

Delaware Board of Geologists



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Professional Member

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Professional Member

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Deputy Attorney General

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A Message From the Board President

The Geology Board has been especially busy since September 2010 reviewing continuing education audits following the 2008-2010 renewal period. A random audit of the renewals has suggested to the Board that a good use of space in this newsletter would be to provide some helpful tips on how to prepare a clear, concise, and organized audit of a licensee’s continuing education. As a result of this past audit, several rule clarifications are slated for Section 6.0 of the Board’s [Rules and Regulations](#) governing continuing education. The tips are provided in the article *Continuing Education Audit Tips* later in this newsletter.

The Board was considering the creation of a Geologist-In-Training program but, after researching existing programs in other states, has decided that this will not be a good fit for Delaware. The Board wishes to remind Delaware Professional Geologists that supervising Delaware-licensed geologists are responsible for the activities of unlicensed persons practicing geology under their license and are required to inform the Board of the unlicensed practitioners under their charge. This reporting requirement is explained in the article *Unlicensed Practice* below.

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Unlicensed Practice

It is unlawful to practice geology in Delaware without a current Delaware license. However, qualified unlicensed persons are permitted to actively participate in the practice provided they work under a Delaware-licensed Geologist’s direct supervision. Under [24 Del. C. §3617](#), supervising Delaware-licensed geologists are:

- *responsible for activities of unlicensed persons practicing geology under their license*
- *required to inform the Board of the unlicensed practitioners under their charge.*

While providing those new to the field the opportunity for “on the job” experience, we are mandated to protect the persons who are the recipients of our services and to maintain standards of practitioner competency. Additionally, notifying the Board enables the Board to better verify the required experience for these geologists-in-training when they are ready to apply for licensure.

When personnel changes occur, you should routinely update this information.

Notifying the Board is simple. Just send a letter to the Board office at the address on page 4.

Continuing Education Audit Tips

Delaware-licensed Geologists are required to complete 24 continuing education (CE) contact hours to renew their licenses every two years. The current license period is October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2012. On the renewal application, you will be asked to attest that you have completed the required CE. After the renewal, the Board conducts a random audit. If you are selected for audit, you must provide documentation certifying the CE to which you attested on your renewal. The Board recommends the following tips to ensure you are prepared for the audit:



Tips

- Throughout the renewal period, complete a Continuing Education Log form and keep it up-to-date. The form will help you track the contact hours you are using for CE.
- File the appropriate documentation for the CE event in a folder so that you are organized if selected for CE audit following the renewal period. Rule 6.0 spells out the appropriate documentation for each type of CE event. **DO NOT expect the Board to “figure out” what you are supplying for documentation. Put yourself in the Board Member’s place: ask yourself whether the documentation of a CE event *clearly* shows that you attended the event and supports the number of contact hours you are requesting. DO NOT submit electronic devices like video’s, CD’s, DVD’s, etc.**
- Read *Categories of Continuing Education & Maximum Credit Allowed* in Section 6.8 of the Board’s [Rules and Regulations](#). Don’t request more credit than this rule allows for each type of CE event. For example, the Board cannot approve an audit claiming 24 contact hours of professional meetings because the maximum credit allowed for this category is 12 hours.
- If you are not sure if an event will count toward CE or how much credit will be allowed for an event, submit an [Application for Continuing Education Approval](#) WELL in advance of the end of the renewal period to obtain the Board’s decision on that particular CE event. The application form is found on the Board’s web site under “Forms.”
- Check CE events that have already been approved by the Board throughout the renewal period on the Board web site under [Approved Continuing Education Courses](#) BEFORE you submit a CE event for the Board’s approval.
- Make sure you have a Geologist’s Seal. If you are audited, you MUST seal the audit form. Your audit will not be accepted without a seal.
- Finally, before sending in your CE Log and documentation, PLEASE make sure the log and supporting documentation are in tandem order so that the Board member reviewing the audit will be able to follow both the CE Log and documentation. Ask yourself one final time: “If I were the Board member reviewing this audit, would it make sense to me?”

