Fee Increase Rulemaking Docket

The proposed rules are for amending and adding rules necessitated by the implementation of Continuing Education requirements under Public Law 108-2022. The application fees will increase from $160.00 to $450.00 and include the first three (3) years of fees for the new license. The three (3) year renewal fee will increase from $150.00 to $300.00. If the renewal fee is not paid by the due date, the license will be invalidated. The late renewal fee will increase from $165.00 to $450.00. If not paid within two hundred one (201) days following receipt of the non-compliance certified letter, the license will expire, and the former licensee will need to reapply. If the board determines that a practitioner has knowingly or intentionally made a false or misleading statement to the board concerning compliance with the Continuing Education requirements, there will be a $1,000.00 civil penalty and the practitioner will be submitted for prosecution.

1. Proposed rule is itemized below**
2. Notice of Public Hearing – LSA 24-166
3. Please send comments to:
   Todd A. Thompson
   Director and State Geologist, Indiana Geological Survey
   Chairman, Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists
   1001 E. 10th Street
   Bloomington, IN  47405
   (812) 855-7428
   inblpg@iu.edu
4. Comments and the written response of the Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists may be inspected at:
   Indiana Geological and Water Survey
   1001 E. 10th St.
   Bloomington, IN  47405
   Room 1020 – INBLPG Licensing Coordinator
   Monday – Thursday 8:00-4:30, Friday 8:00-2:00

   Written comments may be submitted until the end of the public hearing on the rule, scheduled for June 21, 2024.

5. Public hearing:
   May 29th at 10:00 a.m.
   Indiana Geological and Water Survey
   1001 E. 10th St., Room 2022
   Bloomington, IN  47405
   Available via zoom at
   https://iu.zoom.us/j/81714541238?pwd=ckYxMUJLMndzZ245Yld1NEorVGVJdz09.

6. Estimated effective date will be July 1, 2025
**TITLE 305 INDIANA BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS**

Proposed Rule

LSA Document #24-166

Amends 305 IAC-1-3-4, 305 IAC 1-3-4, 305 IAC 1-3-9 and adopting 305-IAC 1-6-1 to 305 IAC 1-6-13

305 IAC 1-3-1 Application for geologist license

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 1. (a) A person seeking a new license must file with the survey an application completed under this section on a form approved by the board.

(b) Information that an applicant must provide in the application includes the following:

(1) Educational background at the undergraduate level and, if applicable, the graduate level. This background includes an official transcript of college credits.

(2) Professional geological work. A person who has taught geological science at the college level must provide information about the level course or courses and the number of hours taught during each semester.

(3) Affiliations with any scientific and technical society, including the grade of membership and whether the applicant is certified or registered by the society.

(4) References from three (3) persons in a geoscience profession attesting the applicant adheres to high professional and ethical standards.

(5) Any other information reasonably required to evaluate the applicant’s character, knowledge of geology, and experience in application of the knowledge of geology.

(c) The application form shall be accompanied by a fee in the amount of one hundred sixty dollars ($160) to four hundred fifty dollars ($450) by check or other means as determined by the survey. The application fee is nonrefundable.

(d) The application fee shall be filed with the survey at least thirty (30) days before the date on which the applicant seeks to have the application reviewed.

305 IAC 1-3-4 Issuance of a renewal certificate license

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 4-21.5-3-4; IC 25-17.6
Sec. 4. (a) A license expires three (3) years after the date of issuance. A request for renewal must be accompanied by a fee of one hundred fifty dollars ($150) or three hundred dollars ($300) by check, money order, or other means as determined by the survey. The renewal will be issued unless the board determines the applicant no longer qualifies as a licensed professional geologist under IC 25-17.6 and this article. IC 4-21.5-3-4(d) applies to this subsection.

(b) The survey shall mail a renewal notice to each licensed professional geologist at least sixty (60) days before the expiration of the license. The notice shall be directed to the most recent mailing address provided to the survey by the licensed professional geologist.

(c) If the renewal fee is not paid when due, the license is invalidated. The name of the holder shall be deleted from future rosters of the licensed professional geologists unless:

1. a late renewal fee of one hundred sixty-five dollars ($165) or four hundred fifty dollars ($450) is paid by the applicant before the expiration of two (2) years from the date of its invalidation; or
2. the certificate license is reinstated by the board.

(d) If the renewal fee is not paid within two (2) consecutive years of the invalidation of a certificate two hundred and one (201) days following receipt of the non-compliance certified letter, a person may seek reinstatement as a licensed professional geologist only upon successful completion of section 2 of this rule.

305 IAC 1-5-9 Continuing education

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 9. A licensed professional geologist should strive to improve professional knowledge and skills and work toward the advancement of geological education, research, training, and practice.

Rule 6. Continuing Education

305 IAC 1-6-1 Continuing education

Authority: IC 25-1-4-8; IC 25-17.6-5-5
Affected: IC 25-1-4-5; IC 25-1-4-6; IC 25-1-11; IC 25-21.5; IC 25-17.6

Sec. 1. (a) This rule establishes the continuing education requirements for licensed professional geologists.

(b) Failure to comply with this rule may subject the licensed professional geologist to action under IC 25-1-4-5 and IC 25-1-4-6.

305 IAC 1-6-2 Continuing education requirements
Sec. 2. (a) Licensed professional geologists must complete a minimum of twelve (12) hours of continuing education each year of the triennial renewal period of the professional geologist license to maintain an active status. The twelve (12) hours requirement must include the following:

(1) A minimum of one (1) hour in professional ethics or diversity, equity and inclusion training per year of the triennial license renewal period.

(2) Remaining hours as defined in Section 6 of this rule.

(b) College courses taken after licensure that qualify for credit under section 5 of this rule will be counted as follows:

(1) Ten (10) hours of credit per credit hour taken in a quarter system.

(2) Fifteen (15) hours of credit per credit hour taken in a semester system.

(c) Up to six (6) hours of credits earned, but not used, in one (1) triennial renewal period may be applied to the hours required in the first year of the next triennial renewal period. Proper documentation of any such rollover hours shall be submitted to the board by the licensee for these hours to be accepted.

Sec. 3. (a) A continuing education session shall be a minimum of one (1) hour and must contain at least fifty (50) minutes of instruction or course contact time.

Sec. 4. (a) Two (2) hours of credit will be granted per course credit hour for continuing education that meets the requirements of Section 6 of this rule.

(b) Continuing education credit as provided under subsection (a) will be granted only the first time approved continuing education is presented.
Sec. 5. (a) Active participation in educational outreach activities with the public about the geology profession shall qualify for a maximum of one (1) hour of credit per year of the triennial license renewal period.

(b) Authoring of peer-reviewed published papers or books relevant to the professional geologist’s practice of geology shall qualify for five (5) hours of credit in the triennial license renewal period in which the publication occurred. Not more than one (1) peer-reviewed published paper or book may be counted in a triennial license renewal period.

305 IAC 1-6-6 Continuing education topics

Authority: IC 25-17.6-5-5; IC 25-1-4-0.5; IC 25-1-4-0.2
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 6. (a) To qualify as credit under this rule as provided for in IC 25-1-4-0.5, a course must be an orderly process of instruction that is:

(1) approved by an approved organization (as defined by IC 25-1-4-0.2) or the board; and

(2) designed to directly enhance the licensed professional geologists’ knowledge and skill in providing geological services relevant to the profession of geology.

