



FBPE
FLORIDA BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

Connection

Linking You With the Florida Board's Latest Engineering News and Information

January 2025

PE Licensure Renewal Ends Feb. 28, 2025

You also must have completed and reported your CE credits by that date.

Here's How to Renew Your Florida PE License

Renewing your Florida Professional Engineer license? The Board's website has [step-by-step instructions](#) for renewing your PE license.

Here's How to Report Your CE Credits to FBPE

To renew your Florida Professional Engineer license, all PEs must report their continuing education credits using the free NCEES CPC Tracking system.

The Board has [step-by-step instructions](#) on using the CPC Tracking system.

CE Reporting Now Mandatory for All Florida-licensed PEs

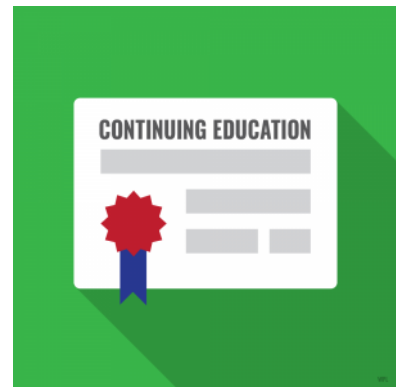
All Professional Engineers licensed in Florida must report their continuing education to renew their licenses during the upcoming renewal period.

Florida Statutes required this change because the percentage of PEs failing the random CE audit was too high for two consecutive renewal periods.

To renew your PE license for another two years, **you must complete 18 hours of continuing education by Feb. 28, 2025**. Of the 18 hours, one hour must relate to the Florida laws and rules of Professional Engineers from a Board-approved provider, and one hour must relate to professional ethics. Four hours must relate to area of practice. The remaining 12 hours may be related to any topic pertinent to the practice of engineering.

You must report all 18 hours of your continuing education to FBPE using the [free NCEES CPC Tracking system](#).

We have [step-by-step instructions on our website](#) that will show you how to set up a free NCEES account, begin uploading your CE documentation, and transmit your CPC transcript to FBPE. (You do not need to set up an NCEES Record, only a basic account with CPC Tracking.)



As you complete your CE courses and upload your documents to your NCEES CPC Tracking account, **do not send your CE transcript to FBPE until after you have completed and uploaded all of your continuing education courses.**

Also, **do not mail or email your CE documentation directly to FBPE**; you must use the NCEES CPC Tracking tool. The only continuing education course that you must report directly to FBPE is the [Advanced Building Code course](#). (Please be aware that the ABC course does not replace your [required Florida Laws and Rules course](#).)

FBPE will begin verifying completion of continuing education after renewal closes.

Since the Florida Laws and Rules course will be reported directly by CE providers, it will be the only course that will show up in your account at [myfloridalicense.com](#). You should verify that the current course shows up in your licensure record by logging into your account at [myfloridalicense.com](#). If it is missing, contact your course's provider. **Your PE license will not renew if the Florida Laws and Rules course is missing from your licensure record.**

The NCEES CPC Tracking system and the licensure system at [myfloridalicense.com](#) cannot be linked. **The CE courses that you upload to NCEES CPC Tracking will not be reflected in your account at [myfloridalicense.com](#).**

If you have any questions about renewing your license, please call us at [\(850\) 521-0500](tel:8505210500) and select "Renewal" to speak to a representative, or email renewal@fbpe.org.

ERROR: There is an error in the confirmation email sent from myfloridalicense.com after you have successfully renewed your PE license. The email incorrectly states that PEs are no longer required to report continuing education. [Rule 61G15-22.006, Florida Administrative Code](#), has been changed to require all Florida PEs to report their CE credits to renew their license.

From the Executive Director: What a Difference 26 Years Makes

By **Zana Raybon**, FBPE Executive Director & FEMC President

It is amazing to realize that the Florida Engineering Management Corporation has diligently served the engineering community and the people of Florida since July 1998. In the past 26 years, FEMC has ensured the highest standards of professional engineering licensure and ethics.



