

Governor Ron DeSantis Signed HB 827 - Engineering - Into Law Friday June 7

This bill, proposed by FES and ACEC-FL, will go into effect October 1, 2019. The next steps are for the Florida Board of Professional Engineers (FBPE) to create rules in Administrative Code 61G15.

The Bills provisions include:

- Removes the requirement that engineers obtain a separate engineering business license (certificate of authorization) for their engineering firm
- Allows a licensed engineer to qualify an engineering business and provides requirements for such
- Requires a temporary registration instead of a temporary certificate of authorization for out-of-state engineering businesses
- Requires successor engineers to assume full responsibility when assuming the work of another engineer and releases an original engineer from liability for prior work assumed by the successor engineer
- Prohibits a local government from contracting for construction engineering inspections with the same entities that perform design services on the same project when a project is wholly or partially funded by FDOT under Ch. 337
- Clarifies the types of projects that require a special inspection
- Allows graduates with a Bachelor of Science degree in engineering to sit for the PE Exam prior to completion of the 4-year experience requirement (4 years of experience is still required before the license is approved), and allows graduates with a Bachelor degree in Engineering Technology to obtain a PE license with 6 years of experience
- Requires applicants for licensure to submit proof of being 18 years of age or older
- Allows the Board to toll the timeframe that an application must be granted or denied in certain circumstances instead of requiring automatic denial
- Allows Boards that regulate professions under Ch. 455, F.S., to accept applications from applicants with a voided license without completely repeating the initial application process
- Revises provisions related to alternate plans review by private providers under ch. 553

[See the bill text here.](#)

Registration Now Available for Florida Engineering Society Annual Conference



Join us in St. Petersburg for our Annual Conference, where this year's theme will be "Leading Florida's Innovation."

When: July 24-27, 2019

Where: The Vinoy Renaissance St. Petersburg
501 5th Avenue NE
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

Contact: Cherie Pinsky
Seminars@fleng.org
850-224-7121

[Click here](#) to view more information about this year's conference, including more information on [how to register](#) and [educational sessions](#).

Florida Engineering Foundation Awards \$33,000 In Scholarships

Each year, the Florida Engineering Foundation (FEF) rewards outstanding students in their pursuit of higher education in engineering through various academic scholarships. Applications received in 2019 were outstanding and demonstrated the high caliber of engineering students in Florida. These applicants are aspiring engineers who represent the future of engineering. FEF scholarships inspire and encourage the pursuit of an education focused on engineering. The scholarships are made possible by the generous contributions of Florida Engineering Society (FES) members and private companies that share the goal of encouraging students to continue their discovery into the rewarding and exciting field of engineering.

This year, a total of fifteen scholarships amounting to \$33,000 were administered through the Florida Engineering Foundation and Florida Engineering Society.

Six High School students will each receive a \$2,500 scholarship to pursue a Bachelors degree in engineering at an accredited educational institution of their choice. These scholars are: Jonathan Allen – Emerald Coast; Katelyn Balent – Emerald Coast; Lorenzo Gregori – Miami;

Six University students will also each receive a \$2,500 scholarship to pursue engineering degrees at state universities in Florida. The recipients for this year are: Samantha Brown of Northwest Florida; Alexander Campo of North Central Florida (Raymond W. Miller, PE Scholarship); Joseph DeRienzo of Central Florida; Valerie Reyes of Miami (Richard B. Gassett, PE Scholarship); Jacob Rook of Northwest Florida; and Daniel Vasquez of Miami.

Three University students will each receive a Named Scholarship for \$1,000 based on academic excellence and exemplary citizenship standards. The recipients are: Kimberly Gmuerof North Central Florida will receive the David F. Ludovici Scholarship; Andres Perez-Doval of Miami will receive the Cesar A. Calas/FES Miami Chapter scholarship; and Corey Zucker of Central Florida will receive the Raymond W. Miller PE & Alice Miller Scholarship.

Complete the Engineering Team With NICET Certification

In the late 1950s, as the US came to rely more heavily on machines and automation, technically skilled workers who could support the work of engineers were in high demand.

In 1961, NSPE rose to the challenge by forming an organization to certify technicians and technologists.



But even though technicians have been an integral part of the engineering team and NSPE since then, that organization—the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies—is not always understood by PEs. A well-attended, NSPE-sponsored webinar on May 29 provided the full picture.

During the webinar, "[Quality and Safety Through a Qualified Engineering Team](#)," NICET Communications Director Chip Hollis detailed the institute's operations and the technician's role on the team. NICET was founded to recognize the qualifications of technicians. Its focus, Hollis explained, helps ensure a qualified engineering workforce, certifying both engineering technicians and technologists in areas such as construction materials testing, transportation construction inspection, electrical power, fire protection, and security systems.

Don't Miss This Upcoming Webinar



Stay current with essential professional development opportunities through NSPE webinars. Members receive a special rate on the upcoming live webinar:

On **June 26** at 2 p.m., the webinar [The Saint Joseph Water Crisis – Lessons Learned in the Age of Deteriorating Water Infrastructure](#) will focus on a water crisis in Saint Joseph, Louisiana, which lends many lessons related to the difficulties faced by small and large water systems in rural environments. In this session, David A. Martin, P.E., will present an overview of the state of the town's water system prior to and after construction, as well as an overview of the new treatment process and applicability to other aquifer systems. Additionally, participants will be presented with the lessons learned during the crisis, including regulatory involvement, use of multiple funding sources, early owner procurement of long lead time equipment, and alternate project delivery.

Don't Miss...

- [Exemptions to Engineering Licensure Laws](#). NSPE has updated this report, with information current as of May 2019. It is free for members.
- [Take Action on Licensure Exemption Bills](#). It's imperative that lawmakers hear from their professional engineering constituents who [support bills](#) in the US House and Senate targeting licensure exemptions in public utility pipeline work.
- [PECON at a Glance](#). Take a look at the lineup of activities and educational sessions taking place at the 2019 Professional Engineers Conference in Kansas City.

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