifically noting changes in your field that you have seen since graduating from college (i.e., wildfires/power outages/climate, etc.).

I graduated college during the tech boom in the Silicon Valley, which dominated most engineering job opportunities; few jobs were available in support of restoring habitat or considering flood control. Since then, California has experienced multiyear extreme droughts, major flood events, and recently, climate change projections have shifted the thinking, which presents limitless opportunities and engineering challenges. Twenty years ago we were talking about designing to a certain flood frequency with stages that were somewhat predictable. Looking to the future, taking in the current science and technology, climate change presents a new challenge in water resources planning, which I'm excited to be a part of.

OUTREACH EVENTS: April-June 2020

KEY

ASCE American Society of Civil Engineers
APWA American Public Works Association
CalGeo California Geotechnical Engineering Association
SWE Society of Women Engineers
YMF Young Members Forum

WEBINAR/ZOOM PRESENTATIONS:

April 24: California State University, San Bernardino, geology presentation, by Laurie Racca, P.G.

May 5: University of California, Riverside, senior design class (mechanical), by Mike Donelson, P.E.

May 6: University of California, Los Angeles, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), Younger Member Forum (YMF), by Natalie King, P.E.

May 18: Geological Society of America (GSA), Cordilleran Section (professional society), by Laurie Racca, P.G.

May 19: University of California, Davis, ASCE, YMF, by Natalie King, P.E.

In Memoriam

In celebration of the lives and contributions of the following professionals, BPELSG would like to recognize professionals licensed as engineers, land surveyors, or geologists who recently passed away. Below is a list of individuals who have departed April through June 2020. This list may not include all those who have recently passed away as we rely on information from the public, other licensees, and family members. Please contact BPELSG regarding individuals who have recently passed.

Name	License Number	Years of Service
Engineers		
Nicholas A. Begovich	E 179	72
Crispulo Gongora Espiritu Jr.	C 36407	37
Alvin Keith Larson	E 9155	43
Robert Alan Stockton	C 33591	39
Land Surveyors		
Eric Steven Cenovich	L 5866	32
Harold R. Hartwick	L 2851	65
Multiple Licenses		
Bernard Cardan	C 7878, S 638	70, 68
Joseph Allen Halterman	C 31716, C.R. 1038, Q.U. 2122	40, 31, 43
David Allen Hieb	C 17902, G.E. 307	52, 33

Enforcement Actions

Citations Issued to Unlicensed Individuals: Fiscal Year 2019–20 (April–June)

Citations are an alternative to criminal prosecutions that the Board can use to enforce the laws prohibiting the unlicensed practice of engineering, land surveying, geology, and geophysics, or other activities for which a license is required. When a fine is levied with a citation, payment of the fine does not constitute admission of any violations charged but represents a satisfactory resolution of the matter pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9(d). Code sections numbered in the 6700s, 7800s, and 8700s refer to the Business and Professions Code; those numbered in the 400s and 3000s refer to Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. You can look up the code sections and read the laws on the Board’s website, www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml. All final citations are matters of public record. For a copy of the final citation order or if you have any questions, contact the Board’s Enforcement Unit at BPESLG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov or (916) 263-2284. Please include the name of the cited person and citation number in your request.

Cited Person	Citation No.	Violation Code Sections	Date Final	Fine Amount	Status of Fine
BURWELL, MARK	10792-U	6736.1(a); 6787(a),(g),(h)	6/12/2020	\$1,500	Paid
CHAN, ANDREW	10829-U	6787(a),(d)	5/28/2020	\$5,000	
SHAHPAR, SHERVIN	10774-U	6787(a),(g)	4/17/2020	\$500	
WEILERT, OTTO	10833-U	6787(a),(g); 8792(a),(i)	5/26/2020	\$2,000	

Citations Issued to Licensees: Fiscal Year 2019–20 (April–June)

Citations are issued to licensed engineers, land surveyors, geologists, and geophysicists when the severity of a violation may not warrant suspension or revocation of the licensee’s right to practice. When a fine is levied with a citation, payment of the fine does not constitute admission of any violations charged but represents a satisfactory resolution of the matter, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.9(d). Code sections numbered in the 6700s, 7800s, and 8700s refer to the Business and Professions Code; those numbered in the 400s and 3000s refer to Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. You can read the laws on the Board’s website, www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/index.shtml. All final citations are matters of public record. For a copy of the final citation order or if you have any questions, contact the Board’s Enforcement Unit at BPESLG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov or (916) 263-2284. Please include the name of the cited person and the citation number in your request.

Cited Person	Citation No.	Violation Code Sections	Date Final	Fine Amount	Status of Fine
FARMAND, ANTHONY	10835-L	6749(a); 6775(h); 404.1(a)	6/22/2020	\$2,000	Paid
LANDERS, JESSE	10830-L	6735(a); 6749(a)(3),(4); 6775(c),(f)	5/11/2020	\$1,000	Paid
McANALLY, NEIL	10828-L	8759(a); 8759(a)(3),(4),(5)	4/27/2020	\$1,000	Paid
PLOUFF, KACIE	10826-L	8780(b)	4/20/2020	\$1,000	
SWANSON, ROBERT	10832-L	8792(a)	5/26/2020	\$3,000	Paid
SZEWczyk, TERENCE	10825-L	6749(a); 6749(a)(3),(4),(5); 6775(d)	4/8/2020	\$600	Paid
TOMA, CIRO	10815-L	8780(g)	6/22/2020	\$500	Paid

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BULLETIN

Enforcement Actions (continued from page 11)

Formal Administrative Disciplinary Decisions: Fiscal Year 2019-20 (April-June)