Looking back, the changes are incredible. In Fiscal Year 2023-2024 alone, we approved 3,409 applications for professional licensure — a staggering 134-percent increase over the 1,499 applications approved in 1999. Notably, FEMC manages the third highest number of engineering licensure applicants in the nation, trailing only California and Texas.

The number of licensed Professional Engineers under FEMC's purview has surged to over 49,000 — an 86-percent increase since 1998.

Since its establishment in 1998, FEMC's annual funding has remained \$2.07 million. During that time however, the landscape of professional engineering in Florida has evolved significantly.

The costs of operating FEMC have significantly increased over the years:

- Office operating costs for equipment have surged by 894 percent, from \$3,229 in 1999 to \$32,106 in 2023.
- Office space costs have risen by 280 percent, from \$61,937 in 1999 to \$235,652 in 2023.
- Expenses for staff, such as health insurance, have escalated by 317 percent, from \$34,580 in 1999 to \$144,076 in 2023, even as our staff has decreased from 25 to 12 full-time employees.
- Costs for legal prosecutions have risen by 107 percent, from \$96,121 in 1999 to \$199,169 in 2023.
- And finally, our IT costs have increased by 68 percent, from \$67,185 in 1999 to \$112,994 in 2023.

It is essential to consider the broader economic context. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. inflation has surged by 85 percent from 1999 to 2023, while FEMC's funding has remained constant. This has created a tightening financial gap that FEMC has begun to address to ensure the organization can provide services with continued efficiency and effectiveness.

The FEMC is hopeful that the legislature will consider additional funding in the near future. In the meantime, we will continue to uphold our commitment to the engineering community and the people of Florida by enhancing our operations, ensuring timely reviews and approvals of licensure applications, and continuing the high level of service that Florida expects.

Chair's Corner: Looking Back at 2024 and Ahead to 2025

By **Denise Ramsey, PE, FBPE Chair (2025)**

On behalf of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers, Happy New Year. Before we look forward to what 2025 will bring, we should first reflect on 2024.

At our December meeting, long-time Board member Babu Varghese, PE, SI, completed almost 10 years of service to this Board. Babu was appointed to the Board in early 2015, and over his tenure, served as Board chair, vice chair, and a member of nearly every Board committee, being integral to the development of the [Special Inspector](#) and [Special Inspector \(Limited\)](#) licenses. Babu will be stepping away to enjoy life without the rigors that Board service requires. While his dedication, knowledge, and service will be greatly missed, all Board members know that he is a friend that we can reach out to for counsel. We sincerely thank him for his service.

The December meeting also brought me the privilege of being elected chair for 2025. I acknowledge and thank outgoing Chair Dylan Alberg, PE. Dylan served as chair for both 2023 and 2024, and vice chair prior. He also served on multiple committees and will continue to serve the Board as he has since his appointment in 2018. Dylan is currently the second longest-tenured Board member and will be able to provide both context and historical reference on many of the issues we will face.



FBPE Chair Denise Ramsey, PE, presents a commemorative clock to outgoing Chair Dylan Alberg, PE.

The biennial renewal will conclude on Feb. 28, 2025. Please do not delay in renewing your license, including the following:

- If you have not done so already, complete [a Laws and Rules course](#) from a Board-approved provider, with verification that this is reflected on your license to ensure renewal.
- Set up the no-cost [NCEES CPC Tracking](#) to monitor progress and report your 18 hours of continuing education.
- To avoid the performance issues that occurred in the [final days of renewal in 2023](#), do not wait until the last week to renew your engineer's license, as there are other professionals that will be renewing within the DPBR licensing system.

Additional information is available online at fbpe.org regarding renewals.

Following 2025 renewals, the Board will be addressing rule changes to support mobility and evaluating whether rules are required of those who write reports on damaged structures, as well as conducting normal and routine Board business.

All of our work is guided by FBPE's mission, which is to protect the health and safety of the public by properly regulating the engineering practices within Florida. To quote a now well-known cliché, it takes a village to do this, so I would like to start off 2025 by acknowledging all [FBPE Board members, staff](#), and [FEMC's corporate board of directors](#) who strive to ensure that this mission is achieved. Thank you all.

