



UNIVERSITY OF
MARYLAND

Department of Fire Protection Engineering



Licensure of Fire Protection Engineers

A. JAMES CLARK SCHOOL of ENGINEERING • UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND

Licensure




Licensure: a universal standard

Permission given by a government entity to practice.

Think about other professions:

- Why do we license physicians?
- Accountants?
- Attorneys?
- Barbers?





The licensing process

- Who oversees licensure? The states
- Requirements can differ by state (but not too much).
- Comity licensure: transferring a P.E. to additional states



State law and engineering practice

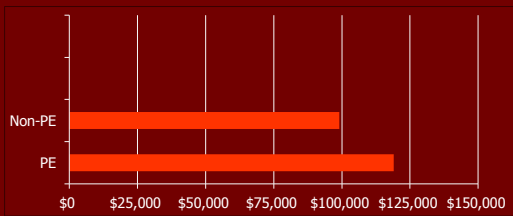
- Only a P.E. can practice engineering.
- What does that include?
 - Owning a firm
 - Consulting
 - Signing/sealing a design
 - Bidding for public money
 - Advertising your services
 - Calling yourself a professional engineer

The benefits of a P.E.

- It opens career doors.
- In a stack of resumes, yours stands out.
- You belong to a licensed profession.
- You serve the public—not just your employer.
- You earn more than peers without a P.E.

$$\sigma = P/A = 700 \text{ MPa} \left(\frac{15.2 \text{ mm}}{t} \right) = 11,676$$
$$\frac{11,676}{2} = 0.2764 \left(\frac{\pi d^2}{4} \right) (2) = 15.37 = 12$$
$$1 = 3.8 \text{ mm} = 0.35 \text{ cm} \approx 2$$

Compensation for **P**Es (fire protection)



From the SFPE 2012 Compensation Study for FPEs

3

steps

Getting from point A to P.E.

Education

Experience

Exams

1

Education

- ☐ Get an engineering degree from an accredited program.
 - Bachelor's or master's (or both)
 - The Engineering Accreditation Commission of ABET accredits college engineering programs.
 - SFPEs Role in ABET
- ☐ Year 2020
 - Model Law Will Change
 - Require a MS or Equivalent

12 Experience

- ☐ Work under the supervision of a P.E.
- ☐ Your Discipline
- ☐ Four years, progressive
- ☐ California – 2 years

13 Exams

- ☐ Pass the FE exam in your senior year of college (or shortly after graduation).
 - Pass Rates Higher if Taken in Senior Year
 - Significantly Lower > 3 years
 - **So Take it ASAP!**
- ☐ Pass the PE exam in your engineering discipline.
 - Usually 4 Years After Graduation
 - 2 Years California
 - 0 Years Nevada

To Find Out More

www.NCEES.org

NCEES

Why Licensure?

- ☐ Protects Public's Health, Safety & Welfare
- ☐ Establishes Competence
- ☐ Pathway to Career Advancement
- ☐ Earn a Better Salary

$$F = PA = 70653 \left(\frac{152}{4} \right)^2 = 11,676$$
$$\frac{11,676}{8} = 1459.5 \left(\frac{\pi d^2}{4} \right) (2) = 1587 = 12.9$$
$$d = 3.5 \text{ mm} = 0.35 \text{ cm} \approx 0$$
