



BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS, LAND SURVEYORS, AND GEOLOGISTS

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**Application Checklist and Instructions
Professional Geologist (PG) Examinations**

Note: In order for an individual to become licensed as a PG in the State of California, they must qualify for, take, and pass the ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology (FG), ASBOG® Practice of Geology (PG), and the California Specific Examination (CSE). The Board does not have reciprocity agreements with any other state; however, if an applicant has passed the ASBOG® FG and/or PG examinations in another state (after the date of November 1, 1996) the Board will accept those scores (a "[Verification of Licensure or Passage of Examinations](#)" form completed by the appropriate state agency is required).

The following checklist is intended to help PG applicants complete all application requirements:

- Qualifying Education (Business and Professions Code § 7841):** Meet either of the following educational requirements fulfilled at a school or university whose curricula meet criteria established by rules of the board: (1) Graduation from a college or university with a major in geological sciences or any other discipline that, in the opinion of the board, is relevant to geology. (2) Completion of a combination of at least 30 semester hours, or the equivalent, in courses that, in the opinion of the board, are relevant to geology. At least 24 semester hours, or the equivalent, shall be in upper division or graduate courses. Applicants must request and submit sealed, certified transcripts for all relevant degrees and course work with their application (including community college transcripts). **Unsealed transcripts will not be accepted.** Each year of undergraduate study in geological sciences shall count as one-half year of experience, up to a maximum of two years; additionally, each year of graduate study or research counts as one year of experience. Teaching in the geological sciences at a college level shall be credited year-for-year toward meeting the requirement in this category, provided that total teaching experience includes a minimum of six semester units per semester, or equivalent if on the quarter system, of upper division or graduate courses. Credit for undergraduate study, graduate study, and teaching, individually, or in any combination thereof, shall in no case exceed a total of three years towards meeting the requirement of at least five years of professional geological education and work experience.
- Qualifying Experience (Business and Professions Code § 7841):** An applicant for licensure as a Professional Geologist must have a combination of at least five years of geological education and professional geological work experience of a character satisfactory to the Board, demonstrating that the applicant is qualified to assume responsible charge of this work upon licensure as a geologist. Credit will not be given for professional geological work until the applicant has completed the education requirements (work experience completed before the degree conferral date of the qualifying degree cannot be counted). This experience shall be gained under the supervision of a licensed Professional Geologist, Professional Geophysicist, or Professional Civil Engineer in this or any other state, or under the supervision of others who, in the opinion of the Board, have the training and experience to have *responsible charge* of geological work.

Professional geological work does not include routine sampling, laboratory work, or geological drafting. Credit will not be given for professional geological work experience performed during the same time period when full-time graduate study or research is being done for which educational experience credit is allowed. Part-time graduate study or research and part-time professional geological work experience will be prorated and combined on a 12-calendar month basis.

- Request** "[Independent Evaluation of Scope, Character and Duration of Applicant's Qualifying Geological Work Experience](#)" form(s) from qualified reference providers (**Business and Professions Code § 7841**). The Board encourages applicants to review this

form with their reference providers prior to submission with their application to ensure they have enough experience to qualify to take the required examinations. Only those references necessary to adequately document an applicant's qualifying experience are required (at least one reference must be submitted, or more if necessary to fully document the required experience). Please include a copy of the Geology "[Definitions of Critical Concepts](#)" with each evaluation you request. *If the reference provider is not a licensed Professional Geologist, Professional Geophysicist, or Professional Civil Engineer, they must provide their resume with the reference for verification of their qualifications to provide a reference.* The completed form(s) must accompany your application.

- All applicants are required to provide proof of fingerprinting when submitting applications. For more information and to download the Board specific [Live Scan Form](#) (in California) or to request Board specific hard copy [fingerprint cards](#), please visit the Board's Frequently Asked Questions ([FAQs](#)).
- Contact the court to obtain **original certified court documentation** for all convictions other than a minor traffic offense (including entering a plea of nolo contendere). Non-certified copies are not accepted.
- Submit:** 1) the "[Application for the Professional Geologist and Geophysicist Examinations](#);" 2) payment of applicable examination fee(s) and the \$250 non-refundable application filing fee (see fee schedule on the application); 3) all transcript(s); and 4) "Independent Evaluation of Scope, Character and Duration of Applicant's Qualifying Geological Work Experience" form(s) postmarked by the final filing date for the desired examination cycle. If additional information is requested, applicants will have until 70 days prior to the examination date to submit the requested information or documents.

Applicants will be contacted, via the e-mail address provided by them on their application, once examination eligibility has been determined.

Please make checks, money orders, or bank drafts payable to the "Department of Consumer Affairs" (DCA). The applicant's cancelled check will serve as receipt for fees paid.

Previous California PG Examination Applicants: Applicants who have taken but did not pass any of the PG examinations *within the past two years* need not provide new transcripts or "Independent Evaluations of Scope"; however, it is necessary to complete a [Re-Examination Form](#) and include payment of all applicable fees, postmarked by the final re-exam date for the desired examination cycle.

Mail the application and all materials to:

Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists
2535 Capitol Oaks Drive, Suite 300 • Sacramento, CA 95833-2944

Tracking or delivery confirmation is recommended so you know the Board has received your application

Due to the volume of applications received, the Board cannot confirm receipt of individual applications.