Governor Appoints New Board Member, Reappoints Four

In December, Gov. Ron DeSantis named Brock Shrader, PE, as a member of the [Florida Board of Professional Engineers](#) and reappointed four current members: James Gonzalez, John Pistorino, PE, SI, Denise Ramsey, PE, and Pankaj "PJ" Shah, PE.

Mr. Shrader is president of Wilson & Girgenti, where he started as an intern. He is the originator of the Orlando office for WG, which has grown to be the largest office in the firm.

He is a practicing electrical and mechanical engineer. He and WG have received awards for Best Companies to Work For from *Florida Trend* in 2022, 2023, and 2024; and Best Places to Work from the *Orlando Business Journal* in 2021, 2022, 2023, and 2024.



Brock Shrader, PE

Mr. Shrader earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology where his collaborative research was published in the nuclear field. He earned his Juris Doctor from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University while working full time to grow the Orlando office of WG. He is a licensed engineer in 43 states and is pursuing licensure in all 50 states and the U.S. territories.

In his spare time, Mr. Shrader enjoys going to the gym, playing racquetball, and is a black belt in Brazilian jiu jitsu. He also enjoys going to the beach in the St. Petersburg/Clearwater area, where he grew up, and is an avid Tampa Bay Rays fan.

Mr. Shrader fills a vacant engineering seat on the Board, and his term expires Oct. 31, 2025.

Mr. Gonzalez, Mr. Pistorino, and Ms. Ramsey were reappointed through Oct. 31, 2027, while Mr. Shah was reappointed through Oct. 31, 2028.

FBPE, FEMC Select Chairs, Vice Chairs for 2025

The [Florida Board of Professional Engineers](#) elected Denise Ramsey, PE, as its chair for 2025, and James Gonzalez as its vice chair at its December 2024 meeting in Tallahassee, Fla.

Ms. Ramsey, who was vice chair in 2024, succeeds Dylan Albergo, PE.

Appointed to the Board in 2021, Ms. Ramsey is the vice president of AE Business Processes and chief engineer with Haskell Architects & Engineers. She is also the company's chief of design project management.

She has spent her career at Haskell, starting in 1984 as a mechanical engineer intern, obtaining licensure in 1989 as a professional engineer in Florida. Ms. Ramsey has held a variety of positions at Haskell over her 40-year career, in both technical leadership and leadership of teams.

Ms. Ramsey graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the University of South Florida and has a Master of Business Administration from Jacksonville University. She is licensed as a PE in 45 states, is a LEED AP BD+C, showing her commitment to sustainability, is a Designated Design-Build Professional serving that organization on the National Certification Board, and is a member of the American Society of Heating Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) and the Florida Engineering Society (FES).

Ms. Ramsey is passionate about mentoring young people by volunteering her time with the ACE Mentor Program of Northeast Florida, which she founded in 2006, as well as the ACE Mentor Program of America, which offer an after-school mentoring program exposing high school students to careers in architecture, construction, and engineering.

She is a graduate of the Leadership Jacksonville Class of 1999, the Florida Engineering Leadership Institute Class of 2007, was honored as a Woman of Influence in 2008 by the *Jacksonville Business Journal* and received the Outstanding Tutor of the Year Award in 2000 from Learn to Read Inc. In 2013 she was recognized by the Jacksonville Mayor's Commission on the Status of Women during Women's History Month for her mentoring and engineering achievements. 2019 saw Ms. Ramsey honored by the Northeast Florida's chapter of FES with the award of the James F. Shivler Jr. PE Award for Outstanding Service to the Engineering Profession.

Mr. Gonzalez is a co-founder of Cobb & Gonzalez, P.A., and has provided guidance to businesses and professionals for over a decade. Mr. Gonzalez graduated from the University of South Florida, in Tampa, and was a member of the Business National Honor Society. He earned his juris doctor from Villanova University School of Law in 2007. That same year, James also received a Master of Business Administration degree from the Villanova University School of Business.