305 IAC 1-6-7 Distance learning requirements

Authority: IC 25-17.6-5-5; IC 25-1-4-3.2
Affected: IC 25-17.6; IC 25-1-11

Sec. 7. (a) All of the credits required under this rule may be obtained by distance learning methods.

(b) For distance learning instruction to be acceptable to the board, it must:

(1) meet the requirements of Section 6 of this rule;

(2) be completed within one (1) year of enrollment; and

(3) provide for confirmation of successful completion by the provider.

305 IAC 1-6-8 Approval of continuing education

Authority: IC 25-17.6-5-5; IC 25-1-4-0.5; IC 25-1-4-0.2
Affected: IC 25-17.6; IC 25-1-11

Sec. 8. (a) It is the licensed professional geologist's responsibility to ensure that the instruction is applicable to enhancing the practice of geology. According to IC 25-1-4-0.5, certain education is automatically approved when provided by an approved organization under IC 25-1-4-0.2, assuming the subject matter of the instruction is acceptable under this rule by being designed to directly enhance the practitioner's knowledge and skill. For instruction not
automatically approved, Indiana’s Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists shall determine criteria for approvable continuing education that may include course audits.

305 IAC 1-6-9 Proof of continuing education completion

Authority: IC 25-17.6-5-5; IC 25-1-4-3
Affected: IC 25-17.6; IC 25-1-11

Sec. 9. (a) The licensed professional geologist is responsible for obtaining the evidence necessary to demonstrate that:

(1) any instruction for which credit will subsequently be claimed was completed; and

(2) the instruction meets the requirements of this rule.

(b) The licensed professional geologist shall retain the evidence required in subsection (a) for three (3) years as provided for in IC 25-1-4-3(a)(2).

305 IAC 1-6-10 Continuing education credit not given

Authority: IC 25-17.6-5-5
Affected: IC 25-17.6; IC 25-1-11

Sec. 10. Credit will not be given for any of the following:

(1) Any education obtained before licensure.

(2) Motivational classes or seminars.

(3) Meetings of the board.

(4) Business, social, or other non-educational meetings of professional groups, or subgroups.

(5) Committee work with local, state, or national professional organizations.

(6) Staff meetings.

(7) Courses repeated during a renewal period except for courses under Sec. 2(a)(1).

(8) Routine safety training including, but not limited to, HAZWOPER, OSHA, and MSHA.

(9) Courses not completed.

305 IAC 1-6-11 Petitions for reduction of hours

Authority: IC 25-17.6-5-5; IC 25-1-4-4
Affected: IC 25-17.6; IC 25-1-11

Sec. 11. Licensed professional geologists may petition the board in writing for waiver of all or part of the continuing education requirements for a renewal period in accordance with IC 25-1-4-4.

305 IAC 1-6-12 Continuing education credit
Sec. 12. (a) To receive full credit, a licensed professional geologist must:

(1) be present for the entire instruction session; or

(2) receive full credit for a course from that college or university.

305 IAC 1-6-13 Continuing education compliance

Sec. 13. Audits and actions regarding compliance will be conducted as provided for in IC 25-1-4.

305 IAC 1-6-14 Failure to comply; license invalidation; penalties; revalidation requirements

Sec. 14. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, if the board determines that a practitioner has not complied with this chapter or IC 25-1-8-6 at the time that the practitioner applies for license renewal or reinstatement or after an audit conducted under section 8 of this chapter, the board shall do the following:

(1) Send the practitioner notice of noncompliance by certified mail to the practitioner's last known address.

(2) Refuse to renew the license until the practitioner complies with subsection (b).

(b) Upon service of a notice of noncompliance under subsection (a), a practitioner shall do either of the following:

(1) If the practitioner believes that the practitioner has complied with this chapter or IC 25-1-8-6, if applicable, within twenty-one (21) days of service of the notice, send a written notice to the board requesting a review so that the practitioner may submit proof of compliance or evidence of hardship in accordance with IC 25-1-4-4.

(2) If the practitioner does not disagree with the board's determination of noncompliance, do the following:

(A) Except as provided in subsection (d), pay to the board a civil penalty of one hundred and fifty dollars ($150) within twenty-one (21) days of service of the notice, and

(B) Within six (6) months after service of the notice, acquire the number of credit hours needed to achieve full compliance.
(C) If a practitioner fails to comply with subsection (b)(2) within the time period provided, the board shall immediately refuse to reinstate the license of the practitioner and send notice of the refusal to the practitioner by certified mail.

(D) If the board determines that a practitioner has knowingly or intentionally made a false or misleading statement to the board concerning compliance with the continuing education requirements, in addition to the requirements under this section, the board shall submit the practitioner for prosecution and impose a civil penalty of one thousand dollars ($1,000).

(E) the board shall:

(1) revalidate a practitioner's license if the practitioner supplies proof of compliance with this chapter under subsection (b)(1).

(2) revalidate a practitioner's license if the practitioner supplies proof of compliance with this chapter under subsection (b)(2).

Geologist Licensure Law and Rules

Current Laws:

In Indiana, the state laws or state statutes are codified in the Indiana Code. The specific laws that regulate the licensure of professional geologists in Indiana are found in IC 25-17.6, which may be viewed at the Indiana Legislative Services Agency https://iga.in.gov/laws/2023/ic/titles/1 website.

IC 25-17.6 ARTICLE 17.6. PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS

Ch. 1. Definitions
Ch. 2. Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists
Ch. 3. Duties and Powers of the Board
Ch. 4. Requirements for Certification
Ch. 5. Renewal of Certificates
Ch. 6. Use of Seal or Stamp by Geologist
Ch. 7. Exemptions From Certification Requirements
Ch. 8. Grounds for Action by the Board and Penalties
Ch. 9. Administrative Review and Judicial Review

IC 25-17.6-1 Chapter 1. Definitions

25-17.6-1-1 Application of definitions
25-17.6-1-2 Board
25-17.6-1-3 Repealed
25-17.6-1-4 Repealed
25-17.6-1-5 Geologist
25-17.6-1-6 Geology
25-17.6-1-6.3 License
25-17.6-1-6.5 Licensed professional geologist
IC 25-17.6-1-1 Application of definitions
   Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this article.

IC 25-17.6-1-2 "Board"
   Sec. 2. "Board" refers to the Indiana board of licensure for professional geologists established in IC 25-17.6-2.

IC 25-17.6-1-3 Repealed

IC 25-17.6-1-4 Repealed

IC 25-17.6-1-5 "Geologist"
   Sec. 5. "Geologist" means a person who is qualified by the person's knowledge of the principles of geology acquired by:
      (1) professional education; and
      (2) practical experience.

IC 25-17.6-1-6 "Geology"
   Sec. 6. "Geology" means a science that has the following characteristics:
      (1) Treats the earth as a whole.
      (2) Includes the:
         (A) investigation;
         (B) analysis;
         (C) classification; and
         (D) location;
        of the rocks and other materials that compose the earth's crust, as they relate to geologic processes.
      (3) Involves the study of:
         (A) minerals, gases, and liquids composing and contained within the earth's crust; and
         (B) geologic materials and processes.

