

Stephanie Gricius proposes the following substitute bill:

Professional License Degree Amendments

2025 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Stephanie Gricius

Senate Sponsor:

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill modifies licensure requirements for accountants, architects, environmental health scientists, geologists, and land surveyors.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- amends certain processes and procedures related to licensing requirements for:
 - architects;
 - environmental health scientists;
 - land surveyors;
 - accountants; 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-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2022, Chapter 415

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

58-26a-302, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2020, Chapter 339

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-302** is amended to read:

58-3a-302 . Qualifications for licensure.

- 30 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), each applicant for licensure as an architect shall:
- 31 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- 32 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- 33 (c) [~~have graduated and received an earned bachelors or masters~~] hold, at a minimum, a
- 34 bachelor's degree from an architecture program [~~meeting criteria established by rule~~
- 35 ~~by the division in collaboration with the board~~];
- 36 (d) have successfully completed a program of diversified practical experience
- 37 established by rule by the division in collaboration with the board;
- 38 (e) have successfully passed examinations established by rule by the division in
- 39 collaboration with the board; and
- 40 (f) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of
- 41 evaluating the applicant's qualifications for license.
- 42 (2) Each applicant for licensure as an architect by endorsement shall:
- 43 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- 44 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- 45 (c) submit satisfactory evidence of:
- 46 (i)(A) current licensure in good standing in a jurisdiction recognized by rule by
- 47 the division in collaboration with the board; and
- 48 (B) current certification from the National Council of Architectural Registration
- 49 Boards; or
- 50 (ii)(A) current license in good standing in a jurisdiction recognized by rule by the
- 51 division in collaboration with the board; and
- 52 (B) full-time employment as a licensed architect as a principal for at least five of
- 53 the last seven years immediately preceding the date of the application;
- 54 (d) have successfully passed an examination established by rule by the division in
- 55 collaboration with the board; and
- 56 (e) meet with the board or representative of the division upon request for the purpose of
- 57 evaluating the applicant's qualifications for license.
- 58 Section 2. Section **58-20b-302** is amended to read:
- 59 **58-20b-302 . Qualifications for licensure.**
- 60 (1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), an applicant for licensure as an environmental
- 61 health scientist shall:
- 62 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- 63 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

- 64 (c) hold, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree [~~from an accredited program in a university~~
 65 ~~or college, which degree includes completion of specific course work as defined by~~
 66 ~~rule~~];
- 67 (d) pass an examination as determined by division rule in collaboration with the board;
 68 and
- 69 (e) pass the Utah Law and Rules Examination for Environmental Health Scientists
 70 administered by the division.
- 71 (2) An applicant for licensure as an environmental health scientist-in-training shall:
- 72 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- 73 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- 74 (c) hold, at a minimum, a bachelor's degree [~~from an accredited program in a university~~
 75 ~~or college, which degree includes completion of specific course work as defined by~~
 76 ~~rule~~];
- 77 (d) pass the Utah Law and Rules Examination for Environmental Health Scientists
 78 administered by the division; and
- 79 (e) present evidence acceptable to the division and the board that the applicant, when
 80 licensed under this Subsection (2), will practice as an environmental health
 81 scientist-in-training only under the general supervision of a supervising
 82 environmental health scientist licensed under this chapter.

83 Section 3. Section **58-26a-302** is amended to read:

84 **58-26a-302 . Qualifications for licensure and registration -- Licensure by**
 85 **endorsement.**

- 86 (1) Each applicant for licensure under this chapter as a certified public accountant shall:
- 87 (a) submit an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;
- 88 (b) pay a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;
- 89 (c) submit a certified transcript of credits [~~from an accredited institution acceptable to~~
 90 ~~the board~~] showing:
- 91 (i) successful completion of a total of 150 semester hours or 225 quarter hours of
 92 collegiate level education with a concentration in accounting, auditing, and
 93 business;
- 94 (ii) a [~~baccalaureate~~] bachelor's degree or its equivalent [~~at a college or university~~
 95 ~~approved by the board~~]; and
- 96 (iii) compliance with any other education requirements established by rule by the
 97 division in collaboration with the board in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3,

98 Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act;

99 (d) submit evidence of one year of accounting experience in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved
100 by the division;

101 (e) submit evidence of having successfully completed the qualifying examinations in
102 accordance with Section 58-26a-306; and

103 (f) submit to an interview by the board, if requested, for the purpose of examining the
104 applicant's competence and qualifications for licensure.