Mr. Gonzalez has represented numerous architectural, engineering, and construction firms, as well as their employees, in professional negligence, construction defect, and contractual claims. He has also provided legal counseling and representation to general contractors, subcontractors, building material manufacturers, and suppliers in areas from corporate formation to contract disputes and construction defect claims. Currently, he provides legal counseling and representation to design professionals,



Denise Ramsey, PE



James Gonzalez

general contractors, subcontractors, building material manufacturers, and suppliers in areas ranging from corporate formation to contract disputes and construction defect claims and everything in between.

In 2015, Mr. Gonzalez was commissioned in the U.S. Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps (JAG). As an assistant staff judge advocate, Capt. Gonzalez assists the staff judge advocate in providing legal advice to the wing commander (installation commander), as well as its subordinate units, including supporting the provision of military justice to thousands of airmen and reviewing and providing guidance on multi-million-dollar construction contracts.

Mr. Gonzalez moved to Jacksonville in 2009. He and his wife have two children. In his free time, Mr. Gonzalez enjoys building Jeeps, inshore fishing, woodworking, cooking, golfing, and spending time with his family.

He was appointed to the Board in 2022.

FEMC Chair, Vice Chair for 2025

At its December meeting, the directors of the [Florida Engineers Management Corporation](#) elected Safiya Brea, PE, as its chair and Dr. Mark Tumeo, PE, as its vice chair. Ms. Brea succeeds Satya Lory, PE, as chair.

Ms. Brea graduated from the University of Florida with a bachelor's in civil engineering. She is a partner at Chen Moore and Associates where she has worked for over 20 years. Her current position as Broward office lead and principal engineer includes leading CMA's flagship office in Fort Lauderdale, and designing and managing a wide variety of municipal projects.

She is a graduate of Leadership Florida Connect class 8, Leadership Broward class 35, and Florida Engineering Leadership Institute.

Ms. Brea was the Florida Engineering Society's Broward Chapter president from 2010-12 and served on various committees for the organization. She is a mentor with the Women of Tomorrow mentoring program for young women. Ms. Brea and her husband, Mark, have a daughter, Nyla, and a son, Malakhi. She enjoys spending time with her family, going to the beach, and reading a good book.

She was appointed a corporate director for FEMC in 2018.

Dr. Tumeo holds a Ph.D. and an M.S. in environmental engineering from the University of California, Davis, a J.D. from Cleveland State University, and B.S. degrees in civil engineering and biology from the University of Notre Dame. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in Florida, Oklahoma, and Alaska, and is a member of the Ohio Bar. Dr. Tumeo is currently the senior engineer at Earth Systems, an environmental consulting firm with offices in four states.

Previously, he served as dean of the College of Computing, Engineering, and Construction at the University of North Florida. Prior to that, he was at Cleveland State University where he served seven years as the vice provost of research and dean of the graduate studies before returning to the faculty in 2000, where he served as the faculty advisor for the CSU Chapter of Engineers Without Borders and as the



Safiya Brea, PE



Dr. Mark Tumeo, PE

undergraduate program and ABET coordinator for the department. Prior to his appointment at CSU, he was a faculty member at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

Dr. Tumeo has almost 40 years of experience in environmental consulting and research, and has extensive experience and publications in environmental risk assessment, policy, and regulation. He has published over 40 peer-reviewed articles, reports, and book chapters, and numerous conference proceedings in the area of waste treatment, management, and risk analysis. He has served as an associate editor for the American Association of Civil Engineers *Journal of Environmental Engineering*, and the *Journal of Professional Issues in Engineering Education and Practice*.

He was appointed a corporate director for FEMC in 2021.

Board Bids Farewell to Babu Varghese

The Florida Board of Professional Engineers said farewell to Board member Babu Varghese, PE, SI, CGC, CCC, at its December 2024 meeting in Tallahassee, Fla.

Mr. Varghese was first appointed to the Board in February 2015, serving almost 10 years. In 2019, he served as the Board's vice chair and was elected chair for 2020.

He is the president and principal engineer of Abtech Engineering Inc., a multi-disciplinary engineering firm, which he founded in 1988, in Fort Lauderdale.