IC 25-17.6-1-6.3 "License"
   Sec. 6.3. "License" means a document issued by the board to permit a person to engage in an activity regulated under this article.

IC 25-17.6-1-6.5 "Licensed professional geologist"
   Sec. 6.5. "Licensed professional geologist" means a person who is licensed under this article.

IC 25-17.6-1-7 "Public practice of geology"
   Sec. 7. (a) "Public practice of geology" means the performance of service to the public in connection with the geological description, location, or evaluation of:
      (1) geological materials, liquids, and gases; and
      (2) the natural processes acting upon them.
(b) The term includes geological:
   (1) consulting;
   (2) investigating;
   (3) evaluating;
   (4) designing; and
   (5) planning.

IC 25-17.6-1-8 "State geologist"
Sec. 8. "State geologist" means the person in charge of the Indiana geological and water survey established by IC 21-47-2.

IC 25-17.6-1-9 "Survey"
Sec. 9. "Survey" refers to the Indiana geological and water survey established by IC 21-47-2.

IC 25-17.6-2 Chapter 2. Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists

25-17.6-2-1 Establishment; administration
25-17.6-2-2 Qualification
25-17.6-2-3 Members
25-17.6-2-4 Terms
25-17.6-2-5 Removal
25-17.6-2-6 Quorum
25-17.6-2-7 Immunity from civil liability
25-17.6-2-8 Chairman; secretary
25-17.6-2-9 Appointment
25-17.6-2-10 Reimbursement of expenses

IC 25-17.6-2-1 Establishment; administration
Sec. 1. (a) The Indiana board of licensure for professional geologists is established.
(b) The board shall administer this article.

IC 25-17.6-2-2 Qualification
Sec. 2. Subject to IC 25-1-6.5, each member of the board shall be:
   (1) a resident of Indiana; and
   (2) appointed by the governor;
with the exception of the state geologist.

IC 25-17.6-2-3 Members
Sec. 3. The board shall consist of the following members:
   (1) The state geologist.
   (2) Three (3) members who are licensed professional geologists.
   (3) One (1) member who represents the public at large.

IC 25-17.6-2-4 Terms
Sec. 4. Each board member shall serve a term under IC 25-1-6.5.

IC 25-17.6-2-5 Removal
Sec. 5. The governor may remove a board member under IC 25-1-6.5-4.

IC 25-17.6-2-6 Quorum
Sec. 6. Three (3) members of the board constitute a quorum.

IC 25-17.6-2-7 Immunity from civil liability
Sec. 7. Board members are immune from civil liability for any action taken in the performance of the board's powers and duties under this article.

IC 25-17.6-2-8 Chairman; secretary
Sec. 8. (a) The board shall elect from its members a chairman each year.
(b) The board shall elect a secretary each year. The secretary is not required to be elected from the members of the board.

IC 25-17.6-2-9 Appointment
Sec. 9. (a) At least thirty (30) days before an appointment to the board, the governor shall receive a list of not more than three (3) nominations for the appointment from a joint committee of the survey and representatives of professional organizations representing professional geologists in Indiana.
(b) Members appointed to the board shall be selected from the list submitted to the governor by the joint committee under subsection (a).

IC 25-17.6-2-10 Reimbursement of expenses
Sec. 10. Each board member is entitled to reimbursement for traveling expenses and other expenses actually incurred in connection with the member's duties as provided under IC 4-13-1-4 and the state policies and procedures established by the Indiana department of administration and approved by the budget agency.

IC 25-17.6-3 Chapter 3. Duties and Powers of the Board

25-17.6-3-1 Meetings; cost of survey
25-17.6-3-2 Qualifications of applicants for certification
25-17.6-3-3 Code of professional conduct
25-17.6-3-4 Investigation of misconduct
25-17.6-3-5 Complaint to condition, suspend, or revoke registration
25-17.6-3-6 Charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence, or misconduct
25-17.6-3-7 Review of changes; notice to respond
25-17.6-3-8 Compliance with or administrative review of determination
25-17.6-3-9 Legal assistance
25-17.6-3-10 Survey; publication of roster
25-17.6-3-11 Survey; offices and staff
25-17.6-3-12 Rules

IC 25-17.6-3-1 Meetings; cost of survey
Sec. 1. (a) The board shall meet:
(1) at least two (2) times each calendar year; and
(2) at other times considered necessary by:
(A) the chairman; or
(B) a quorum of the board;
upon being given at least ten (10) days notice.
(b) Each year the board shall:
   (1) determine the cost incurred by the survey in administering the program for the licensure of professional geologists under this article; and
   (2) if necessary, adjust the amount of the:
      (A) licensure fee charged under IC 25-17.6-4-7; and
      (B) renewal fee charged under IC 25-17.6-5-2;

to ensure that the program is self-supporting.


**IC 25-17.6-3-2 Qualifications of applicants for certification**

Sec. 2. (a) The board shall pass upon the qualifications of applicants for licensure.
   (b) The board shall:
      (1) require from an applicant for licensure evidence of the applicant's qualifications; and
      (2) judge an applicant on evidence of the applicant's professional competency and integrity under rules adopted by the board.


**IC 25-17.6-3-3 Code of professional conduct**

Sec. 3. (a) The board may by rule adopt or amend a code of professional conduct for licensed professional geologists.
   (b) If the board adopts or amends a code of professional conduct under subsection (a), the board shall mail a copy of the code and any amendments to the code to all persons listed on the roster described in section 10 of this chapter.
   (c) A mailing under this section constitutes service for the purposes of this article.


**IC 25-17.6-3-4 Investigation of misconduct**

Sec. 4. The board may investigate:
   (1) a suspected violation by a licensed professional geologist of:
      (A) the code of conduct adopted under section 3 of this chapter; or
      (B) other rules of the board concerning professional competency and integrity of licensed professional geologists; or
   (2) other grounds for action against a licensed professional geologist under IC 25-17.6-8.


**IC 25-17.6-3-5 Complaint to condition, suspend, or revoke registration**

Sec. 5. (a) The board may file a proposed complaint to condition, suspend, or revoke the license of a licensed professional geologist.
   (b) The recipient of a proposed complaint may either:
      (1) agree to the terms of the proposed complaint; or
      (2) not more than thirty (30) days after receiving the proposed complaint, request an informal review of the proposed complaint before the board.
   (c) Failure by a licensed professional geologist to request the informal review under subsection (b) constitutes an agreement to the terms of the proposed complaint.


**IC 25-17.6-3-6 Charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence, or misconduct**

Sec. 6. (a) Any person or organization may present charges of fraud, deceit, gross negligence, or misconduct against a licensed professional geologist.
   (b) A charge under subsection (a) shall be:
      (1) in writing;
      (2) sworn to by the person or the officer of the organization making the charges; and
      (3) filed with the board.

IC 25-17.6-3-7 Review of changes; notice to respond

Sec. 7. (a) The board shall consider:
   (1) a request for review under section 5; or
   (2) charges under section 6;
   of this chapter during a meeting.
   (b) The board may compel a licensed professional geologist to respond to any matters in writing about a proposed complaint or charges.
   (c) Notice to respond to a proposed complaint or charge must be sent to the licensed professional geologist by certified mail to the most recent address on file with the board.
   (d) The board may by rule establish procedures for the conduct of its review under this section, including the subpoena of witnesses and documents.
   (e) A review under this section shall be conducted in an informal manner. However, the board shall keep a record of the proceeding.
   (f) As soon as possible following the meeting, the board shall render a determination and either:
      (1) terminate its review; or
      (2) issue a determination under IC 4-21.5-3-6 to condition, suspend, or revoke the license of the licensed professional geologist.


