



What you Need to Know About The April Exams

Presented by

Raymond Mathe, PLS – Senior Registrar

Board for Professional Engineers, Land
Surveyors and Geologists (BPELSG)

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Central Valley Chapter CLSA

Land Surveyor Review Class

PLS Exam Overview

- PS/PLS Test Plans
- CBT – Computer Based Testing
- Results
- Future Plans
- New Fee Structure
- Questions



NCEES PS Test Specifications

New – Effective beginning with April 2013
National PS Exam

- Standards and Specifications – 12%
- Legal Principles – 26%
- Professional Survey Practices – 26%
- Business / Professional Practices – 20%
- Types of Surveys – 16%

<http://www.ncees.org/Documents/Public/Exam%20specifications/PS%20Apr%202013.pdf>



State PLS Test Plan

Based on a 2011 Occupational Analysis of practicing California Land Surveyors

- Project Management – 13%
- Research Pre and Post Field Analysis – 25%
- Field Work – 20%
- Mapping and Document Preparation – 28%
- Consultation and Legal – 14%

http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/applicants/lis_test_plan.pdf

Why CBT?

- Improved Testing Environment
- Larger number of test locations
- Results Sooner
- Ultimately more frequent
- Greatly minimize security risks
- Uniformity of exam testing environment
- Better assessment of minimum competency
- More sophisticated / appropriate content



State CBT Exam Tips

- Bring:
 - Valid Government Issued Identification
 - Candidate Information Bulletin (CIB)
 - Reference Materials
 - Calculators
- Limit the Materials
 - Books
 - Calculators
 - Scales, protractors, etc.



State CBT Exam Tips

- Other Items You Might Bring:
 - Batteries, extra glasses, other loose items
 - Put in personal locker or leave in car
 - Your exam time will NOT be stopped to retrieve from locker or car!
- **DO NOT** bring:
 - Watch, clock, gloves, electronic devices

NCEESExam Tips

- PS Exam is now Closed Book
 - Wrist watches are OK
- **DO NOT** bring:
 - CELL PHONES
 - Food, drinks, watch calculators, other electronic devices...

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KXECgt0JsRE>

CBT – State Exam



- 250 Prometric CBT Centers
- North America



Spring 2012 Results

- 406 Approved and Scheduled PLS Applicants
- 384 appeared and scored
- 24% Pass (91)
 - 2011 (21.6%); 2010 (23.2%); 2009 (31.3%);
2008 (32%)
- Results released June 4 (42 days after admin)



By: Ric Moore, PLS

Ric is the Executive Office of the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists.

The BPELSG Chronicles

First Results of Computer-Based Testing for the Professional Land Survey Examination

A new era in how the Board measures the competency of individuals desiring to practice land surveying in this state has begun. The first ever results of computer-based testing (CBT) administration for the California Professional Land Survey Examination were in relation to the expected tolerances (minimum com-

“A new era in how the Board measures the competency of individuals desiring to practice land surveying in this state has begun.”

... responses are evaluated to the measurements (questions) ... were in relation to the expected tolerances (minimum com-

PLS Exam - Future

- NCEES Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) Exam – Closed Book beginning April 2013
- Fall 2013 – Goal to begin offering California PLS exam twice a year

BPELSG – New Fee Structure

Discipline	California Fees		National Fees	Prometric Fees	No Fee Required
	Application Fees Click Here <i>(Payable to DCA, non-refundable)</i>	CA License Exam Fees Click Here <i>(Payable to DCA)</i>	NCEES Exam Fees Click Here <i>(Payable to NCEES)</i>	CBT Administration Fees Click Here <i>(Payable to Prometric)</i>	Take Home Exam Yes/No
Practice Acts					
Civil (National, CA Seismic and Engineering Surveying Exam)	\$125	\$300 ¹	\$265	\$117.60 ³	YES
Electrical	\$125		\$265		YES
Mechanical	\$125		\$265		YES
Land Surveyor (National & CA LS Exam)	\$125	\$150	\$265	\$85.95	YES
Title Acts					
Agricultural	\$125		\$265		YES
Chemical	\$125		\$265		YES
Control Systems	\$125		\$265		YES
Fire Protection	\$125		\$265		YES
Industrial	\$125		\$265		YES
Metallurgical	\$125		\$265		YES
Nuclear	\$125		\$265		YES
Petroleum	\$125		\$265		YES
Traffic	\$125	\$150		\$145.80 ⁴	YES
Title Authority Acts					
Structural (Lateral and Vertical Component)	\$125		\$1,020 ²		NO
Geotechnical	\$125	\$150		\$145.80 ⁴	NO
In-Training Certification					
Engineer In-Training (EIT)	\$50		\$125		NO
Land Surveyor In-Training (LSIT)	\$50		\$170		NO

Land Surveyor:

Raymond Mathe (916) 263-2271

Raymond.mathe@dca.ca.gov

Executive Officer:

Ric Moore (916) 263-2230 Ric.moore@dca.ca.gov

Enforcement:

Nancy Eissler (916) 263-2241 Nancy.eissler@dca.ca.gov

Monument Conservation (Sec. 8771):

Larry Kereszt (916) 263-2240 Larry.kereszt@dca.ca.gov

PLS Board Member:

Patrick Tami