105 (2)(a) The division may issue a license under this chapter to [~~a person~~] an individual who
106 holds a license as a certified public accountant issued by any other state of the United
107 States of America if the [~~applicant~~] individual for licensure by endorsement:

108 (i) submits an application in a form [~~prescribed~~] approved by the division;

109 (ii) pays a fee determined by the department under Section 63J-1-504;

110 (iii) submits to an interview by the board, if requested, for the purpose of examining
111 the applicant's competence and qualifications for licensure; and

112 (iv)(A)(I) shows evidence of having passed the qualifying examinations; and

113 (II)(Aa) meets the requirements for licensure which were applicable in this
114 state at the time of the issuance of the applicant's license by the state
115 from which the original licensure by satisfactorily passing the AICPA
116 Uniform CPA Examination was issued; or

117 (Bb) had four years of professional experience after passing the AICPA
118 Uniform CPA Examination upon which the original license was based,
119 within the 10 years immediately preceding the application for licensure
120 by endorsement; or

121 (B) shows evidence that the applicant's education, examination record, and
122 experience are substantially equivalent to the requirements of Subsection (1),
123 as provided by rule.

124 (b) This Subsection (2) applies only to [~~a person~~] an individual seeking to obtain a
125 license issued by this state and does not apply to [~~a person~~] an individual practicing as
126 a certified public accountant in the state under Subsection 58-26a-305(1).

127 (3)(a) Each applicant for registration as a Certified Public Accountant firm shall:

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

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

130 (iii) have, notwithstanding any other provision of law, a simple majority of the
131 ownership of the Certified Public Accountant firm, in terms of financial interests

132 and voting rights of all partners, officers, shareholders, members, or managers,
 133 held by individuals who are certified public accountants, licensed under this
 134 chapter or another state of the United States of America, and the partners, officers,
 135 shareholders, members, or managers, whose principal place of business is in this
 136 state, and who perform professional services in this state hold a valid license
 137 issued under Subsection 58-26a-301(2) or the corresponding provisions of prior
 138 law; and

139 (iv) meet any other requirements established by rule by the division in collaboration
 140 with the board in accordance with Title 63G, Chapter 3, Utah Administrative
 141 Rulemaking Act.

142 (b) Each separate location of a qualified business entity within the state seeking
 143 registration as a Certified Public Accountant firm shall register separately.

144 (c) A Certified Public Accountant firm may include owners who are not licensed under
 145 this chapter as outlined in Subsection (3)(a)(iii), provided that:

146 (i) the firm designates a licensee of this state who is responsible for the proper
 147 registration of the Certified Public Accountant firm and identifies that individual
 148 to the division; and

149 (ii) all nonlicensed owners are active individual participants in the CPA firm.

150 Section 4. Section **58-76-302** is amended to read:

151 **58-76-302 . Qualifications for licensure.**

152 Each applicant for licensure as a professional geologist shall:

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

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

155 (3) provide satisfactory evidence of:

156 (a) [~~a bachelors or graduate~~] at a minimum, a bachelor's degree in the geosciences [
 157 ~~granted through an institution of higher education that is accredited by a regional or~~
 158 ~~national accrediting agency~~]with a minimum of 30 semester or 45 quarter hours of
 159 course work in the geosciences; or

160 (b) completion of other equivalent educational requirements as determined by the
 161 division in collaboration with the board;

162 (4) provide satisfactory evidence of:

163 (a) with a [~~bachelors~~] bachelor's degree, a specific record of five years of active
 164 professional practice in geological work of a character satisfactory to the division,
 165 indicating the applicant is competent to be placed in a responsible charge of the work;

166 (b) with a masters degree, a specific record of three years of active professional practice
167 in geological work of a character satisfactory to the division, indicating the applicant
168 is competent to be placed in a responsible charge of the work; or

169 (c) with a doctorate degree, a specific record of one year of active professional practice
170 in geological work of a character satisfactory to the division, indicating the applicant
171 is competent to be placed in a responsible charge of the work; and

172 (5) [~~after January 1, 2004, meet~~] meet the examination requirement established by rule by
173 the division in collaboration with the board.

174 Section 5. **Effective Date.**

175 This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.