IC 25-17.6-3-8 Compliance with or administrative review of determination

Sec. 8. A licensed professional geologist who receives a determination under section 7 of this chapter shall either:
   (1) comply with its terms; or
   (2) request administrative review under IC 25-17.6-9.


IC 25-17.6-3-9 Legal assistance

Sec. 9. (a) The attorney general shall act as legal adviser to the board and provide any legal assistance necessary to carry out this article.
   (b) The board may employ private counsel at the expense of the board.


IC 25-17.6-3-10 Survey; publication of roster

Sec. 10. (a) The survey shall publish each year a roster showing the names and places of business of all licensed professional geologists.
   (b) Copies of the roster described in subsection (a) shall be:
      (1) made available to each person licensed;
      (2) placed on file at the survey; and
      (3) furnished to the public upon request.


IC 25-17.6-3-11 Survey; offices and staff

Sec. 11. The survey shall:
   (1) establish and maintain necessary offices in Indiana;
   (2) employ staff as necessary, including staff for the board; and
   (3) prescribe the duties and compensation of all staff employed under subdivision (2).


IC 25-17.6-3-12 Rules

Sec. 12. The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 consistent with this article and reasonably required for the conduct of the board's responsibilities and duties.


IC 25-17.6-4 Chapter 4. Requirements for Certification
IC 25-17.6-4-1 Course work; experience; passing score on examination
Sec. 1. To qualify for licensure, an applicant must meet all of the following requirements:
(1) Successful completion of at least thirty (30) semester hours or forty-five (45) quarter hours of course work in geology, culminating in a baccalaureate or advanced degree in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, geological engineering, or geotechnical engineering from an accredited college or university. At the discretion of the board, courses dealing with applied geological science that are given under the auspices of an academic department other than geology may be considered toward the fulfillment of this requirement.
(2) Experience in professional geological work consisting of one (1) of the following:
(A) Five (5) years of teaching geology as a faculty member at the college or university level.
(B) Five (5) years of geological research by an applicant at the college or university level.
(C) Five (5) years of geological work performed under the supervision of, or in collaboration with, a licensed professional geologist.
(D) Seven (7) years of geological work that is acceptable to the board.
(3) A passing score on an examination required by the board that has been designed to demonstrate that the applicant has the necessary knowledge and skill to exercise the responsibilities of the public practice of geology.

IC 25-17.6-4-2 Years of experience; credits toward
Sec. 2. In counting years of experience under section 1(2) of this chapter, the board may give one (1) year of credit each for a master's degree or doctoral degree in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, geological engineering, or geotechnical engineering.

IC 25-17.6-4-3 Credit subject to evaluation and approval by board
Sec. 3. Credit toward the experience and education requirements described in this chapter is subject to evaluation and approval by the board.

IC 25-17.6-4-4 Documentation of competency and integrity
Sec. 4. The board may require documentation of competency and integrity.

IC 25-17.6-4-5 Licensure in different state
Sec. 5. Upon application, licensure may be provided to a person who is a licensed geologist in a state that has standards for licensure that contain substantially equal requirements to those for licensure under this chapter, as determined by the board.

IC 25-17.6-4-6 Administrative review of determination
Sec. 6. A person seeking licensure as a licensed professional geologist who is aggrieved by a determination of the board under this chapter may request administrative review under IC 25-17.6-9.

IC 25-17.6-4-7 Application fee; deposit in fund
Sec. 7. (a) An applicant for licensure shall pay a nonrefundable fee established by regulation of the board.
(b) All fees paid to and collected by the board under this section and IC 25-17.6-5 shall be deposited in a fund under the jurisdiction of the board.
(c) The survey shall be:
   (1) designated to collect and disburse funds represented by the fees described in subsection (b); and
   (2) required to execute a bond, with corporate surety, in an amount to be determined by the board.

IC 25-17.6-5 Chapter 5. Renewal of Certificates

IC 25-17.6-5-1 Expiration of license
Sec. 1. A license issued under IC 25-17.6-4 expires three (3) years after it is issued, at a time and date designated by the board.

IC 25-17.6-5-2 Notification of expiration and renewal fee
Sec. 2. The board shall notify each person licensed under this article of the:
   (1) date of expiration of the person's license; and
   (2) amount of the renewal fee established by the board.

IC 25-17.6-5-3 Failure to pay renewal fee
Sec. 3. If a person fails to pay the renewal fee within ninety (90) days after the expiration date established by the board under this chapter, the person's:
   (1) license shall be suspended; and
   (2) name shall be deleted from the roster described in IC 25-17.6-3-10; until the renewal fee is paid.

IC 25-17.6-5-4 Revocation of license for failure to pay renewal fee; relicensing
Sec. 4. (a) If a person fails to pay the renewal fee for two (2) consecutive years, that person's license shall be revoked and may not be renewed.
   (b) If a person whose license has been revoked under subsection (a) desires to be relicensed, the person:
      (1) must submit an application to the board; and
      (2) shall be considered as a new applicant.

IC 25-17.6-5-5 Rules
Sec. 5. (a) Before July 1, 2024, the board shall adopt rules in accordance with IC 25-1-4 to:
   (1) require a licensed professional geologist to obtain continuing education in geological sciences as a condition of license renewal; and
   (2) set forth the conditions, requirements, and implementation of the continuing education program.
   (b) The continuing education requirements adopted under this section must allow a licensed professional geologist to receive full credit for continuing education courses completed in a state other than Indiana.
   (c) The continuing education requirements adopted under this section do not apply to a licensed professional geologist until after the first full license renewal cycle beginning one (1) year after final adoption of the rules under this section.
(d) The continuing education requirements adopted under this section do not apply to a person who is not licensed under this article.  
As added by P.L.108-2022, SEC.11.

IC 25-17.6-6 Chapter 6. Use of Seal or Stamp by Geologist

IC 25-17.6-6-1 Issuance of license by board
Sec. 1. (a) The board shall, upon payment of the licensure fee, issue a license to an applicant who in the opinion of the board has satisfactorily met all the requirements for licensure under IC 25-17.6-4.  
(b) Each license shall show the full name of the board.  

IC 25-17.6-6-2 Entitlement to rights and privileges
Sec. 2. The issuance of a license by the board is prima facie evidence that the person named on the license is entitled to all the rights and privileges of a licensed professional geologist while the license remains in force.  

IC 25-17.6-6-3 Seal or stamp
Sec. 3. Each geologist may, upon licensure, obtain and use a seal or stamp of licensure of a design authorized by the board, containing the geologist's name and license number and the legend "Professional Geologist".  

IC 25-17.6-6-4 Replacement license
Sec. 4. A replacement license may be issued to replace a license that has been lost, destroyed, or mutilated, subject to the rules of the board.  