A formal disciplinary decision is considered formal administrative disciplinary action against a licensee. It results from the Board's adoption of a proposed decision prepared by an administrative law judge following a hearing, a stipulated settlement agreement, or a default decision following a full investigation and the filing of an accusation. An accusation is a formal legal document that notifies a licensee of the Board's charges and allegations of violations against the licensee and that requests a disciplinary order be issued. The licensee is entitled to contest the charges at a formal hearing before an administrative law judge or to agree to a stipulated settlement. A final disciplinary decision contains findings and determinations or statements of advisements, waivers, and culpability, and a disciplinary order. If there are findings of violations, the order may include revocation or suspension of the license, a stayed revocation or suspension of the license with a probationary period and terms and conditions of probation, or a public reproof. In the alternative, the decision may find that no violations or violations of a de minimus nature occurred and order the dismissal of the accusation. All final disciplinary decisions are matters of public record. For a copy of the final decision or if you have any questions, contact the Board's Enforcement Unit at BPELSG.Enforcement.Information@dca.ca.gov or (916) 263-2284. Please include the name of the respondent and the case number in your request.

Respondent	Case Number	Effective Date	Disciplinary Order
CARRIZOSA, RICHARD	1090-A	4/16/2020	Voluntary surrender of license
HERKUS, ROBERT	1201-A	4/16/2020	Revocation of license
JITECHIAN, ARA	1208-A	6/11/2020	Revocation, stayed; probation
LETEY, DON	1205-A	4/16/2020	Revocation, stayed; probation
SHIRMOHAMADI, MANUCHEHR	1139-A	4/16/2020	Voluntary surrender of license



Board Speakers Available

BPELSG continues its efforts to reach out to groups interested in any of the broad array of BPELSG functions. As part of this outreach effort, we have speakers available to present at meetings and events. Speakers include Executive Officer Ric Moore, PLS; Assistant Executive Officer Nancy Eissler; Enforcement Manager Tiffany Criswell; Senior Engineering Registrars Natalie King, P.E., and Mike Donelson, P.E.; Senior Land Surveyor Registrar Dallas Sweeney, PLS; and Senior Geology Registrar Laurie Racca, P.G.

Our Enforcement, Licensing, Examination, and Outreach units all have speakers authorized to represent BPELSG. To request a speaker, we will need the following information: size of group, location, time, length and type of presentation, and proposed subject matter. Appropriate advance notice is always appreciated. Current and former BPELSG members may also appear on BPELSG's behalf, depending on availability.

For more information, contact BPELSG outreach coordinator Brooke Phayer at Brooke.Phayer@dca.ca.gov.

Contact Us

California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300, Sacramento, CA 95833

ADMINISTRATION		
Executive Officer	Ric Moore	(916) 999-3600
Assistant Executive Officer	Nancy Eissler	(916) 999-3600
ENFORCEMENT AND COMPLAINTS		(916) 999-3593
FINGERPRINTING		(916) 999-3625
LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION QUALIFICATIONS AND APPLICATIONS (ALL TYPES)		(916) 999-3635
LICENSE RENEWAL	Vicki Kereszt	(916) 999-3612
OUTREACH	Brooke Phayer	brooke.phayer@dca.ca.gov
SENIOR REGISTRARS (FOR PROFESSIONAL LICENSES)		
Engineers (Civil, Structural, Traffic, and Geotechnical)	Natalie King, P.E.	(916) 999-3637
Engineers (Other Than Civil, Structural, Traffic, and Geotechnical)	Michael Donelson, P.E.	(916) 999-3636
Geologists and Geophysicists	Laurie Racca, P.G.	(916) 999-3638
Land Surveyors	Dallas Sweeney, PLS	(916) 999-3639
WEBMASTER	Celina Calderone	(916) 999-3600

BPELSG Subscribers List Reminder

Receiving email notifications regarding meetings, legislation, or e-news from BPELSG couldn't be easier. Simply join our subscribers list on BPELSG's website. You will then be connected to new editions of the *Bulletin*, notified when BPELSG holds meetings, and receive information related to consumers, candidates, or licensees.

Joining the subscribers list can be done in just a few easy steps:

1. Visit BPELSG's website at www.bpelsg.ca.gov.
2. Click on "Subscribe to the Board's Email List" in the "Quick Hits" section.
3. Enter your email address and the specified text or audio link to validate submission of your data.
4. Click on "Submit," then you will receive a confirmation email.



California Board for Professional Engineers,
Land Surveyors, and Geologists
Phone (916) 263-2222 • Fax (916) 263-2246
www.bpelsg.ca.gov

Board Calendar

November

11/11: Veterans Day—Board Office Closed
11/26-27: Thanksgiving—Board Office Closed

December

12/10-11: Board Meeting
12/25: Christmas Day—Board Office Closed

Continuous Testing Exams:

California Civil: Seismic Principles Exam and Engineering Surveying Exam; NCEES P.S., Chemical, and F.E./F.S.

FALL 2020

BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS



BULLETIN



Social Media: BPELSG Facebook and Twitter Pages

BPELSG is asking for your help in getting the word out regarding the launch of its Facebook and Twitter pages. BPELSG is now posting information of interest to postsecondary institutions and students on a regular basis. This information includes regulatory changes, updates to our website, interesting articles, useful resources, and a host of other BPELSG-related data.

For those institutions that communicate with students through email or some other means, we invite you to share this information with them. BPELSG is anxious to use these social media outlets as an ongoing way to reach our stakeholders. Thank you for your assistance in spreading the word.

Please take a few minutes to like us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter:



Facebook—www.facebook.com/pages/The-Board-for-Professional-Engineers-Land-Surveyors-and-Geologists/107020752801578



Twitter—twitter.com/CA_Engineers

STATE OF CALIFORNIA



DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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