QUESTIONNAIRE RECAP

NEBRASKA EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURE

Responses from 2009 SENLSA Winter Seminar And 2010 PSAN Winter Conference





1. What is your Professional Level of Practice?

Registered Land Surveyor 128

Surveyor In Training 6

Student 3

Other 9

Comments:

NONE







2. Providing your Nebraska Registration is your primary license, are you considering an additional license to survey in another jurisdiction?



Comments :

Wyoming- will not allow reciprocity without formal education Wyoming- requirements are quite tougher there. Maybe sometime in the future, but not immediately.



3. If you hold multiple registrations to survey, please check the number of additional jurisdictions.

> 1 24 2-3 20 4 or More 2

Comments :

Unable to get LS in New Mexico because of educational requirements.



4. Are you a registered Professional in another discipline?

Registered Engineer 11 Registered Architect 0 Attorney 0 Other 3

Comments :

Yes

14

There has been talk about this for geodetic surveyors, but I don't think the issue has progressed very far in the US.





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No

5. What level of education have you achieved?

chool Graduate/GED 41
se work in preparation for a career in
74 Field of Study
30 Field of Study
eering Degree) Yes No
Field of Study
Number of Years
ework 1 Name of Program
Home Study 3
S J

Comments :

I am taking Math and Science courses at Columbus Graduated from a 3-year bible institute I became a surveyor by saying "YES" when asked if I was one in 1949. Level of education is probably directly related to level of opportunity for challenging career.





*Other information collected will be evaluated at a later date.



 6. Are the current requirements to become a Nebraska Registered Land Surveyor adequate to ensure that quality, qualified professionals obtain and retain the right to survey? Yes 76 No 65

Comments :

The LS test should have more questions pertaining to establishing section corners They are marginal, need to strengthen/modified to fall in line with surrounding states. With acknowledgment that continuing education and advance in requirements is necessary to compete. I believe the public is currently well protected under the law. College is great, though not always an option for everyone. I could have answered this before today, but I'm not sure at the moment. Need a more comprehensive definition of surveying, and a better defined education (Post secondary) requirement.

We need to keep in mind the objective of "what is the minimum qualities required to protect the public and insure quality surveying.

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6. Are the current requirements to become a Nebraska Registered Land Surveyor adequate to ensure that quality, qualified professionals obtain and retain the right to survey? (Comments Continued)

Persons applying to take tests should have background in land surveying, not GIS, construction surveying, drafting, etc. Applicants should be accountable for what they indicate as experience. While I do not think a college education is required - I do agree with increasing the amount of field experience (in responsible charge)

If people that are a reference for the applicant tell the truth. IE - actual experience Taking away the common person without education and starts as a rodman and decides he wants to continue, but no education, they cannot climb ladders if this becomes more stringent, will he only be stuck at being a party chief then.

With some inclusion of changing technology. IE - GIS

You have to offer the correct college courses in state to make it required! Field experience is more related to LS than anything! Education is important, but has to meet certain criteria. Should have minimum associates in land surveying based courses.

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Need 2-year degree or 10 years experience.





6. Are the current requirements to become a Nebraska Registered Land Surveyor adequate to ensure that quality, qualified professionals obtain and retain the right to survey? (Comments Continued)

I believe an oral exam is very important.

Registrants by comity should provide examples of their work.

I feel the state part should be moved to a 4 hour test, also I feel that surveyors from other states should also take the 4 hour test, and maybe even appear before the board. There should be a requirement to have more "Survey" related courses.

2 year associated degree minimum, 4 year college in survey or related field is good also.

I believe you should have a 2 year associates degree at a minimum.

Need 2 years of school.

There are too many competing professions which seek to take work from surveyors as they practice in the state.

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for now, but probably not for the future.

Need more state specific testing.





6. Are the current requirements to become a Nebraska Registered Land Surveyor adequate to ensure that quality, qualified professionals obtain and retain the right to survey? (Comments Continued)

Need more education.

Proof of knowledge by testing is sometimes not enough. education shows a serious commitment to the profession.

References should be more honest and in detail. Not just to get another LS in a firm. A 2 year degree in a survey related course with 6 years experience should be the minimum required.

Depends on who you trained under!

There is a problem with the quality of surveys that I have seen in the last few years, and something needs to change. I think this is a good idea.



7. Which statement best describes your thoughts regarding the <u>future</u> process of obtaining a Nebraska Registration to practice Land Surveying?

- 124 Enact educational requirements equal to surround states.
 - 6 Enact educational requirements more stringent than surrounding states.
 - 10 Enact educational requirements less stringent than surrounding states.

Comments :

This question is leading, it does not offer the option of standing with what we have now.

We have yet to see the effects of their requirements on the surveying profession in those states.

Don't require more education than can be offered in-state





NEBRASKA EDUCATION 7. Which statement best describes your thoughts regarding the <u>future</u> process of obtaining a Nebraska Registration to practice Land Surveying? (Comments Continued).

I feel that there should always be the capability to get licensed without formal education. Mixed feelings- see above for some of the comments.

This is primarily a reciprocity issue.

Kansas has a good system that provides a potential candidate a specific outline of courses take to qualify "good idea"!

Although I checked "equal", I believe that we should look less at what others are doing and do what is appropriate to protect the Nebraska public.

Equal requirement would insure common sense reciprocity.

Do not require education. to obtain an registration, credit should be given for education but a path must be left open for those who cannot get an education.