IC 25-17.6-6-5 No affixation of signature, stamp, or seal after suspension or revocation of license
Sec. 5. A geologist may not affix the geologist's signature, stamp, or seal, or certify any report or other geological document after the geologist's license has been suspended or revoked, unless the license has been renewed or reissuued.  

IC 25-17.6-7 Chapter 7. Exemptions From Certification Requirements

IC 25-17.6-7-1 Exemptions from requirements of licensure
Sec. 1. The following persons are exempt from the requirements of licensure under this article:  
(1) An officer or employee of the United States government, state government, or local government while engaged in providing geological services for the officer's or employee's employers.  
(2) A person engaged solely in geological research or the instruction of geology.  
(3) A person not engaged in the public practice of geology.  
(4) A professional engineer registered under IC 25-31 who applies geology to the practice of engineering.
A soil scientist who is certified as a soil classifier or soil scientist by the American Registry of Certified Professionals in Agronomy, Crops and Soils (ARCPACS) and the Indiana Association of Professional Soil Classifiers (IAPSC) and who applies geology in the practice of soil science.


IC 25-17.6-7-2 Unlawful preparation of geological report or document

Sec. 2. Except for:
(1) a person exempted under section 1 of this chapter; and
(2) a person who, in addition to a licensed professional geologist, is authorized by statute or administrative rule to prepare the report or document;
it is unlawful for a person other than a licensed professional geologist or a subordinate under the direction of a licensed professional geologist to prepare any geological report or document that is required by a statute or an administrative rule to be prepared by a licensed professional geologist.


IC 25-17.6-7-3 Use of title or description by unlicensed persons

Sec. 3. A person may not engage in the public practice of geology or offer to publicly practice geology in Indiana or otherwise assume or advertise in any way a title or description tending to convey the impression that the person is a licensed professional geologist unless the person has been licensed under this article.


IC 25-17.6-8 Chapter 8. Grounds for Action by the Board and Penalties

25-17.6-8-1 Grounds for suspension, refusal to renew, revocation, reprimand, or probation of licensed professional geologist

Sec. 1. The board may suspend, refuse to renew the license of, revoke the license of, reprimand, or place on probation a licensed professional geologist when the licensed professional geologist is found responsible by the board for any of the following:
(1) Fraud or deceit in obtaining licensure.
(2) Gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in the practice of geology.
(3) Conviction by a court of law of a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude.
(4) Violation of a code of ethics adopted by the board.
(5) The commission of an unlawful act set forth in section 2 of this chapter.


25-17.6-8-2 Related misdemeanors

Sec. 2. A person who does any of the following commits a Class B misdemeanor:
(1) Falsely representing oneself as a licensed professional geologist in violation of IC 25-17.6-7-3.
(2) Presenting or attempting to use as the person's own a license or seal of another.
(3) Giving false or forged evidence to the board or to a member of the board in order to obtain a license.
(4) Falsely impersonating another geologist.
(5) Using or attempting to use an expired or a revoked license to practice geology at any time during a period the board has suspended or revoked the license.
(6) Publicly practicing geology in Indiana or offering to publicly practice geology in Indiana without being licensed under this article in violation of IC 25-17.6-7-3.


IC 25-17.6-9 Chapter 9. Administrative Review and Judicial Review

25-17.6-9-1 Administrative review of determination

25-17.6-9-2 Parties to proceeding
IC 25-17.6-9-1 Administrative review of determination
Sec. 1. If requested, an administrative review of a determination made by the board under IC 25-17.6-3-7, IC 25-17.6-4, or IC 25-17.6-8-1 shall be conducted before an administrative law judge appointed by the natural resources commission or the director of the division of hearings under IC 14-10-2-2.

IC 25-17.6-9-2 Parties to proceeding
Sec. 2. The parties to the proceeding include:
(1) the person taking administrative review of the determination by the board; and
(2) the board.

IC 25-17.6-9-3 Administrative law judge as ultimate authority
Sec. 3. An administrative law judge appointed under this chapter is the ultimate authority for the board under IC 4-21.5-5.

IC 25-17.6-9-4 Judicial review of final order
Sec. 4. A party who is dissatisfied with a final order rendered by an administrative law judge may take judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.
As added by P.L.161-1996, SEC.2

Current Rules:

TITLE 305 INDIANA BOARD OF LICENSURE FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS
NOTE: Under P.L.17-1999, SECTION 5, the name of the Board of Certification for Professional Geologists is changed to Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists, effective July 1, 1999.

ARTICLE 1. PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS

Rule 1. Administration and Review
305 IAC 1-1-1 Administration
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6-1

Rule 2. Definitions
305 IAC 1-2-1 Applicability
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6-1
Sec. 1. The definitions in this rule apply throughout this article. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists;

Rule 2. Definitions
305 IAC 1-2-2 "Board" defined
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6-1
Sec. 2. "Board" means Indiana board of licensure for professional geologists. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-2; filed Mar 8, 1999, 5:18 p.m.: 22 IR 2215; errata filed Jul 21, 1999, 11:30 a.m.: 22 IR 3937; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1618; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

Sec. 3.5. "Geologist" means a person who is qualified by the person's knowledge of the principles of geology acquired by:

(1) professional education; and
(2) practical experience. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-3.5; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1618; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

Sec. 3.7. "Geology" means a science that has the following characteristics:

Sec. 1. (a) The board administers this article with the assistance of the state geologist and the Indiana geological survey.

(b) The board shall consist of the following:

(1) The state geologist.
(2) Three (3) members who are licensed professional geologists.
(3) One (1) member who represents the public at large.
(c) Applications, correspondence, inquiries, and other matters under IC 25-17.6 and this article shall be forwarded to the following address:

State Geologist
Indiana Geological Survey
Indiana University
611 North Walnut Grove

Sec. 2. (a) The board shall notify a person who is denied a new license, denied a renewal license, has a license suspended, or has a license revoked of the following:

(1) The reason for the action.
(2) How the person may take administrative review and that any administrative review must be initiated within thirty (30) days of the action.
(b) Any administrative review of a decision by the board under this article shall be taken to an administrative law judge appointed by the natural resources commission under IC 14-10-2-2 and shall be addressed as follows:

Director, Division of Hearings
Natural Resources Commission
Indiana Government Center North
100 North Senate Avenue, Room N501
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2200

(c) In addition to IC 25-17.6 and this article, administrative review is governed by IC 4-21.5 and 312 IAC 3-1. The parties to a proceeding are the board and the individual aggrieved by a decision of the board directed to that individual.

(d) An administrative law judge is the ultimate authority for the board under IC 4-21.5-1-15. A party who is dissatisfied with a final order rendered by an administrative law judge may take judicial review under IC 4-21.5-5.

(Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-1-2; filed May 8, 1999, 5:18 p.m.: 22 IR 2214; errata filed Jul 21, 1999, 11:30 a.m.: 22 IR

(1) Treats the earth as a whole.

(2) Includes the:

(A) investigation;

(B) analysis;

(C) classification; and

(D) location;

of the rocks and other materials that compose the earth's crust as they relate to geologic processes.

(3) Involves the study of:

(A) minerals, gases, and liquids composing and contained within the earth's crust; and

(B) geologic materials and processes.


