



Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation

Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Board

Candidate Examination Guide for:

Professional Land Surveyor

The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation along with The Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Board hope that you will find the following information useful in preparing to take examinations that will lead you toward the path of licensure as a Professional Land Surveyor in the State of Illinois.

NOTICE:

Each candidate is responsible for knowing and adhering to these rules regulating the administration of the Professional Land Surveyor examinations. Read all of the following information carefully.

REGISTRATION:

All candidates must submit an application to and be approved by the Department prior to registering for examination(s).

AFTER Board approval, all candidates must register with the NCEES at www.ncees.org to receive your candidate ID, as well as CTS at www.continentaltestinginc.net in order to reserve a seat for the exam(s).

The deadline to register is posted on the CTS website and is prior to the NCEES deadline. If you register with only NCEES and not CTS, you will not be allowed to sit for the exam.

Applications are only valid for three (3) years from the date of receipt. You must have an active application to apply for an exam and it must be active on the date of the exam in order for your examination to be validated.

EXAMINATIONS:

Three examinations are required for licensure as a Professional Land Surveyor in Illinois.

1. The Fundamentals of Surveying Examination (FS)
2. The Principles and Practices of Land Surveying Examination (PS)
3. The Illinois Land Surveying Jurisdictional Examination (IJ)

The FS and PS Exams are Computer Based Examinations and administered multiple times throughout the year.

Specific dates for the next scheduled examinations are available at **The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)** website at www.ncees.org.

Illinois does **NOT** utilize the NCEES Exam Administration to administer the exams.

Continental Testing Services, Inc. (CTS) is designated as the authorized exam administration service for the Department.

The FS and PS examination specifications are available from NCEES. Website: <http://ncees.org/exams/>.

The IJ Exam is a paper and pencil exam and is administered multiple times throughout the year. The exam must be scheduled through CTS. The Illinois Land Surveying Jurisdictional examination specifications are below.

Content Outline

This is a two-hour, 65-item, **closed** book examination. It is designed to assess each candidate's knowledge of Illinois law, regulations and practices related to public protection issues.

The examination covers the following content areas:

1. Conveyances 6-7 items
2. Plats 8-9 items
3. Federal Instructions & Public Land Survey System 10-11 items
4. Surveys & Legal Descriptions 9-10 items
5. Cities & Counties 4-6 items
6. Records, Recorders, Civil Procedure & Revenue 4-6 items
7. Roads, Bridges & Fences 4-6 items
8. Professions, Occupations & Standards of Practice 2-4 items
9. Special Districts & Natural Resources 2-4 items
10. Canals, Waterways & Drainage 2-4 items

Study Materials:

1. **2018 Illinois Compiled Statutes & Administrative Rules for the Practice of Professional Land Surveying in the State of Illinois.**
Published by Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association (IPLSA).
Available online and as a book on www.IPLSA.org.
2. **Minimum Standard Detail Requirements for ALTA/NSPS Land Title Surveys.**
(Effective February 23, 2016).
Available on the NSPS website at <http://www.nsp.us.com/?page=ALTAACSMStandards>
3. **Manual of Instructions for the Survey of Public Lands of the United States, 2009**
Available at https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/files/Manual_Of_Surveying_Instructions_2009.pdf
4. **Restoration of Lost or Obliterated Corners, 1883-1974. Reprinted 1977.**
Available at www.amazon.com
5. **Wattles, Gurdon H. Writing Legal Descriptions in Conjunction with Survey Boundary Control, 1979.** Available at www.amazon.com
6. **Webber, Joe D. Early Public Land Surveys in the Northwest Territory and Procedures for the Retracement of Original Government Surveys in Illinois. 1981.**
Available at www.iplsa.org

EXAMINATION RESULTS:

The FS and PS examination results should be available within **approximately one month** from the date of the examination.

The IJ examination results should be available within **approximately two months** from the date of the examination.

You may receive a notice from NCEES regarding your examination; however, the **OFFICIAL** examination results will be mailed to you by CTS as soon as they are available.

DO NOT CALL THE DEPARTMENT IN REGARD TO YOUR EXAMINATION RESULTS.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

If you move after applying to take an examination, you must submit your change of address in writing to:

Continental Testing Services, Inc.
547 South LaGrange Road
LaGrange, IL 60525

STUDY MATERIALS:

NCEES has developed exam preparation materials and study guides for the FS and PS Exams.

Website: <http://ncees.org/exams/study-materials/>

Contact the Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association (IPLSA) for exam preparation materials for the Illinois Land Surveying Jurisdictional Examination.

Website: www.iplsa.org

REFERENCE MATERIALS:

Refer to the NCEES website for reference materials.

Exams: <http://ncees.org/exams/>

Exam-day Policies: <http://ncees.org/exams/exam-day-policies/>

NCEES Examinee Guide: <http://ncees.org/exams/cbt/examinee-guide/>

REFRESHER COURSES:

For information on refresher courses, contact the Illinois Professional Land Surveyors Association (IPLSA)

Phone: 217-528-3053

Website: www.iplsa.org

FAQ's FOR PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR:

http://www.idfpr.com/FAQ/DPR/LS_faq.pdf