

HISTORY OF GEOLOGIST LICENSURE

Thirty-one (31) states & one (1) territory require geologist licensure

See list below and attached map.

	<u>State/Territory</u>	<u>Licensure Established</u>
1)	ARIZONA	1956
2)	CALIFORNIA	1968
3)	IDAHO	1971
4)	DELAWARE	1972
5)	MAINE	1973
6)	GEORGIA	1975
7)	OREGON	1977 Celebrated 40 years in 2017!
8)	VIRGINIA	1981
9)	NORTH CAROLINA	1984
10)	SOUTH CAROLINA	1986
11)	ARKANSAS	1988
12)	FLORIDA	1988
13)	KENTUCKY	1992
14)	PENNSYLVANIA	1993
15)	MISSOURI	1994
16)	WISCONSIN	1994
17)	ALABAMA	1995
18)	MINNESOTA	1995
19)	ILLINOIS	1996
20)	PUERTO RICO	1996
21)	KANSAS	1997
22)	MISSISSIPPI	1997
23)	WYOMING	1997
24)	INDIANA	1998
25)	NEBRASKA	1999
26)	NEW HAMPSHIRE	2000
27)	WASHINGTON	2001
28)	TEXAS	2001
29)	UTAH	2002
30)	TENNESSEE	2008
31)	LOUISIANA	2011
32)	NEW YORK	2016

The states and territory of Puerto Rico work together through the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) to provide for a defensible, national licensure examination. ASBOG was formed as a non-profit organization in the mid-1980s, and Oregon started to participate with ASBOG in 1989. Oregon was one of the first ten (10) states to support ASBOG as a means to improve the licensure examination. Oregon has relied on the ASBOG examination as the standard for licensure since 1996. Prior to this, OSBGE relied on an Oregon only examination. With the ASBOG examination, individuals can use the exam results in every U.S. jurisdiction that requires licensure.

Oregon Geologist Licensure

OSBGE was established by action of the 1977 Oregon Legislature. The statutory mission of OSBGE is to regulate the practice of geology to “safeguard the health and welfare and property of the people of Oregon. These safeguards are in the fields of geology as related to engineering, groundwater, land use planning, mineral exploration and development, geologic hazards, the further development of the science of geology, and other geologic matters of concern to the people of the state.” (ORS 672.515)

Oregon Revised Statutes for OSBGE: ORS 672.505 to 672.991

Oregon Administrative Rules for OSBGE: OAR Chapter 809

OSBGE is a six (6) member board:

- Four (4) geologists and one (1) public member appointed by the Governor*
- The “State Geologist” (i.e., Director of the Oregon Dept. of Geology & Mineral Industries) serve as an ex-officio member.

*for 3-year terms but limited to 2 consecutive terms (i.e., 6 years)

Oregon is one (1) of three (3) states with a Certified Engineering Geology (CEG) specialty. Washington and California are the other states. The licensure boards for the three states have a history of collaboration with respect to this specialty registration. The need for the specialty registration in these states is based on the particular geologic conditions and hazards of the region.

OSBGE is staffed with a Board Administrator (Executive Director) and a Registration Specialist.

As of 12/31/2018, OSBGE has active licenses as follows:

- 84 Geologists-in-Training (GIT)
- 1076 Registered Geologists (RG)
- 226 Certified Engineering Geologists (CEG)

Oregon Geologist Snapshot

Board Offices

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Board Members

Hans Feige, RG, Chair
(*Feige & Associates*)

Cindy Bartlett, RG, Vice
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Kenneth Thiessen, RG,
CEG, Chair (*DEQ*)

Scott Burns, PhD, RG,
CEG
(*Professor Emeritus,
Portland State Univ.*)

Brad Avy, RG, State
Geologist (*DOGAMI*)

Stephen Tucker,
Public Member
(*Cascade Radon*)



Registrant Snapshot

- 84 Geologist-in-Training (GIT)
- 1076 Registered Geologist (RG)
- 226 RGs are also Certified Engineering Geologists (CEGs)

47% of RGs & 50% of CEGS reside in Oregon
76% of GITs reside in Oregon

Data as of 12/31/2018



Registration Standards

EXAMINATION: (offered twice/year, spring & fall)

National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG) exam

- ◆ Fundamentals of Geology (FG) Section—must pass for **GIT, RG**
- ◆ Practice of Geology (PG) Section—must pass for **RG**

An RG must pass the OR-WA or CA Engineering Geology exam for the **CEG**.

EDUCATION FOR EXAM/REGISTRATION:

45 quarter hrs. (30 semester hrs.) of geology coursework from accredited college or university, with 80% upper division coursework as determined by OSBGE. **You can sit for the FG Section if you meet the education standard.**

EXPERIENCE FOR EXAM/REGISTRATION:

A minimum of 7 years of geology experience is required:

- ◆ 4 years maximum for education (2 years granted for 45 quarter hrs.)
and
- ◆ Minimum 3 years (full time) under supervision of qualified geologist
or
- ◆ Minimum 5 years (full time) in responsible charge (e.g., work for federal government, work in another state, etc.)

An individual can sit for the ASBOG PG Section if the education & experience standards are met. Registration requires meeting the education, experience minimums & passage of the ASBOG FG & PG Sections!

EXPERIENCE FOR CEG: (A) 3 years under supervision of qualified engineering geologist, (B) 5 years in responsible charge of engineering geological projects, or (C) 5 years experience from a combination of (A) and (B).

(See OAR 809-030-0015 for alternative path for geology faculty.)



**Oregon State Board of
Geologist Examiners**

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OSBGE's Mission

Help assure the health, safety, and welfare of Oregonians with regard to the public practice of geology through:

- Licensing of those engaged in the public practice of geology;
- Response to complaints from the public and members of the profession;
- Public education directed at appropriate regulatory communities;
- Cooperation with closely related boards and commissions;
- Attention to ethics; and
- Systematic outreach to counties, cities, and registrants.



Highlights from the OSBGE Timeline

- 1977 Authorizing statutes passed & signed by Governor Straub
- 1978 OSBGE's first year of meetings, registration grandfathering throughout the year
- 1979 All registrations from here on based on meeting exam, education, and experience standards
- 1984 Modern form of Code of Professional Conduct adopted in OSBGE rule
- 1995 RGs added as eligible for Certified Water Rights Examiner registration via OSBEELS
- 1996 Exam standard switched from OR exam to national ASBOG exam
- 1999 Designated semi-independent agency (following pilot started in 1997)
- 2001 Memorandum of Understanding—OSBGE and OSBEELS
- 2012 OSBGE accepting CA engineering geology exam for CEG cooperative registration
- 2014 Updated report guidelines and new professional practices guidance released
- 2015 CA accepting OR-WA engineering geology exam for CEG cooperative registration
- 2015 New Memorandum of Understanding—OSBGE and OSBEELS
- 2017 40th Anniversary of OSBGE establishment by action of the Oregon Legislature
- 2018 40th Anniversary of Geologist Registration in Oregon, first registrations issued in 1978