305 IAC 1-2-4 "Geosciences profession" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12

Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 4. "Geosciences profession" is a short form, sometimes used in the plural, denoting the collective disciplines of the geological sciences and is generally synonymous with the term "geology". (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-4; filed Mar 8, 1999, 5:18 p.m.: 22 IR 2215; errata filed Jul 21, 1999, 11:30 a.m.: 22 IR 3937; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-2-4.7 "License" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12

Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 4.7. "License" means a document issued by the board to permit a person to engage in an activity regulated by IC 25-17.6.

(Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-4.7; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1619; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-2-5 "Licensed professional geologist" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12

Affected: IC 25-17.6-1-6.5

Sec. 5. "Licensed professional geologist" refers to a licensed professional geologist as defined by IC 25-17.6-1-4 [IC 25-17.6-1-4 was repealed by P.L.17-1999, SECTION 35, effective July 1, 1999. See IC 25-17.6-1-6.5.]. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-5; filed Mar 8, 1999, 5:18 p.m.: 22 IR 2215; errata filed Jul 21, 1999, 11:30 a.m.: 22 IR3937; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-2-6 "Professional geological work" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12

Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 6. "Professional geological work" refers to professional geological work as defined by IC 25-17.6-1-4 [IC 25-17.6-1-4 was repealed by P.L.17-1999, SECTION 35, effective July 1, 1999. See IC 25-17.6-1-6.5.].
Sec. 6. (a) "Professional geological work" means the application of principles, theories, and laws of geology along with the body of knowledge encompassed by the science at an advanced and skillful level requiring experience in the geological profession and the capability of interpretation of geological data.

(b) Examples of activities that may qualify as professional geological work are consultation, research, evaluation, or planning of geological systems, works, or projects including, but not limited to, one (1) or more of the following:

(1) Land reclamation.
(2) Construction.
(3) Location, prediction of the location, evaluation, or development or production of petroleum, natural gas, coal, metallic and nonmetallic minerals, ground water, and other geological resources.
(4) Assessment of geologic hazards, such as landslides, earthquakes, and land subsidence.
(5) Environmental geology.
(6) Hydrogeology.

c) Examples of activities that may not qualify as professional geological work are as follows:

(1) Activities before an applicant completes the minimum education requirements under 305 IAC 1-3-2(c).
(2) Participation as a laboratory assistant, field assistant, or technician.
(3) Participation as an associate instructor or research assistant while enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate studies program.
(4) Participation as an engineer, driller, well logger, soil scientist, archeologist, or profession other than geology.

305 IAC 1-2-6.3 "Public practice of geology" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 6.3. (a) "Public practice of geology" means the performance of service to the public in connection with the geological description, location, or evaluation of:

(1) geologic materials, liquids, and gases; and
(2) the natural processes acting upon them.

(b) The term includes geological:

(1) consulting;
(2) investigating;
(3) evaluation;
(4) designing; and
(5) planning.

305 IAC 1-2-7 "Qualified geologist" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 7. "Qualified geologist" means a person who possesses the qualifications to be a licensed professional geologist under IC 25-17.6 and this article but who is not certified in Indiana.

305 IAC 1-2-8 "Responsible position" defined

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 8. "Responsible position" means a position which, in order to perform geological work or supervise geological work, requires both of the following:

(1) The exercise of control over a task or tasks independent of immediate supervision.
(2) The use of initiative, skill, and independent judgment.
305 IAC 1-2-9 "State geologist" defined
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 9. "State geologist" means the person in charge of the Indiana geological survey established by IC 20-12-28 [IC 20-12 was repealed by P.L.2-2007, SECTION 390, effective July 1, 2007.]. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-9; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1619; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-2-10 "Survey" defined
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 10. "Survey" refers to the Indiana geological survey established by IC 20-12-28 [IC 20-12 was repealed by P.L.2-2007, SECTION 390, effective July 1, 2007.]. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-2-10; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1619; readopted filed Sep 13, 2005, 9:45 a.m.: 29 IR 690; readopted filed Oct 31, 2011, 10:45 a.m.: 20111130-IR-305110425RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

Rule 3. Issuance, Renewal, and Denial of Geologist Licensure
305 IAC 1-3-1 Application for geologist licensure
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 1. (a) A person seeking a new license must file with the survey an application completed under this section on a form approved by the board.
(b) Information that an applicant must provide in the application includes the following:
(1) Educational background at the undergraduate level and, if applicable, the graduate level. This background includes an official transcript of college credits.
(2) Professional geological work. A person who has taught geological science at the college level must provide information about the level course or courses and the number of hours taught during each semester.
(3) Affiliations with any scientific and technical society, including the grade of membership and whether the applicant is certified or registered by the society.
(4) References from three (3) persons in a geosciences profession attesting the applicant adheres to high professional and ethical standards.
(5) Any other information reasonably required to evaluate the applicant's character, knowledge of geology, and experience in application of the knowledge of geology.
(c) The application form shall be accompanied by a fee in the amount of seventy dollars ($70) by check or money order made payable to the "Indiana Geological Survey". The application fee is nonrefundable.
(d) The application shall be filed with the survey at least thirty (30) days before the date on which the applicant seeks to have the application reviewed. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-3-1; filed Mar 8, 1999, 5:18 p.m.:22 IR 2216; errata filed Jul 21, 1999, 11:30 a.m.: 22 IR 3937; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1619; readopted filed Dec 1, 2006, 3:11 p.m.: 20061213-IR-30506017IRFA; readopted filed Jun 26, 2012, 11:03 a.m.: 20120725-IR-305120209RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-3-2 Qualifications for licensure
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 2. (a) Qualification as a licensed professional geologist is based on a person's knowledge of the principles and techniques of geology and on the level of experience in the application of those principles and techniques. This section establishes standards that must be satisfied by an applicant for a new license.
(b) The board shall approve general principles for a written examination to determine whether an applicant possesses a comprehensive knowledge of geological science. The examination shall be provided by the survey at least twice in each calendar year. A reasonable examination fee shall be set and revised from time to time by the board. An applicant who files a completed application for a new license must also successfully complete the written examination.
(c) An applicant for a new license must also establish that the applicant meets each of the following requirements before approval as a licensed professional geologist:
(1) Has not engaged in unethical conduct.
(2) Meets the following educational requirements: Successful completion of at least thirty (30) semester hours or forty-five (45) quarter hours of course work in geology, culminating in a baccalaureate or advanced degree in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, geological engineering, or geotechnical engineering from an accredited college or university. At the discretion of the board, courses dealing with applied geological science that are given under the auspices of an academic department other than geology may be considered toward the fulfillment of this requirement.
(3) Experience in professional geological work consisting of some combination of the following:
   (A) Five (5) years of teaching geology as a faculty member at the college or university level.
   (B) Five (5) years of postdoctoral research in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, geological engineering, or geotechnical engineering at an accredited college or university.
   (C) Five (5) years of geological work performed under the supervision of, or in collaboration with, a licensed professional geologist.
   (D) Seven (7) years of professional geological work.
(4) The following criteria of education and experience qualify toward accumulation of the required number of years of professional geological work under subdivision (3):
   (A) One (1) year of credit each for a master's degree or doctoral degree in geology, geophysics, geochemistry, geological engineering, or geotechnical engineering.
   (B) Each year of teaching in the geological sciences at the college level equals one (1) year of professional geological work, where the total teaching experience includes six (6) semester hours per semester for at least two (2) semesters (or the equivalent if other than a semester system) of third-year or fourth-year undergraduate level courses or graduate level courses.
   (d) If an application does not contain sufficient information to determine whether the applicant satisfies the requirements for a certificate, the board may do either of the following:
      (1) Deny the application.
      (2) Require the applicant to do one (1) or both of the following:
         (A) Provide additional information as needed to evaluate the application.
         (B) Appear before the board for an interview to determine professional qualifications.
   (e) A person is exempted from this section if the person satisfies both of the following requirements:
      (1) Was certified under either:
         (A) IC 25-17.5 before its repeal; or
         (B) IC 25-17.6 before January 1, 1999.
      (2) Remains in good standing as a professional geologist.


