

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING STRUCTURAL LICENSING:

1. What is the process for current PE's to become SE's? There will be a period of time after the new law is enacted where an existing PE (Professional Engineer) in Florida will be permitted to become licensed as an SE (Structural Engineer) without being required to take an exam. It will require the PE to document their structural engineering experience. Adequate experience will be clearly defined upon adoption of SE licensure in Florida.
2. What are the requirements for a PE to be eligible for transition to an SE? The ability to transition from a PE to an SE will require the PE to document their structural engineering experience. Adequate experience will be clearly defined upon adoption of SE licensure in Florida.
3. How does continuing education differ between the SE and PE licenses? There is no difference.
4. If I am able to transition, why should I take the SE Exam if I already have my PE? Passing the 16-hour NCEES SE exam documents that you have obtained a baseline of knowledge to successfully design structures anywhere in the country. You will also need to pass the SE exam if you plan to become licensed in a state outside of Florida that requires passing this exam to obtain an SE license. If taking the SE for comity purposes, check the requirements of the state in question to ensure acceptance.
5. If I am practicing structural engineering right now and do not transition to an SE, how will my practice differ? A PE can only seal the design for the structure that is not classified as a designated structure. An SE, on the other hand, will have no limits on the types of structures they can design and seal. The clear definition of "designated structure" will be available upon adoption of SE licensure in Florida.
6. What will be the length of the transition period? This will be decided upon adoption of SE licensure in Florida. In some other states, the transition period has been one to two years.
7. If I missed the transition period to become an SE, am I required to take the full NCEES 16-hour structural exam to become recognized as a structural engineer in Florida? Yes.
8. Can an SE from another state which currently has SE Licensure practice as a PE in Florida? The current reciprocity rules of the FBPE would apply.
9. What is the difference in cost between taking the structural engineering exam and the civil engineering exam? The current fees for the Civil Structural PE exam is \$265 and the SE exam is \$1,020.00.

FAQ for Professional Engineers
Post SE Licensure Adoption

10. If I do not plan on practicing outside of the state of Florida, will having an SE license allow me the same design privileges as passing the PE Exam, or will I be limited to only designing threshold buildings? [An SE will be able to design unlimited structures, while a civil engineer will be limited to those that are not designated structures. The clear definition of “designated structure” will be available upon adoption of SE licensure in Florida.](#)