

Professional License Degree Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Gricius

Senate Sponsor: Chris H. Wilson

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies licensure requirements.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- requires the board to maintain multiple pathways to licensure for architects;
- amends certain processes and procedures related to licensing requirements for:
 - architects;
 - environmental health scientists;
 - land surveyors;
 - substance use disorder counselors; and
 - geologists; and
- makes technical and conforming changes.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

58-3a-201, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 507

58-3a-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 415

58-20b-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 339

58-22-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapters 339, 365

58-60-506, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2024, Chapter 420

58-76-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 339

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **58-3a-201** is amended to read:

58-3a-201 . Board.

- (1) There is created the Architects and Landscape Architects Licensing Board consisting of:
 - (a) four architects;
 - (b) two landscape architects; and
 - (c) one member of the general public.
- (2) The board shall be appointed and serve in accordance with Section 58-1-201.
- (3) The duties and responsibilities of the board shall be in accordance with Sections 58-1-202 and 58-1-203 with respect to this chapter and Chapter 53, Landscape Architects Licensing Act.
- (4) The board shall designate one of [its] the board's members on a permanent or rotating basis to:
 - (a) assist the division in reviewing complaints concerning the conduct of an individual licensed under this chapter or Chapter 53, Landscape Architects Licensing Act; ~~[and]~~
 - (b) advise the division in [its] the division's investigation of these complaints[-] ; and
 - (c) assist the division to maintain multiple methods to obtain licensure by rule.
- (5) A board member who has, under Subsection (4), reviewed a complaint or advised in its investigation may be disqualified from participating with the board when the board serves as a presiding officer in an adjudicative proceeding concerning the complaint.
- (6) The board shall maintain at least two pathways for licensure.

Section 2. Section **58-3a-302** is amended to read:

58-3a-302 . Qualifications for licensure.

- (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), each applicant for licensure as an architect shall:
 - (a) submit an application in a form ~~[prescribed]~~ approved by the division;
 - (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
 - (c) ~~[have graduated and received an earned bachelors or masters]~~ hold, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree from an architecture program meeting criteria established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board;
 - (d) have successfully completed a program of diversified practical experience established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board;
 - (e) have successfully passed examinations established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board; and
 - (f) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of

63 evaluating the applicant's qualifications for license.

64 (2) Each applicant for licensure as an architect by endorsement shall:

65 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;

66 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

67 (c) submit satisfactory evidence of:

68 (i)(A) current licensure in good standing in a jurisdiction recognized by rule by
69 the division in collaboration with the board; and

70 (B) current certification from the National Council of Architectural Registration
71 Boards; or

72 (ii)(A) current license in good standing in a jurisdiction recognized by rule by the
73 division in collaboration with the board; and

74 (B) full-time employment as a licensed architect as a principal for at least five of
75 the last seven years immediately preceding the date of the application;

76 (d) have successfully passed an examination established by rule by the division in
77 collaboration with the board; and

78 (e) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of
79 evaluating the applicant's qualifications for license.

80 Section 3. Section **58-20b-302** is amended to read:

81 **58-20b-302 . Qualifications for licensure.**

82 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), an applicant for licensure as an environmental
83 health scientist shall:

84 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;

85 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

86 (c) hold, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree [~~from an accredited program in a university~~
87 ~~or college, which degree includes completion of specific course work as defined by~~
88 ~~rule~~];

89 (d) pass an examination as determined by division rule in collaboration with the board;
90 and

91 (e) pass the Utah Law and Rules Examination for Environmental Health Scientists
92 administered by the division.

93 (2) An applicant for licensure as an environmental health scientist-in-training shall:

94 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;

95 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

96 (c) hold, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree [~~from an accredited program in a university~~]

or college, which degree includes completion of specific course work as defined by rule];

(d) pass the Utah Law and Rules Examination for Environmental Health Scientists administered by the division; and

(e) present evidence acceptable to the division and the board that the applicant, when licensed under this Subsection (2), will practice as an environmental health scientist-in-training only under the general supervision of a supervising environmental health scientist licensed under this chapter.

Section 4. Section **58-22-302** is amended to read:

58-22-302 . Qualifications for licensure.

(1) Each applicant for licensure as a professional engineer shall:

(a) submit an application in a form prescribed by the division;

(b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

(c)(i) have graduated and received a bachelors or masters degree from an engineering program meeting criteria established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board; or

(ii) have completed the Transportation Engineering Technology and Fundamental Engineering College Program before July 1, 1998, under the direction of the Utah Department of Transportation and as certified by the Utah Department of Transportation;

(d) have successfully completed a program of qualifying experience established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board;

(e) have successfully passed examinations established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board; and

(f) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of evaluating the applicant's qualification for licensure.