305 IAC 1-3-3 Issuance of a new license

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12

Sec. 3. (a) Upon satisfaction of sections 1 and 2 of this rule, the board shall issue a new license to an applicant.
(b) Each individual shall be assigned a license number. A license number cannot be transferred or reassigned to a person other than the one to whom it was originally issued.
(c) The survey shall issue the following to each licensed professional geologist:
   (1) A printed license with a seal to evidence the approval. The printed license shall include the following:
      (A) The full name of the licensed professional geologist.
      (B) The date of licensure.
      (C) The license number.
      (D) The signature of the state geologist.
      (E) The official seal of the state.
      (F) A card that includes the essential information from the license.
   (d) Upon the request of a licensed professional geologist, the board may issue a replacement license. The replacement license shall be assigned the original license number with the word "Re-Issue" inserted above the number. The fee for a replacement license is thirty dollars ($30).
A printed license or printed replacement license is prima facie evidence the person named on the license is entitled to the rights and privileges of a licensed professional geologist. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-3-3; filed Mar 8, 1999, 5:18 p.m.: 22 IR 2217; errata filed Jul 21, 1999, 11:30 a.m.: 22 IR 3937; filed Mar 6, 2000, 7:58 a.m.: 23 IR 1620; readopted filed Dec 1, 2006, 3:11 p.m.: 20061213-IR-305060171RFA; readopted filed Jun 26, 2012, 11:03 a.m.: 20120725-IR-305120209RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-3-4 Issuance of a renewal certificate
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 4-21.5-3-4; IC 25-17.6
Sec. 4. (a) A license expires three (3) years after the date of issuance. A request for renewal must be accompanied by a fee of sixty dollars ($60) in the form of a check or money order payable to the "Indiana Geological Survey". The renewal will be issued unless the board determines the applicant no longer qualifies as a licensed professional geologist under IC 25-17.6 and this article.
IC 4-21.5-3-4(d) applies to this subsection.
(b) The survey shall mail a renewal notice to each licensed professional geologist at least sixty (60) days before the expiration of the license. The notice shall be directed to the most recent mailing address provided to the survey by the licensed professional geologist.
(c) If the renewal fee is not paid when due, the license is invalidated. The name of the holder shall be deleted from future rosters of the licensed professional geologists unless:
(1) a late renewal fee of seventy-five dollars ($75) is paid by the applicant before the expiration of two (2) years from the date of its invalidation; or
(2) the certificate is reinstate by the board.
(d) If the renewal fee is not paid within two (2) consecutive years of the invalidation of a certificate, a person may seek reinstatement as a licensed professional geologist only upon successful completion of section 2 of this rule.

305 IAC 1-3-5 Suspension and revocation of a license
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 4-21.5-3-8; IC 25-17.6
Sec. 5. (a) The board may issue a complaint under IC 4-21.5-3-8 to suspend or revoke a license, or may refuse to renew a license, when a licensed professional geologist is found responsible for any violation of IC 25-17.6-8-1.
(b) Any violation of IC 25-17.6 or this article is a violation of the code of ethics of the board as prescribed by IC 25-17.6-8-1(4).

305 IAC 1-3-6 Informal hearings before the board
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 4-21.5; IC 25-17.6
Sec. 6. (a) The board may conduct informal hearings to consider the issuance of a new license, the renewal of a license, the denial or suspension of a license, or any other matter pertaining to the validity of an individual license.
(b) An informal hearing under this section is not subject to IC 4-21.5 and is not governed by formal rules of evidence. The board is not required to record a hearing held under this section.

305 IAC 1-4-1 Seal and responsibilities of licensed professional geologists for documents
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 1. (a) A licensed professional geologist may purchase a seal from a private vendor that bears the geologist's name, license number, and the legend "Licensed professional geologist". A seal cannot be less than one and five
eighths (1 5/8) inches or more than one and seven-eighths (1 7/8) inches in outside diameter and shall conform with the following design:

![Seal Design](image)

(b) The seal may be embossed or applied by a rubber stamp. The seal may have a milled edge, as illustrated in subsection (a), or two (2) concentric circles with the outer and inner circles corresponding with the respective edges of the milling.

(c) The seal pictured replaces all previous seal designs.

(d) The seal shall be affixed to a document or license only if:

1. the license is current and has not been suspended or revoked; and
2. the document or instrument is created by the licensed professional geologist or by persons who are regularly employed or directly supervised subordinates of the licensed professional geologist.

(e) A licensed professional geologist shall cause to be legible the placement of a seal on a document or instrument.

(f) A licensed professional geologist is responsible for the professional work on any plans, specifications, plats, reports, or other documents to which the seal or signature of the licensed professional geologist is affixed. A licensed professional geologist who affixes a seal or signature to a document without understanding the contents of the document violates the code of ethics.

305 IAC 1-4-2 Publication of roster; responsibility of a licensed professional geologist to maintain a current address with the Indiana geological survey

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-12

Sec. 2. (a) The survey shall, every calendar year, publish a roster showing the names and addresses of the licensed professional geologists.

(b) Each licensed professional geologist is responsible for maintaining with the survey a current mailing address. A notification made by the board under IC 25-17.6-3-12 and this article is complete if delivered to the address provided by the licensed professional geologist under this subsection.

Rule 5. Code of Ethics

305 IAC 1-5-1 Professional conduct

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12

Sec. 1. A licensed professional geologist must be guided by the highest standards of honesty, integrity, impartiality, and conduct.

305 IAC 1-5-2 Public interest

Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12

Sec. 2. (a) A licensed professional geologist must uphold the public health and safety in the performance of professional services.
(b) A licensed professional geologist is encouraged to promote public awareness of the effects of geology and
geological processes on the quality of life. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-5-2;
filed Sep 1, 2004, 2:45 p.m.: 28 IR 13; readopted filed Nov 30, 2010, 8:33 a.m.: 20101229-IR-305100664RFA;

