

State News for NSPE Members

Delaware MATHCOUNTS Team Gets Ready for National Competition

DELAWARE MATHCOUNTS®

Congratulations to the Delaware mathletes who will represent the state during the upcoming **2023 Raytheon Technologies MATHCOUNTS Competition** finals that will take place May 14–15 in Orlando, Florida. Access more national competition information [here](#).

The Delaware team includes the following student members and coach:

- **Michael DiGenova** (8th grade) P.S. DuPont Middle School-Wilmington, DE
- **Ryan He** (8th grade) H.B. du Pont Middle School-Wilmington, DE
- **Vaibhav Subramanian** (8th grade) H.B. du Pont Middle School-Newark, DE
- **Joseph Zhang** (6th grade) The Independence School- Hockessin, DE
- **Scott Cook** (Coach) H.B. du Pont Middle School

NSPE-DE supports the next generation of PEs through engagement in the MATHCOUNTS program. Each March, middle school students from across our state come together for the Delaware MATHCOUNTS Competition, the only in-person math competition of its kind. These students are some of the most capable and hardworking young mathematicians in our state, and the top scoring students earn the prestigious honor of representing Delaware at the national level.

DAPE Ethics Training Recording

The [Delaware Association of Professional Engineers](#) recently hosted an in-person ethics seminar on Tuesday, April 18, in Newark. The agency will email all members when the recording is available to view for 2 PDH ethics credits. No registration will be necessary, but members will need to send back a 1-page assessment form

(which will be included in the email) in order to receive credit.

Maryland and Delaware Reach Agreement on Possible MARC Expansion

Maryland is advancing discussions on potential plans to expand MARC commuter rail service into Delaware and Virginia – a move officials hope will expand access for transit riders across state lines, [The Center Square reports](#).

The Maryland Department of Transportation has signed framework agreements with the Virginia Passenger Rail Authority and Delaware Transit Corp. for potential MARC Train Service expansions, Maryland Governor Wes Moore announced. The possible future expansions could extend MARC service to Newark, Delaware, and to Alexandria, Virginia.

The agreements reached by the state transit agencies outlines "next steps" for advancing discussions about a possible expansion and explore pilot service opportunities, according to Moore's office.

To advance MARC service to Delaware, both Maryland and Delaware's transit authorities plan to meet with stakeholders to determine operational and infrastructure needs. Officials hope to close an existing commuter rail gap in Cecil County and advance connections between MARC and the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority system, according to the governor's office. [Read more.](#)

Delaware Agency Releases Report on Women in Construction Trades

A new report titled [Delaware Women in the Construction Trades: A Path to Economic Security](#), was released by the Office of Women's Advancement & Advocacy, a Division of the Delaware Department of Human Resources, in partnership with the Delaware Departments of Labor and Education. The report examines the current state of women working in the construction trades and offers concrete solutions for how to increase the number of women participating in fields that have traditionally been male-dominated industries.

The significance of the report is made clear in the face of a looming labor shortage in Delaware's construction industry with 55% of construction contractors reporting difficulty finding skilled workers in the second quarter of 2022. According to the report, women in Delaware's construction industry currently make up 9.3% of the total industry, including administrative and sales roles. However, women represent just 3% of construction and extraction occupations such as plumbers, carpenters,

and electricians.

The report also pays close attention to the role apprenticeship programs can have in addressing the small number of women working in the construction trades. Several recommendations from the report focus on ways to expand apprenticeship opportunities for women who may be considering a trade, as well as ways to increase support for women already working in the industry. [Read more.](#)



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NSPE provides the tools PEs need to keep current in the profession and advance their careers.

Featured Job

[Design Engineer](#)

Newark, DE

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Stay up to date on legislative issues through the [NSPE Advocacy Center](#).

Don't Hesitate to Share Your PE Story

By Britt Smith, P.E., F.NSPE, President 2022–2023



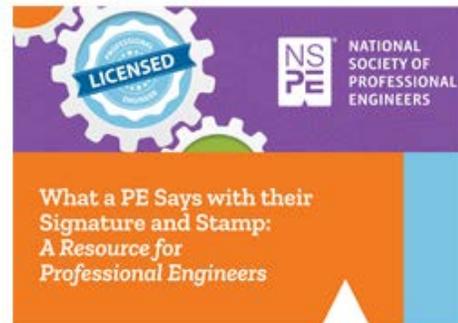
Have you ever thought about how many people will ever need to hire an engineer? Probably not very many. But as engineers, we have a huge impact on their lives and in countless ways. For example, we all expect clean water to come out of the faucet, the lights to come on when we want, the bridge we cross on the way to work to be safe, the air we breathe to be clean, and the products we buy for our kids to be safe. When engineers do their best work, most people don't even notice. Yet, as a profession we strive to make everyone's

life better.

The work of our profession by design affects the lives of many people—likely tens of thousands on a daily basis. In my case, I work in the public works department in the community that I reside and that means the decisions I make don't just affect nameless strangers. The people in this community are my neighbors, my friends, and my family. [Read more.](#)

New Policy Documents: The Signature and Stamp, Key Issues for the PE

The Committee on Policy and Advocacy has released the “[What a PE Says with their Signature and Stamp](#)” document. The document provides a general awareness of the PE signature and stamp process and includes best practices and lessons learned for those considering developing or improving their own process. The committee recently updated and released the documents, “[What is a PE?](#)” and “[Key Issues for the Professional Engineer.](#)” Updated position statements can be accessed [here](#).



QBS Awards Program Accepting Nominations

NSPE is seeking nominations for the 2023 QBS Awards. The [QBS Awards program](#) promotes and recognizes the exemplary use of the qualifications-based selection process.

Award winners [serve as examples of how well the QBS process works](#), and they help NSPE promote the practice of QBS in jurisdictions that do not use, or underuse, QBS to procure engineering services. A maximum of one QBS Award may be presented to the federal government sector, the state government sector (includes all governmental units under the state level), and nongovernment sector.

The deadline for nominations is **Monday, May 1** (close of business). Access the awards information and nomination form [here](#).

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