(2) Each applicant for licensure as a professional structural engineer shall:

(a) submit an application in a form prescribed by the division;

(b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

(c) have graduated and received an earned bachelors or masters degree from an engineering program meeting criteria established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board;

(d) have successfully completed three years of licensed professional engineering experience established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board, except

that prior to January 1, 2009, an applicant for licensure may submit a signed affidavit in a form prescribed by the division stating that the applicant is currently engaged in the practice of structural engineering;

- (e) have successfully passed examinations established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board, except that prior to January 1, 2009, an applicant for licensure may submit a signed affidavit in a form prescribed by the division stating that the applicant is currently engaged in the practice of structural engineering; and
- (f) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of evaluating the applicant's qualification for licensure.

(3) Each applicant for licensure as a professional land surveyor shall:

- (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- (c)(i) [~~have graduated and received~~] hold, at a minimum, an associates [~~, bachelors, or masters~~] degree from a land surveying program, or an equivalent land surveying program, such as a program offered by a technical college described in Section 53B-2a-105, [~~as approved by the Utah Board of Higher Education,~~] established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board, and have successfully completed a program of qualifying experience in land surveying established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board; or
- (ii) have successfully completed a program of qualifying experience in land surveying prior to January 1, 2007, in accordance with rules established by the division in collaboration with the board;
- (d) have successfully passed examinations established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board; and
- (e) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of evaluating the applicant's qualification for licensure.

(4) Each applicant for licensure by endorsement shall:

- (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- (c) submit satisfactory evidence of:
 - (i) current licensure in good standing in a jurisdiction recognized by rule by the division in collaboration with the board;
 - (ii) having successfully passed an examination established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board; and

- 165 (iii) full-time employment as a principal for at least five of the last seven years
166 immediately preceding the date of the application as a:
167 (A) licensed professional engineer for licensure as a professional engineer;
168 (B) licensed professional structural engineer for licensure as a structural engineer;
169 or
170 (C) licensed professional land surveyor for licensure as a professional land
171 surveyor; and
172 (d) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of
173 evaluating the applicant's qualifications for license.
- 174 (5) The rules made to implement this section shall be in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter
175 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
- 176 Section 5. Section **58-60-506** is amended to read:
177 **58-60-506 . Qualifications for licensure.**
- 178 (1) Subject to Subsection (2), an applicant for licensure as master addiction counselor based
179 on education, training, and experience shall:
180 (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
181 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
182 (c) document successful completion of not less than two hours of training in suicide
183 prevention obtained after completion of the education requirements under Subsection
184 (1)(d) via a course that the division designates as approved;
185 (d) produce a certified transcript from an accredited institution of higher education that
186 meets standards established by division rule under Section 58-1-203, verifying the
187 satisfactory completion of:
188 (i) a doctoral or master's degree in:
189 (A) substance use disorders or addiction counseling and treatment; or
190 (B) a counseling subject approved by the division in collaboration with the board,
191 which may include social work, mental health counseling, marriage and family
192 therapy, psychology, or medicine;
193 (ii) an associate's degree or higher, or 18 credit hours, in substance use disorder or
194 addiction counseling and treatment from a regionally accredited institution of
195 higher education;
196 (e) if required under federal law for any licensee as a master addiction counselor to
197 qualify as an eligible professional under CMS rules for Medicare payment, document
198 completion of:

- 199 (i) not less than 3,000 hours of clinical supervision, which includes hours accrued
200 under Subsection (1)(g); or
- 201 (ii) not less than two years of clinical supervision;
- 202 (f) document successful completion of not less than 1,200 direct client care hours:
- 203 (i) obtained after completion of the education requirements under Subsection
204 (1)(d)(ii);
- 205 (ii) subject to Subsection (1)(f)(iii), not less than 100 of which are direct clinical
206 supervision hours under the supervision of a clinical supervisor;
- 207 (iii) not less than 25 of which are direct observation hours; and
- 208 (iv) not more than 25 of which are group supervision hours concurrently with more
209 than one other applicant for licensure;
- 210 (g) if the applicant for licensure produces a transcript described in Subsection (1)(d)(ii),
211 evidence completion of an additional 200 hours of direct client care hours in
212 substance use disorder or addiction treatment;
- 213 (h)(i) pass the examination requirement established by division rule under Section
214 58-1-203; or
- 215 (ii) satisfy the following requirements:
- 216 (A) document at least one examination attempt that did not result in a passing
217 score;
- 218 (B) document successful completion of not less than 500 additional direct client
219 care hours, not less than 25 of which are direct clinical supervision hours, and
220 not less than five of which are direct observation hours by a clinical supervisor;
- 221 (C) submit to the division a recommendation letter from the applicant's direct
222 clinical supervisor; and
- 223 (D) submit to the division a recommendation letter from another licensed mental
224 health therapist who has directly observed the applicant's direct client care
225 hours and who is not the applicant's direct clinical supervisor; and
- 226 (i) consent to a criminal background check in accordance with Section 58-60-103.1 and
227 any requirements established by division rule made in accordance with Title 63G,
228 Chapter 3, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act.
- 229 (2) In lieu of the requirements under Subsections (1)(d) through (i), an applicant for
230 licensure as master addiction counselor may document current certification in good
231 standing as:
- 232 (a) a master addiction counselor by the National Certification Commission for Addiction

