Professional Geologist Licensure Requirements and Strategies for Success in Environmental & Engineering Geology Jobs

Wednesday, 29 April 2020, 11 a.m. MDT

Register Here

About the Webinar

This webinar will provide an overview of geology licensure qualification requirements in the United States. Having a license to practice geology is a requirement in the majority of U.S. states, Canada, and other countries. Learn about professional licensing requirements and how becoming licensed can influence your career opportunities and career success. Laurie Racca will present a discussion of the national licensing exams for geologists prepared by the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG). She will discuss the purpose of the license, qualification requirements (education, experience, exams), and the Geologist-in-Training Certificate. Joe Zilles will describe his journey as a geologist, beginning as an exploration field geologist in the oil and gas industry. For the past 22 years, his work has focused on engineering geology, contaminant hydrogeology, and water supply projects. He also volunteered with Engineers Without Borders to design water supply projects in Kenya. Zilles’ presentation will include a discussion of what qualifications and skills are important for early career geologists looking for work in the fields of environmental and engineering geology. Meredith Beswick will cover her experience in engineering geology from being an entry-level professional to now. She will also provide tips for success when looking for a job and what to expect in the first few years of your career.

About the Presenters

Meredith Beswick P.E., P.G., is a Senior Geological Engineer for Kleinfelder in Sacramento, California. She holds a B.S. degree in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines. Beswick has been with Kleinfelder since 2008 working on a variety of geological and geotechnical projects such as the investigation, analysis, design, and construction of levees and dams. She was the past Sacramento Chapter Chair of the Association of Environmental and Engineering Geologists and the current Legislative Chair.

Laurie Racca, P.G., is a licensed professional geologist with 30 years of experience specializing in complex environmental site investigations and leading multidisciplinary teams. Her experience includes working in private environmental and geotechnical consulting, providing regulatory agency oversight of large military and civilian environmental cleanups for CalEPA, and investigating fraud, waste, and abuse as part of the Office of Enforcement at the State Water Resources Control Board. She was appointed as the Senior Registrar for Geologists and Geophysicists by the California Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists in June 2015. She also serves as the Examination Committee Chairperson for the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®).

Joe Zilles, P.G., is a Senior Principal Geologist and Project Manager at Kleinfelder. He currently manages hydrogeologic projects and personnel throughout the United States and overseas. He conducts hydrogeologic water supply assessments, pre-construction permitting (local and state), well-pumping tests, aquifer analysis and water quality investigations, and manages data curation. Joe’s experience includes working as a gas/oil well exploration field geologist throughout California, where he provided detailed interpretations of subsurface formation depths (as deep as 12,000 feet), monitored drilling rates attained throughout the drilling projects, and recorded natural gas levels using on-site gas chromatography methods for further analysis and possible production purposes.