305 IAC 1-5-3 Legal compliance
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 3. (a) A licensed professional geologist must observe and comply with the requirements of all applicable
common law, federal and state constitutional provisions, federal and state statutes, regulations, rules, and local
ordinances.
(b) A licensed professional geologist must not knowingly participate in any illegal activities or knowingly permit the
publication of his or her reports, maps, or other documents for illegal purposes.
(c) A licensed professional geologist must not accept payment, gift, or other valuable consideration that would
appear to influence a decision made on behalf of the public by the licensed professional geologist acting in a
position of public trust.
(d) If a licensed professional geologist has knowledge of a decision or action by an employer, client, or colleague
that violates any law or regulation or poses an imminent threat to the public health and safety, the licensed
professional geologist must advise against such action. If the employer, client, or colleague fails to make a
reasonable effort to notify the appropriate public officials, then the licensed professional geologist should do so.
(e) A licensed professional geologist must not aid any person in the unauthorized practice of geology. (Indiana
Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-5-3; filed Sep 1, 2004, 2:45 p.m.: 28 IR 13; readopted
filed Nov 30, 2010, 8:33 a.m.: 20101229-IR-305100664RFA; readopted filed Nov 18, 2016, 12:48 p.m.: 20161214-
IR-305160271RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-5-4 Integrity
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 4. (a) A licensed professional geologist must be accurate and truthful in all communications.
(b) A licensed professional geologist must not:
(1) knowingly engage in false or deceptive advertising; or
(2) make false, misleading, or deceptive representations or claims in regard to the profession of geology or that
concern his or her own professional qualifications or abilities or those of other geologists.
(c) A licensed professional geologist must avoid making sensational, exaggerated, or unwarranted statements that
may mislead or deceive members of the public or any public body.
(d) A licensed professional geologist, acting in the position of public trust, must exercise authority impartially and
must not seek to use the authority for personal profit or to secure any competitive advantage.
(e) A licensed professional geologist, when serving as an expert witness or as accepted to be an expert in legal or
administrative proceedings, shall express an opinion only when having an adequate knowledge of the facts of the
issue and a background of technical competence on the subject. Statements and opinions must be based on an honest
conviction of the accuracy and propriety of the testimony. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists;
305 IAC 1-5-4; filed Sep 1, 2004, 2:45 p.m.: 28 IR 14; readopted filed Nov 30, 2010, 8:33 a.m.: 20101229-IR-
305100664RFA; readopted filed Nov 18, 2016, 12:48 p.m.: 20161214-IR-305160271RFA; readopted filed Oct 31,
2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-5-5 Conflicts of interest
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6

Sec. 5. (a) A licensed professional geologist must disclose any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may affect
their ability to serve an employer or client.
(b) A licensed professional geologist must disclose to a prospective employer or client the existence of any owned or
controlled mineral or other interest that may, either directly or indirectly, have a pertinent bearing on such
employment.
(c) A licensed professional geologist having or expecting to have beneficial interest in a property on which the
licensed professional geologist is reporting should disclose the existence of the interest or expected interest. (Indiana
Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-5-5; filed Sep 1, 2004, 2:45 p.m.: 28 IR 14; readopted
filed Nov 30, 2010, 8:33 a.m.: 20101229-IR-305100664RFA; readopted filed Nov 18, 2016, 12:48 p.m.: 20161214-
IR-305160271RFA; readopted filed Oct 31,
305 IAC 1-5-6 Obligations to employers and clients
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 6. (a) A licensed professional geologist must protect, to the fullest possible extent, the interest of an employer or client so far as is consistent with the public health and safety and the licensed professional geologist's legal, professional, and ethical obligations.
(b) A licensed professional geologist who has made an investigation for an employer or client must not seek to profit economically from the information gained or resources used without a good faith effort to notify the employer or client of his or her intentions. Mineral prospects and other original geologic concepts and information, developed by the licensed professional geologist and brought to the employer or client, shall be freely usable by the licensed professional geologist at any time, absent a contractual agreement to the contrary.
(c) A licensed professional geologist who finds that obligations to an employer or client cause serious conflict with professional and ethical standards must recommend that the objectionable conditions be corrected.

305 IAC 1-5-7 Professional and ethical obligations
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 7. (a) A licensed professional geologist must serve employers and clients competently within the geologist's overall professional and ethical obligations.
(b) A licensed professional geologist shall perform professional services or issue professional advice that is within the scope of the education and experience of the licensed professional geologist or the licensed professional geologist's professional associates, consultants, or employees and must advise the employer or client if any professional advice is outside of the licensed professional geologist's personal expertise.
(c) A licensed professional geologist must not give a professional opinion or submit a report without being informed as might be reasonably expected, considering the purpose for which the opinion or report is requested.
(d) A licensed professional geologist should report all assumptions on which the results of a report or opinion are based.
(e) A licensed professional geologist should substantiate any statements in opinions and reports.
(f) A licensed professional geologist should not knowingly or purposefully misrepresent or omit relevant data, or fail to mention a lack of data that might affect the results or conclusions of an opinion or report.
(g) A licensed professional geologist should engage, or advise an employer or client to engage, and cooperate with other experts and specialists whenever the employer's or client's interests would be best served.

305 IAC 1-5-8 Professional courtesy
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 8. (a) A licensed professional geologist must respect the rights, interests, and contributions of their professional colleagues and must be accurate and truthful in all communications with others regarding professional colleagues.
(b) A licensed professional geologist must:
   (1) give due credit for work done by others in the course of a professional assignment; and
   (2) must not knowingly accept credit due another.
(c) Statements regarding opinions must be restricted to and based on logical and scientific principles and must be made in a respectful and professional manner.

305 IAC 1-5-9 Continuing education
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 9. A licensed professional geologist should strive to improve professional knowledge and skills and work toward the advancement of geological education, research, training, and practice.
305 IAC 1-5-10 Equal opportunity
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 10. A licensed professional geologist must not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, creed, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, or national origin when engaged in services to the public or as required by law. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-5-10; filed Sep 1, 2004, 2:45 p.m.: 28 IR 15; readopted filed Nov 30, 2010, 8:33 a.m.: 20101229-IR-305100664RFA; readopted filed Nov 18, 2016, 12:48 p.m.: 20161214-IR-305160271RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

305 IAC 1-5-11 Obligation to report violations
Authority: IC 25-17.6-3-3; IC 25-17.6-3-12
Affected: IC 25-17.6
Sec. 11. It is the individual responsibility of each professional geologist to abide by the code of ethics presented in this rule. Any complaints brought to the attention of the board regarding a violation of this rule by a licensed professional geologist must be substantiated with evidence of the violation. The board is responsible for evaluating and acting on disciplinary actions regarding the code of ethics. (Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists; 305 IAC 1-5-11; filed Sep 1, 2004, 2:45 p.m.: 28 IR 15; readopted filed Nov 30, 2010, 8:33 a.m.: 20101229-IR-305100664RFA; readopted filed Nov 18, 2016, 12:48 p.m.: 20161214-IR-305160271RFA; readopted filed Oct 31, 2017, 3:31 p.m.: 20171129-IR-305170347RFA)

The Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists evaluates applicants on the basis of criteria established in IC 25-17.6 and Title 305 IAC.

A Non-Rule Policy is a policy that is not part of the IAC, but one which has been accepted by the Indiana Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists and which lends consistency to its actions. Currently, only one such Non-Rule Policy exists: Non-Rule Policy.

Appeals to Board decisions may be made any time within 30 days from the postmark on the letter of denial. At the bottom of each letter of denial, a passage similar to the following will be found:

The decision by the Board of Licensure for Professional Geologists is its final agency action. If you wish to take administrative review (commonly called an "appeal") of the decision, within 30 days of this letter you must request review in writing at the following address:

Director, Division of Hearings
Natural Resources Commission
Indiana Government Center South
402 West Washington Street, Room W272
Indianapolis, IN 46204