



Continuing Education for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

Human Resources Division (HRD)
Workforce Development (WFD)

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Texas Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors' (TBPELS) Continuing Education Program (CEP) Requirements

For professional engineers, 15 hours of continuing education, at least one of which must be an 1 hour of ethics, are required for each renewal cycle. For registered professional land surveyors, 12 hours of continuing education, at least three of which must be ethics, are required for each renewal cycle.

Visit the [TBPELS website](#) for more specific details surrounding continuing education requirements.

What Courses, Presentation and/or Activities Count?

The intent is for the CEP to be self-administered. TBPELS does not pre-approve any courses, seminars, presentations, or other activities to meet the CEP requirement. The board does not have a list of approved courses or activities. It would be very difficult to include every possible course, seminar, or activity available to engineers or land surveyors nationwide.

There are two basic criteria for an activity to count:

- 1) Is the specific activity on the list of activities in the rule? (see below for an excerpt from the rule)

- 2) Is the activity relevant to the practice of your profession and does it include educational, technical, ethical, or managerial content? If the activity is related to engineering or land surveying in an educational, technical, managerial, or ethical manner, then it will count.

Professional Development Hours (PDH) units may be earned as follows:

- (1) Successful completion or auditing of college credit courses.
- (2) Successful completion of continuing education courses, either offered by a professional or trade organization, university or college, or offered in-house by a corporation, other business entity, professional or technical societies, associations, agencies, or organizations, or other group.
- (3) Successful completion of correspondence, on-line, televised, videotaped, and other short courses/tutorials.
- (4) Presenting or attending qualifying seminars, in-house courses, workshops, or professional or technical presentations made at meetings, conventions, or conferences sponsored by a corporation, other business entity, professional or technical societies, associations, agencies, or organizations, or other group.
- (5) Teaching or instructing as listed in paragraphs (1) through (4) above.
- (6) Authoring published papers, articles, books, or accepted licensing examination items.
- (7) Active participation in professional or technical societies, associations, agencies, or organizations, including:

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- (A) Serving as an elected or appointed official;
 - (B) Serving on a committee of the organization;
 - (C) Serving in other official positions.
- (8) Patents Issued.
 - (9) Engaging in self-directed study.
 - (10) Active participation in educational outreach activities involving K-12 or higher education students.

See [Board Rule 137.17\(i\)](#) (engineers) or [138.17\(i\)](#) (surveyors) for a detailed list of how many PDHs you can claim for each activity.

Tracking/Documentation of Continuing Education

Per TBPELS, there are only two things that a license or registration holder needs to do:

- 1) Certify on the renewal statement that you have completed the CEP requirement and return it with your renewal payment. This is the main document that the board reviews and keeps as a record of completing the CEP requirement.
- 2) Keep some sort of paper proof of your activity. This can include a certificate of completion or attendance in a course or seminar, a grade report, a flyer or agenda from a presentation or meeting, or any other document that shows the date, location, duration, and type of activity you wish to claim. Do not send in the supporting documentation with your renewal.

Self-study should be reported simply as the type of activity, date, and hours claimed. (Example - "Read Engineering Practice Act, 02/05/04, 1 PDH"). Content providers or activity sponsors do not need to report attendance to the board.

Forms for CEP

[CEP Log Sheet](#) - download this log sheet and keep track of your hours for your renewals. Retain with your records for audit purposes. Do not send the log sheet in with your renewal.

Self-Study Worksheet

[Self-Study Worksheet](#) - download this worksheet to help keep track of your Self-Study activities. Retain with your records for audit purposes. Do not send the worksheet in with your renewal.

[NCEES CE Tracking](#) - You can also conveniently track your continuing education activities for free through your [MyNCEES account](#).

TxDOT Opportunities for Continuing Education

TxDOT offers various opportunities to obtain the necessary hours of continuing education.

1. Conferences:
 - 99NGCN – Negotiated Contract Conference
 - Annual Transportation Short Course
 - Bridge Conference
 - Construction/MTD Conference
 - Design Conference
 - Environmental/Transportation Planning Conference
 - Maintenance/Traffic Operations Conference
 - PEPS Annual Conference
 - ROW – Utility Partnering Week
 - Surveyors’ Conference
 - Texas Aviation Conference
 - Texas Transportation Forum
 - Traffic Safety Conference
 - Various AASHTO Conferences
2. Technical, ethical, and managerial courses (including Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and National Highway Institute (NHI) courses). Schedule and registration available through [PeopleSoft](#)
3. Other seminars/technical presentations sponsored by Divisions or Districts
 - a. Visit the [TxDOT Events Calendar](#) for more opportunities

For more information contact development@txdot.gov or training@txdot.gov.