

SENATE BILL 219: Surveyor Licensure/Education Reqs.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:Senate Rules and Operations of the SenateDate:May 4, 2021Introduced by:Sen. McInnisPrepared by:Bill PattersonAnalysis of:Second EditionStaff Attorney

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 219 would modify practical experience requirements applicable to persons seeking licensure as a professional land surveyor or certification as a land surveyor intern, and would make other technical changes to Chapter 89C of the General Statutes.

CURRENT LAW AND BILL ANALYSIS:

In addition to other requirements for certification or licensure by the Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors (Board), an applicant must have the following number of years of progressive practical experience depending on the applicant's educational attainment:

- To be certified as a land surveyor intern, an applicant with:
 - An associate degree in surveying technology must have four years of experience, two years of which must have been under a practicing professional land surveyor.
 - A high school diploma or equivalency certificate must have 10 years of experience, six years of which must have been under a practicing professional land surveyor.
- To be licensed as a professional land surveyor, an applicant with:
 - A B.S. degree in surveying or equivalent curricula who passed the first examination (Fundamentals of Surveying) on or before January 1, 2013 must have two years of experience, one year of which must be under a professional land surveyor; otherwise both years of experience must be under a professional land surveyor.
 - An associate degree in surveying technology who passed the first examination on or before January 1, 2013 must have four years of experience, two years of which must be under a professional land surveyor; otherwise, the applicant must have eight years of experience, four of which must be under a professional land surveyor.
 - A high school diploma or equivalency certificate who passed the first examination on or before January 1, 2013 must have seven years of experience, six of which must be under a professional land surveyor; otherwise, the applicant must have 16 years of experience, nine years of which must have been under a professional land surveyor.

Section 1.(a) of Senate Bill 219 would change the current experience requirements as follows:

- To be certified as a land surveyor intern, an applicant with:
 - o A B.S. degree in surveying or equivalent curricula would be required to have two years of experience under a professional land surveyor.
 - A high school diploma or equivalency certificate would be required to have seven years of experience under a professional land surveyor.

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- To be licensed as a professional land surveyor, an applicant who:
 - Has an associate degree in surveying technology would be required to have five years of experience under a professional land surveyor.
 - Has a high school diploma or equivalency certificate would be required to have nine years of experience under a professional land surveyor.
 - Has successfully passed the Fundamentals of Surveying examination, the Principles and Practices of Land Surveying examination, and any additional oral and written examinations required by the Board, would not be required to have had any minimum number of years of experience.

Sections 1.(b) of the bill would provide that the investigation of a licensee is confidential until the Board issues a citation to the licensee or takes any action authorized under Chapter 89C against a nonlicensee.

Section 1.(c) would remove the word "warrant" used in referring to a certification by the Board that expenses were properly and necessarily incurred in the discharge of its duties.

Section 1.(d) would authorize the Board to use email to send notices to licensees relating to expirations and renewals of licenses.

Section 1.(e) would provide that charges brought by any person against a licensee for fraud, deceit, gross negligence, incompetence, misconduct, or violations of requirements under Chapter 89C, rules of professional conduct, or rules adopted by the board may be submitted electronically for filing with the Board, and would not require such charges to be sworn to by the person or persons making them.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The act would become effective October 1, 2021, and apply to applications for licensure on or after that date.