NEBRASKA EDUCATION 7. Which statement best describes your thoughts regarding the <u>future</u> process of obtaining a Nebraska Registration to practice Land Surveying? (Comments Continued).

Things are FINE the way they are. Some people cannot afford an education of that degree. Any monkey can run a calculator. More importance on field experience. Except Iowa. Experience gained prior to a degree should count towards the experience requirements.

Use model law (NCEES)

Except wyoming.

Experience is the best education.

If we require a 4 year degree, there needs to be 4 year degree courses in state colleges.

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Keep a way to become a LS without an education element.





8. Should there be different criteria for educational credit given to <u>qualify for examination</u> compared to credit given for <u>professional development hours</u> toward licensure?

81 Yes, it should be stricter to qualify for examinations. 58 No, it should be the same.

Comments : There is no substitute for field experience. Shouldn't have to be ANY educational credit to qualify for the exam. There is a difference between construction and maintenance. One half PDH should have to be surveying only. DO the same as the engineers. (NOTE: Engineers can use surveying PDH's toward their biennial PDH requirement, without being licensed surveyors)

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9. How many years of service <u>have you given</u> to the Profession of Surveying in Nebraska?

22 1-9 years

44 10-19 years

38 20-29 years

39 30 or more years

Comments :

Our firm has pushed for registration and has 12 current or past PLS's as a requirement.



10. How many years do you <u>expect to give</u> to the Profession of Surveying in Nebraska from this point forward?

34 1-9 years

48 10-19 years

37 20-29 years

22 30 or more years

Comments : When I fall over, shouldn't be long. Probably till they plant me. Time to retire.







11. Please rank the following options of educational requirements to be a **Registered Land Surveyor in Nebraska.** (Rank from 1 to 5, 1 being the best, and 5 being the last choice) 3rd (425) 4 year Surveying Degree Tied 4th (452) 4 year Degree (Related Field) **1st** (261) 2 year Technical Surveying Degree **2nd** (<u>379</u>) Option of a Specified Number of Surveying Credits Tied 4th (452) Leave requirements as they are

> NEBRASKA EDUCATION





11. Please rank the following options of educational requirements to be a Registered Land Surveyor in Nebraska. (Rank from 1 to 5, 1 being the best, and 5 being the last choice) (Comments)

Comments :

I believe a combination of education and experience should be allowed. IE: use common sense Still need working experience with education.

Two year and/or more years of experience equals 10 years.

Should not require more education than a potential licensee can receive within this or a neighboring state. If they go too far away, much less change of coming back to this state or region.

This will relate primarily to reciprocity.

Progressively increase this requirement over 8 years.

If there is a 4 year degree requirement, at least one college in the state should have a program with a quality curriculum.

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I don't see "leave requirement as they are" as a real option.





Additional Comments

I do not agree to allow the term "engineer" to be attached or allowed in any portion of the requirement the licensure as a land surveyor as the "engineers" to not extend our profession the same courtesy when determining eligibility to sit for the PE exams. In order for our profession to be uniquely distinguished they "engineers" must be excluded as having practical experience. If we allow them to count their engineering education as surveying experience, we have done nothing to advance our own identity.

All of the requirements don't matter if the board doesn't look into applicants more thoroughly. Thirteen years as a cad tech doesn't make a surveyor.

I do believe changes need to be made, but if we are going to require education, I feel it must be directly related to land surveying and worded as such. No "artsy" stuff etc, - I feel this could really start to get away as far as what qualifies.

I believe changes need to be made. Is a 4-year degree the answer, I don't know. To me, sounds like the ball is rolling and it's going to stop where the power to be want it to stop.

I feel that if a 4-year degree is required, the survey profession will be in a bad state. Which profession would you chose if you were required to have a 4-year degree, surveying or engineering. Look at Wyoming.

There needs to be a way that a kid from high school works for a surveyor for the summer and likes what he is doing, but can or does have the money to continue his education - he needs a way to get his LS if he wants to continue in the field. I think schooling is the way things are going, but not everyone can afford it.

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Additional Comments

States which require the NCEES exam should require their model requirements.
 I believe we need to go to a 2-year tech survey degree plus 6 years experience of which 3 years in charge or 4 years surveying degree plus 3 years experience in charge of 10 years experience with 3 years in charge.

You should have at least a 2 year degree with 4 years experience as a crew chief before taking SIT and then another 2 years before taking LS.

Overall, I like the education requirements proposed today at our meeting. I do not want to see the board change the state portion of the exam and even having an interview process. The committee did an excellent job.

We, in our firm, spend a lot of time discussing the relationship of history to surveying past and present.

Excellent presentation of the facts! Good job!

Any education required by the state to become a land surveyor in the state of Nebraska, should be taught at state colleges or universities.

In addition to a written exam, there should be a face to face interview with the board and the testee.





Additional Comments

The board should give a list of programs that they will accept for educational requirements.

Upgrade the classes at SCC.

Would like to see a review process built in between the 2012 and 2022.

I am not in favor of enacting laws or rules and regulations just so we can comply to some national "criteria". I believe Nebraska should be independent.

I believe an education, the more the better, but it should not be required to get registration.

It's been good, but time to leave. High schools are not interested in promoting land surveying.

I think institutional credit is most desirable, but you need institutions to provide it. Is the education for surveying in the area instructed by engineers or land surveyors. I believe that if you have a GED/High school diploma, after an appropriate time you should be able to take the exams and become licensed.