- 233 Professionals;
- 234 (b) a master addiction counselor by the National Board for Certified Counselors; or
- 235 (c) an equivalent certification as under Subsections (2)(a) and (b), as determined in rule
- 236 made by the division in collaboration with the board.
- 237 (3) An applicant for licensure as an associate master addiction counselor shall satisfy the
- 238 requirements under Subsections (1)(a) through (c) and (i).
- 239 (4) Subject to Subsection (5), an applicant for licensure as an advanced substance use
- 240 disorder counselor shall:
- 241 (a) submit an application on a form provided by the division;
- 242 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504; and
- 243 (c)(i) produce certified transcripts verifying satisfactory completion of:
- 244 (A) a bachelor's degree or higher, from a regionally accredited institution of
- 245 higher learning, in substance use disorders, addiction, or related counseling
- 246 subjects, including social work, mental health counseling, marriage and family
- 247 counseling, or psychology; or
- 248 (B) two academic years of study in a master's of addiction counseling curriculum
- 249 and practicum approved by the National Addictions Studies Accreditation
- 250 Commission;
- 251 (ii) document completion of at least 500 hours of supervised experience while
- 252 licensed as a substance use disorder counselor under this section, which the
- 253 applicant may complete while completing the education requirements under
- 254 Subsection (1)(c)(i); and
- 255 (iii) satisfy examination requirements established by the division in rule.
- 256 (5) The requirements of Subsection (4)(c) may be satisfied by providing official verification
- 257 of current certification in good standing:
- 258 (a)(i) as a National Certified Addiction Counselor Level II (NCAC II) from the
- 259 National Certification Commission for Addiction Professionals (NCC AP); or
- 260 (ii) as an Advanced Alcohol & Drug Counselor (AADC), from the International
- 261 Certification and Reciprocity Consortium; or
- 262 (b) of substantive equivalence to the certifications under Subsection (5)(a), as
- 263 determined by division rule made in consultation with the board.
- 264 (6) In accordance with division rules, an applicant for licensure as a substance use disorder
- 265 counselor shall produce:
- 266 (a) certified transcripts from an accredited institution that:

- (i) meet division standards; and
[(ii) verify satisfactory completion of an associate's degree or equivalent as defined
by the division in rule; and]
[(iii)] (ii) verify the completion of prerequisite courses established by division rules;
and
(b) documentation of the applicant's completion of a substance use disorder education
program that includes:
(i) completion of at least 200 hours of substance use disorder related education;
(ii) included in the 200 hours described in Subsection (6)(b)(i), a minimum of two
hours of training in suicide prevention via a course that the division designates as
approved; and
(iii) completion of a supervised practicum of at least 200 hours[; and] .
[(c) documentation of the applicant's completion of at least 2,000 hours of supervised
experience in substance use disorder treatment that:]
[(i) meets division standards; and]
[(ii) is performed within a two-year period after the applicant's completion of the
substance use disorder education program described in Subsection (6)(b), unless,
as determined by the division after consultation with the board, the time for
performance is extended due to an extenuating circumstance.]

Section 6. Section **58-76-302** is amended to read:

58-76-302 . Qualifications for licensure.

Each applicant for licensure as a professional geologist shall:

- (1) submit an application in a form as [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- (2) pay a fee as determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- (3) provide satisfactory evidence of:
 - (a) [~~a bachelors or graduate~~] at a minimum, a bachelor's degree in the geosciences [~~granted through an institution of higher education that is accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency~~] with a minimum of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours of course work in the geosciences; or
 - (b) completion of other equivalent educational requirements as determined by the division in collaboration with the board;
- (4) provide satisfactory evidence of:
 - (a) with a [~~bachelors~~] bachelor's degree, a specific record of five years of active professional practice in geological work of a character satisfactory to the division,

- 301 indicating the applicant is competent to be placed in a responsible charge of the work;
302 (b) with a masters degree, a specific record of three years of active professional practice
303 in geological work of a character satisfactory to the division, indicating the applicant
304 is competent to be placed in a responsible charge of the work; or
305 (c) with a doctorate degree, a specific record of one year of active professional practice
306 in geological work of a character satisfactory to the division, indicating the applicant
307 is competent to be placed in a responsible charge of the work; and
308 (5) [~~after January 1, 2004, meet~~] meet the examination requirement established by rule by
309 the division in collaboration with the board.

310 Section 7. **Effective Date.**

311 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.