"If you never had privilege of meeting or working with Babu, you're missing out on a lifetime opportunity," Dylan Albergo, PE, who served as Board chair in 2022 and 2023, said. "Babu is a remarkably successful businessman and an even more humble gentleman. He is a mentor to many of us and his expertise, personality, and technical acumen will be severely missed. His work on Special Inspection Certification has made the industry safer and left a lasting impact with the Board.

"To me personally, Babu has been an amazing resource and dear friend. Thank you, for your guidance, support, and friendship that have helped to shape me and cement your legacy as an FBPE Board member."



Dylan Albergo, PE, (right) FBPE Chair (2024), presents Babu Varghese, PE, SI, with a plaque honoring him for his service on the Board.

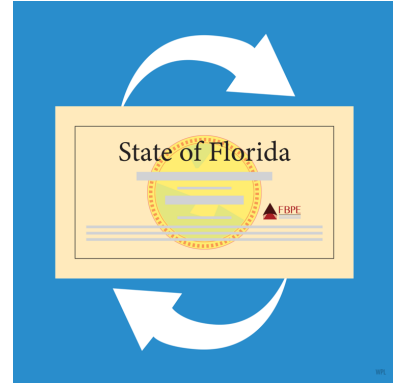
Does Your PE License Still Show a 2025 Expiration Date?

Does your Florida PE license still show an expiration date of 2025 even though you paid the renewal fee and [completed and reported](#) your continuing education? You likely missed some key steps in the renewal process.

What's missing?

Florida Laws and Rules: Your [Florida Laws and Rules course](#) may be missing from your account at myfloridalicense.com. The course must be reported to Florida's Department of Business and Professional Regulation by [your continuing education provider](#).

If the course isn't [listed in your licensure account](#), your PE license will not renew. You need to contact your course provider and have them report the course. If they do not report your course completion in a reasonable time, please email cedesk@fbpe.org to report them. Please include the course name, the CE provider name, and when you took the Laws and Rules course.



Three Attestation Questions: You may not have answered the three attestation questions during the renewal process. You were asked:

- [Whether you have completed or will complete](#) by midnight Feb. 28, 2025, the [required 18 hours of continuing education](#);
- [Whether you have completed or will complete](#) by midnight Feb. 28, 2025, a [one-hour course on Florida Laws and Rules](#) from a Board-approved provider (your Laws and Rules course also [must be reported by your CE provider](#)); and
- [Whether any disciplinary action has been taken against](#) your license by another jurisdiction.

You can see examples of the three attestation questions in [steps 27, 28, and 29](#) of our [step-by-step renewal instructions](#).

If you leave any of these questions blank or unanswered, your PE license will not renew.

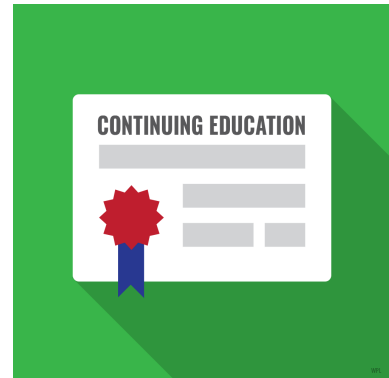
If you believe you have renewed your PE license and paid the fee, but the expiration date is still listed at myfloridalicense.com as 2025, you will need to contact renewal@fbpe.org.

Some New PEs May Be Exempt From Most CE Requirements

While the majority of Professional Engineers licensed in Florida must complete [18 hours of continuing education](#) between March 1, 2023, and Feb. 28, 2025, a few Florida PEs may not be required to complete all 18 CE hours.

If you received your first Florida PE license between March 1, 2023, and Feb. 28, 2025, and are [renewing your license](#) for the first time, you are only required to:

- Complete a Board-approved Laws and Rules course;
- Complete an ethics course; and
- Pay the renewal fee.



You do not have to complete the other 16 hours of continuing education for this renewal cycle. Please see [Rule 61G15-22.009, Florida Administration Code, Exemptions From Continuing Education Requirements](#).

You must still report your Laws and Rules course and your ethics course using the free [NCEES CPC Tracking system](#), as explained in [our step-by-step instructions](#), so that FBPE can verify their completion.