ASBOG News Headlines

In 2010, the Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) completed the Task Analysis Study (TAS) started in 2008. Every 5 years, ASBOG surveys both the geologic professional and geosciences academic communities to assess the geologic profession. Licensed Professional Geologists are asked what they do in their day-to-day work involving the practice of geology. Academics who teach geosciences are asked what they feel provides a fundamental basis for an education in geology. The survey results are the basis for the blueprint of the Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and the Practice of Geology (PG) exams that ASBOG provides to state geology boards to administer as part of the licensing process. The table below shows the current exam blueprints. The content domains are further broken down into a knowledge-base statement and individual task statements providing a thorough testing of minimum competency of geologic applicants. More information on the exam blueprints, knowledge-base and tasks can be found in the Candidate Handbook on the ASBOG web site at www.asbog.org. Additional information on the TAS can also be found on the ASBOG web page. Currently the Fundamentals exam has 140 multiple choice questions and the Practice exam has 120.

Exam Content Domains	FG %	PG %
A. General and Field Geology	20	21
B. Mineralogy, Petrology, and Geochemistry	11	5
C. Sedimentology, Stratigraphy, and Paleontology	12	5
D. Geomorphology, Surficial Processes, and Quaternary Geology	13	8
E. Structure, Tectonics, and Seismology	11	9
F. Hydrogeology	11	19
G. Engineering Geology	11	17
H. Economic Geology and Energy Resources	11	16
Totals	100	100

FG=Fundamentals of Geology; PG=Practice of Geology

2011-2012 ASBOG Examinations Schedule

File Date to Submit Application & Documentation	Last Board Meeting Before Exam Date	Examination Date
July 21, 2011	August 5, 2011	September 30, 2011
November 16, 2011	December 2, 2011	March 2, 2012
July 20, 2012	August 3, 2012	October 5, 2012
November 23, 2012	December 7, 2012	March 1, 2013

Number of ASBOG Exam Candidates

Spring 2010

FG 3
PG 1
Both 1

Fall 2010

FG 5
PG 3
Both 3

Spring 2011

FG 1
PG 1

FG = Fundamentals of Geology
PG = Practice of Geology
Both = FG & PG

Delaware Board of Geologists

Delaware Department of State
Division of Professional Regulation
861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Ste 203
Dover, DE 19904-2467

Phone: 302-744-4500
Fax: 302-739-2711
E-mail: customerservice.dpr@state.de.us

www.DPR.Delaware.gov

2011 New Licensees

- *Brandon Ashby*
- *Anthony Bonasera*
- *James Burke*
- *Joseph Button*
- *Noel Simmons*

Delaware Licensee Statistics

Since May 2010, the Delaware State Board of Geologists has licensed (15) Geologists.

15 New Licenses Submitted by:

Examination	9
Reciprocity	6

Total Geologists Licensed

in DE as of 5/5/11:	390
Delaware Residents	56
Non-Delaware Residents	334

Seal Information

The Geologist seal is used to seal reports, drawings, maps, or similar technical submissions involving the practice of Geology that a licensed Geologist has prepared, reviewed and approved and that will become a matter of public record, or relied upon by any person, in Delaware for geological purposes. The purpose of the licensed Geologist's stamp or seal is to show that the licensee accepts responsibility for the work regardless of whether the work was performed by the licensed Geologist or by his or her subordinate.

The Stamp and Seal Requirements can be found in [Section 3.0](#) of the Board's Rules and Regulations.

This sample seal is shown at actual size.



Be Involved

New and exciting changes are coming to Geologists in Delaware.

You can be involved in making important decisions and bring your personal experiences to enrich the Board of Geologists. Apply to be a Professional Member of the Board.

For more information, visit www.dpr.delaware.gov and click [Board Member Application](#) on the left.

Updating Contact Information

The Division of Professional Regulation offers licensees the ability to change their contact information online. Simply visit www.dpr.delaware.gov and click on [Change Contact Information](#).

The first time you use online services, you'll need to "register" using your own registration code. (If you don't have your code, you can request that it be sent to you by completing the online request form.) When registering, you'll create your own user ID and password for use with all online services. You may then log in and update your personal information at any time.

Online Calendar

To keep you up-to-date, all of the Board's agendas and meeting minutes are posted online. Click [Online Meeting Calendar](#) to view past and future meeting dates, agendas, and approved minutes.

2011 Study Guides

Study Guides for the
2011 ASBOG Examination
may be found at
www.asbog.com