

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING STRUCTURAL LICENSING:

1. Will all practicing structural PE's need to pass the SE exam in order to continue designing designated structures after the SE license is adopted? **No, 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 once separate licensure is adopted? **It 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 will continuing education differ between the SE and PE licenses? **There is no difference.**
4. Why should I take the SE Exam if I already have my PE? What are the benefits of passing the exam? **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 once the SE License is adopted? **In Florida, a professional engineer can currently design any structure. Once the SE License is adopted, a PE can only seal the design for the structure of any building not classified as a designated structure. For example, the structural design of all threshold buildings may require an SE license once licensure is adopted. 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 once SE Licensure is adopted? **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 before SE licensure is adopted? **The current reciprocity rules of the FBPE would apply.**
9. What happens when I pass the SE Exam before licensure is adopted? **You will become a PE in Florida, if you are not already. Do I receive a certification? No, you will receive notification from NCEES that you have passed the 16-hour SE exam.**

FAQ for Professional Engineers  
Pre SE Licensure Adoption

10. Since separate SE licensure is not currently in effect in Florida, why should I care about it? Passing the 16-hour NCEES SE exam demonstrates that you have obtained a baseline of knowledge to successfully design structures anywhere in the country. It is a far more comprehensive exam than the current Civil Structural exam. When enacted, SE licensure will be required to design designated structures in the state of Florida. If you only intend to practice Professional Engineering in the state of Florida and you never envision working on designated structures, then the SE License will not affect you. The clear definition of “designated structure” will be available upon adoption of SE licensure in Florida.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. Since there is no SE license yet, what is my status once I pass the SE exam, and how do I maintain that status? (ie: continuing education requirements, etc) The same rules apply as a PE.
14. If I pass the SE exam before SE licenses are adopted, will I automatically become a licensed SE once it is recognized? No, you will have to apply.