

Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying
670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220
Salem, Oregon 97301
(503) 362-2666

Information for Professional Land Surveyor (PLS) Examinations

The PLS examination consists of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Principles and Practices of Land Surveying (6-hour) examination (multiple-choice questions) on Friday and the four-hour Oregon specific land surveying examination on Saturday. Successfully passing both examinations is required for registration.

NCEES Principles and Practices of Land Surveying:

1. The 6-hour examination consists of a four-hour morning session (67 questions) and a two-hour afternoon session (33 questions). Both sessions are open book, multiple choice, and cover the following:
 - a. Principles of the profession – legal, technical, and standards of professional conduct;
 - b. Property surveys – written instruments, monumentation, real property, and field survey procedures;
 - c. Property survey description – metes and bounds, subdivision plats, subdivision planning, design-ordinances and regulations, topographic surveys, preliminary studies, boundary surveys, preliminary plats, final plats, and street alignment.

The NCEES examinations are administered by the Engineering and Land Surveying Examination Services (ELSEES). If approval to take the NCEES Principles and Practices of Land Surveying is received from the OSBEELS office, please visit their Web site at www.els-examreg.org for further information regarding the examination registration process.

Study materials may be obtained from:

National Council of Examiners for Engineering & Surveying
P.O. Box 1686
Clemson, South Carolina 29633-1686
1-800-250-3196
www.ncees.org

Four-hour Oregon Specific Land Surveying:

2. The four-hour Oregon specific land surveying examination covers laws and rules pertaining to survey practice in the State of Oregon. The topics covered include:
 - a. Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS);
 - b. Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR);
 - c. Standards of professional conduct;
 - d. The principles and practice of land surveying in Oregon.

Oregon Specific examinations are administered by the Board. If approval to take the four-hour Oregon Specific Land Surveying examination is received from the OSBEELS office, further details regarding the examination administration will be sent approximately three weeks prior to the examination date from the OSBEELS office. Information pertaining to the laws, rules and survey practice in Oregon may be obtained from this Board and:

The Professional Land Surveyors of Oregon
P.O. Box 2646
Salem, OR 97308-2646
1-503-585-4551
www.plso.org

**Oregon State Board of Examiners for Engineering and Land Surveying
670 Hawthorne Avenue SE, Suite 220
Salem, Oregon 97301**

Syllabus for Four Hour Oregon Specific Professional Land Surveyor Examination

The four-hour Oregon Specific Land Surveying Examination contains five items covering laws, rules and survey practice in Oregon. Each item contains questions about the listed subject and relative Oregon laws and rules.

Major emphasis is on the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) and Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR) covering filed surveys, resurvey plats, subdivisions and partitions, rules for constructing deed descriptions, deed forms, Oregon coordinate systems, standards of professional conduct, and laws and rules pertaining to the practice of land surveying.

Minor emphasis is on the Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) which pertain to land surveying in the state covering limitations on professional liability, line and partition fences, cemeteries, condominiums, adverse possessions, submersible lands (tidelands), submerged lands, and ocean shores.

Major Emphasis:

ORS 92, ORS 93, ORS 209, ORS 672, & OAR 820

Minor Emphasis:

ORS 12, ORS 94, ORS 96, ORS 97, ORS 100, ORS 105, ORS 191, ORS 271, & ORS 274

Item 1. The U.S. Public Land Survey system including Donation Land Claims. (20%)

Item 2. Statutes and Rules Specific to Oregon. (20%)

Item 3. Property description writing and interpretation. (20%)

Item 4. Unwritten transfers of land by unwritten agreement, adverse relationships, and acts of nature and prescription. (20%)

Item 5. Horizontal and Vertical Datum's, Geodesy, Map Projections, Oregon Coordinates Systems, and general knowledge of GPS techniques used in land surveying. (20%)