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FLORIDA BOARD OF
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS

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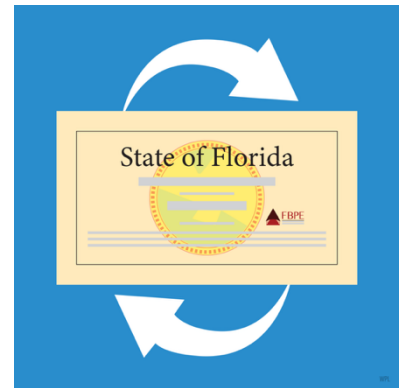
From the Executive Director: Renewal Is Near; Are You Ready?

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

The easiest license renewals begin long before the renewal period opens. Taking a few minutes now to prepare can help you avoid delays and make renewing your license a quick, straightforward process.

The 2027 license renewal period opens Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2026, and the easiest renewals are always completed by licensees who prepare in advance.

Before renewal season begins, take a few minutes to make sure everything is in order.



Your Renewal Checklist

- ☐ **Log in to your online account.** Verify that you can access it at myfloridalicense.com. Resolving login issues now is much easier than waiting until the renewal period opens.
- ☐ **Review your contact information.** Verify that your email address, mailing address, and telephone number are up to date, so you don't miss important renewal notifications. (Not to mention that you are required to by [Florida statute](#).)
- ☐ **Complete your continuing education.** Don't wait until the last minute. Finishing early gives you time to confirm your Florida Laws & Rules course has been reported and to resolve any questions before you submit your renewal.
- ☐ **Review your license information.** Make sure your name, employer information (if applicable), and other details are accurate. Update any changes before the renewal period begins. Also, make sure that your license is not delinquent.
- ☐ **Mark your calendar.** Online renewal opens Nov. 3, 2026. (Please note that you can't renew before that date.) Being prepared means you'll be able to renew quickly and get back to what you do best.

A little preparation now can make renewal simple and stress-free. We encourage all licensees to check these items off their list before November so they can enjoy a smooth renewal experience.

Taking these simple steps now will help ensure your renewal is fast and hassle-free when the renewal period opens in November. A little preparation today can save you valuable time later.

Chair's Corner: FBPE Values Feedback From PEs and the Public

By James Gonzalez, FBPE Chair (2026)

One of the privileges of serving as chair of the Florida Board of Professional Engineers is the opportunity to hear directly from the professionals who make up our engineering community.

Over the past several weeks, many of you answered that call when we asked for your feedback on [the proposed rules relating to expert reports](#). I want to personally thank everyone who took the time to read the proposals, submit comments, or attend a rules committee meeting to share your thoughts.



As engineers, you know that the best decisions are made when they're informed by experience, sound judgment, and a willingness to consider different perspectives.

The Board approaches rulemaking the same way. While we have the responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, we also recognize that the engineers practicing throughout Florida bring knowledge and experience that simply cannot be duplicated around the Board table.

That's why your involvement is so important.

The feedback we received was exactly what we had hoped for. It was thoughtful, professional, and constructive. Some comments supported portions of the proposal, others identified concerns, and many included practical recommendations that only someone actively practicing engineering could provide. Throughout the process, it was clear that everyone who participated shared the same goal of preserving the integrity of our profession while ensuring the rules governing it are practical, clear, and effective.

Most importantly, I want you to know that we listened.

After carefully considering the comments we received (hundreds of pages!), the Board concluded that the proposed rules would benefit from additional work before moving forward. Rather than pressing ahead, we have decided to revisit the language, work through the issues raised by our licensees, and develop revisions that better reflect the feedback we received.

To me, that's the rulemaking process working exactly as it should.

Public input isn't simply a box to check before adopting a rule. It's one of the most valuable parts of the process.

The engineers who design our infrastructure, inspect our buildings, develop new technologies, and solve complex problems every day offer perspectives that help us write better rules. When you take the time to participate, you're helping shape the future of engineering in Florida.

I also hope this experience encourages more of you to stay engaged with the Board's work and, just as important, ***to read this publication throughout the year.***

You can also attend a meeting when your schedule allows. You can review proposed rule changes and share your thoughts. We genuinely want to hear from you because your perspective makes us better.

The practice of engineering is constantly evolving, and our rules should evolve thoughtfully alongside it. That only happens when there is an open exchange of ideas between the Board and the professionals

we serve. The recent response to the proposed expert report rules demonstrated just how invested Florida's engineers are in their profession, and I couldn't be more encouraged by that.

Thank you again for taking the time to participate. We value your input, we appreciate your professionalism, and we look forward to continuing to work with you as we refine these proposed rules.

Update: Window, Door Replacements in Threshold Buildings

By **William Bracken**, PE, FRSE, SI

In January 2026, the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation, and the Building Officials Association of Florida issued a Florida Building Code binding interpretation (report number 318) stating:

The replacement of windows constitutes a modification of the building's structural system. Accordingly, this work is required to comply with Section 110.8.1 of the Florida Building Code, Building, 8th Edition (2023).



Subsequently, the Florida Building Commission has issued two Declaratory Statements that provide further clarification on the installation of windows and doors; one regarding new construction of threshold buildings and one regarding existing threshold buildings.

Declaratory Statement DS 2026-024

The first of the two declaratory statements, DS 2026-024, addresses the installation of windows and doors within new construction of threshold buildings.