Also, you must complete an [Advanced Building Code course](#) before participating in the design of engineering works or systems in connection with buildings, structures, or facilities and systems covered by the [Florida Building Code](#).

Effective with the 2025-27 biennium, you will be responsible for completing and reporting [all of your continuing education hours](#) and paying the renewal fee to renew your license by Feb. 28, 2027.

If you have any questions about renewing your license, please call us at [\(850\) 521-0500](tel:850-521-0500) and select “Renewal” to speak to a representative, or email renewal@fbpe.org.

NCEES Accepting Applications for Student Scholarship

By **NCEES**

Applications are now being accepted for the [NCEES Professional Licensure Scholarship](#) developed by NCEES in conjunction with the American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC) Research Institute.

Through this initiative, NCEES will provide scholarships to aspiring engineering and surveying students in each state and Washington, D.C. One of the main goals of the program is to help students understand the importance and value of licensure for engineers and surveyors in protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

The ACEC Research Institute is uniquely positioned to assist NCEES in developing and executing this nationwide program. The institute is leveraging its existing online scholarship application platform, review and scoring processes, and awards program.

The program is designed to award a \$5,000 scholarship grant to one student from each state and Metro Washington, a total of 51 grants annually. Each recipient would also be invited to attend ACEC’s Fall Conference, which would include conference registration, airfare, and a one-night hotel stay.

Educators and students can get more information and an application via this link:

acecinstitute.awardspring.com/Home/ScholarshipDetails/334880.



Recent Updates to Florida Engineering Rules

[Chapter 61G15, Florida Administrative Code](#), contains the rules that govern the practice of engineering in Florida. The rules are adopted by the Florida Board of Professional Engineering based on [Chapter 471, Florida Statutes, Engineering](#).

The rules are regularly reviewed and updated by the Board.

The latest changes, as of Nov. 27, 2024, include:

- 61G15-22.001 *Continuing Education Requirements*
- 61G15-23.004 *Procedures for Digitally Signing and Sealing Electronically Transmitted Plans, Specifications, Reports, or Other Documents*
- 61G15-23.005 *Procedures for Electronically Signing and Sealing Electronically Transmitted Plans, Specifications, Reports, or Other Documents*

Changes are highlighted in the PDF available on the [Statutes and Rules page](#) in the *Legal* section of the Board’s website, fbpe.org.

Special Recognition: Congratulations, Examinees

FBPE applauds everyone who passed engineering exams in the past quarter. We wish them much success as they move towards the next step in their engineering careers. [See the complete list online.](#)

Legal Department: Latest Engineer Discipline

Under Rule 61G15-37.001(11), Florida Administrative Code, the Florida Engineers Management Corporation is required to post all Final Orders involving active disciplinary cases to the website until the terms of the final order are completed, or until the licensee becomes inactive, retires, relinquishes the license, or permits the license to become null and void. Included in this section are the most recent cases in which final action has been taken by the Board, a brief description of the licensee's violation and discipline as well as a link to the final order. [View actions.](#)

Mark Your Calendar

We regularly update our calendar with the latest FBPE and FEMC events. [Check out the calendar.](#)

FBPE Board Members & FEMC Directors

FBPE Board Members

Denise Ramsey, PE; Chair (2025)
James Gonzalez, Public; Vice Chair (2025)
Dylan Albergo, PE
Christopher Dawson, Public
Sam Mousa, PE
Jeb Mulock, PE
Yassi Myers, PE
John Pistorino, PE, SI
Pankaj (PJ) Shah, PE
Brock Shrader, PE
Vacancy

Zana Raybon, Executive Director
Rebecca Sammons, Assistant Executive Director
John Rimes, Chief Prosecuting Attorney
Michele Morris, FBPE Controller

FEMC Directors

Safiya Brea, PE; Chair (2025)
Dr. Mark Tumeo, PE; Vice Chair (2025)
Barney T. Bishop III, Public
Edward Gonzalez, PE
Michael Lessne, Public
Satya Lory, PE
Art Nordlinger, PE

Zana Raybon, FEMC President
John Rimes, FEMC Vice President
Rebecca Sammons, FEMC Secretary
Michele Morris, FEMC Treasurer