DS 2026-024 was issued in response to the question submitted by Paul Zillio of Bliss & Nyitray Inc. which asked: "Does Section 110.8.1 require that we list the inspection of windows in this new building as a mandatory inspection?"

The Florida Building Commission responded, "Pursuant to Section 110.8.1 of the Florida Building Code, Building (2023), the structural inspection plan for a threshold building must be prepared by the engineer or architect of record and reviewed and accepted by the enforcing agency. The design professional is responsible for determining the structural elements and related inspections to be included in the plan. The inclusion of impact windows in the structural inspection plan is dependent on whether they are part of, or critical to, the structural system or load path, as determined by the engineer or architect of record and subject to acceptance by the enforcing agency."

Declaratory Statement DS 2026-025

The second declaratory statement, DS 2026-025, addresses the installation of windows and doors within existing threshold buildings.

DS 2026-025 was issued in response to the questions submitted by Paul Zillio of Bliss & Nyitray Inc. pertaining to a project that included the replacement of windows with non-impact-resistant windows in the same rough openings, the replacement of doors, and the replacement of louvers on an existing 12-story multi-family building.

Specifically, the Florida Building Commission was asked: “#1 For the project in question, does Binding Interpretation number 318 require the inspection of the replacement windows? #2 If yes, then does that mean that inspection is required for the doors and louvers as well?”

The Florida Building Commission responded, “#1 The answer to the Petitioner’s question is no. The replacement of impact-resistant and nonimpact-resistant windows, doors, and louvers with equivalent products within the same rough openings, where no structural members are modified, does not constitute work that modifies the structural system or structural loading of the building. Accordingly, the scope of work for the project in question does not require special inspection pursuant to section 110.8.1 of the Florida Building Code, 8th Edition (2023).”

The Florida Building Commission’s response to question #2 was “See answer to question #1.”

Summary

Regarding the installation of windows and doors within new construction of threshold buildings, it’s the design professional of record in conjunction with the enforcing agency that decides whether the windows or doors are part of, or critical to, the structural system or load path, whether they are to be included in the special inspection plan, and the extent to which they are to be inspected.

Regarding the removal and replacement of windows and doors within existing threshold buildings, as long as there are no alterations to the size of the openings or modifications to the structural framing members, they are not required to comply with the Threshold Building requirements found in Section 110.8.1 of the Florida Building Code, Building, 8th Edition (2023).

Look Out for Spam Emails That Appear to Be From FBPE

Please be aware of spam emails being sent to Professional Engineers and engineering firms that appear to have been sent from the Florida Board of Professional Engineers. These emails, including ones with “a secure document” or a scam GoFundMe link, were not sent by FBPE, and should be deleted immediately.

The body of the email has a link to view a document or a link to a cloud document server, such as Dropbox. **Do not click any links or open attached documents.**

If you did click on a link or open a document, contact your technical support desk or run an anti-virus check.

Like previous fake emails, this email you received was likely a phishing attempt aimed at getting your personal information or an attempt to load malicious software on your computer. These types of emails will often appear to be sent from a familiar email address, but with a slight variation, such as fbpee.org, rather than our actual domain, fbpe.org.

For example, notice in the image below that the actual “from” address is not the fbpe.org domain:

From: "FBPE.ORG" <info@mecklenburgcountync.info>
Date: June 7, 2023 at 11:07:03 AM EDT
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FCBE.ORG - First Update Reminder 2023
Reply-To: "FBPE.ORG" <info@fbpe.org>



[FBPE.ORG](#) Secure Email Portal

You've received a secure email message from [FBPE.ORG](#) mail Portal

Subject : Update Reminder

Sent : Wednesday, June 7th, 2023

Expires : Friday, June 9th, 2023

You have 3 **day(s)** left to collect this message before it expires.

[ACCESS DELIVERY](#)

Do not reply to this notification message; this message was auto-generated by the sender's security system. To reply to the sender, select Open Message.

If you do not see an HTML-formatted email above, copy and paste the link below into your browser:

Previous emails used a subject line similar to "FEMC-DBPR-Contract Invoice" and appear to have an attached PDF, which was actually a phishing link.

FBPE does not send out emails with invoices or emails that ask for personal or professional information, or for you to verify your information.

Unfortunately, there is little we can do about the email scam attempts since they do not originate from us. The email addresses used by the phishing attempts were obtained through Florida Sunshine Law. Under Florida law, email addresses are public records.

If you receive an email that you have a concern about, please [feel free to contact us](#) to verify that it was sent by FBPE.

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 updates](#) are posted on the FBPE website shortly after they are approved.

The latest changes, as of July 6, 2026, include:

- 61G15-18.011 *Definitions*
- 61G15-19.0051 *Notice of Noncompliance*
- 61G15-19.0071 *Citations*
- 61G15-19.008 *Confidentiality of Investigations*
- 61G15-20.0018 *Application for Low Income and Military Veterans Fee Waiver*
- 61G15-20.007 *Educational Requirements for Applicants without EAC/ABET Accredited Engineering Degrees*
- 61G15-20.008 *Educational Requirements for Applicants without ETAC/ABET Accredited Engineering Technology Degrees*
- 61G15-22.009 *Exemptions from Continuing Education Requirements*
- 61G15-26.001 *Standards for Supervision of Governmental Employees by Professional Engineers*
- 61G15-32.008 *Design of Fire Alarms, Signaling Systems, and Control Systems*
- 61G15-35.0021 *Definitions*

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.](#)

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