

Illinois Department of Financial & Professional Regulation

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New Chair for the Illinois Architect Board



The Illinois Architecture Licensing Board is mandated by law to elect a Board Chair each year. This year, not only was a new Chair selected, but history was made.

Dina Griffin, Member of the Illinois Architecture licensing board since August of 2013, was elected as the Illinois Architect Board Chair for the Fiscal Year 2019. This is a Board milestone as she is the first Black American female to be chair of the Board in its nearly 121 year existence.

Licensed in Illinois in 1994; Dina is currently the president of Interactive Design Architects, an MBE/WBE firm founded in 1992. She became President of IDEA in 1999. Her experience in educational, municipal and corporate projects contributes significantly to the firm's capacities and her adept leadership and collaborative skills are invaluable to all projects, especially those with multiple stakeholder groups. She often oversees interior architecture, FF&E and finishing details on projects.

Dina is also a Fellow with the American Institute of Architects (FAIA) and has recently been appointed as the Secretary-Treasurer for Region 4 for the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards.

Interesting Fact - Her firm is part of the architectural design team for the Barack Obama Presidential Center in Chicago.

Illinois Bicentennial!

On December 3, 1818, 200 years ago this year, Illinois became the 21st state in the Union. This year, we are paying tribute to the amazing people, places, and things that are being BORN, BUILT & GROWN in Illinois every single day.

Visit <https://illinois200.com/> for more information on events and projects happening around the State of Illinois for the celebration.



TAKEN FROM AIA ILLINOIS (aiaill.org):

More than eleven years after the original “150 Illinois Great Places” were named by AIA Illinois, Illinois' architects have added more Great Places to the list in honor of the State's 200th birthday. Each of the 200 Great Places are accessible to the public, holds significance for local communities and creates a unique experience for visitors.

“Illinois' Bicentennial in 2018 was the perfect opportunity to take a stronger look at more contemporary architecture than we were able to do with the first 150, which went all the way back to the beginning of Illinois civilization,” said Kim Kurtenbach, AIA, architect with BLDD Architects and 2018 AIA Illinois Board President. “As before, it was difficult to narrow the list to only 200. Separately and in total, our 200 Great Places are more than just examples of good or even great design – they are a testament to humanity's need to shape their environment in a way that is often both vibrant and equitable.”

All of the 200 Great Places are featured in a new website at illinoisgreatplaces.com. AIA Illinois also created a new Instagram account [@ilgreatplaces](https://www.instagram.com/ilgreatplaces).



Each of the newly named Places will also receive a special commemorative plaque.

Jeanne Gang's Aqua Tower in Chicago and Bill McDonough's Method Manufacturing Facility in the Pullman National Monument are modern projects that join the Great Places list which already includes designs by renowned architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Mies van der Rohe.



The Aqua Tower's design has been described as “lyrical gracefulness,” while it broke a ceiling of sorts with the distinction as tallest building to date designed by a female architect; The Method Factory turns 21st century manufacturing on its head with its total immersion in eco-friendly design.

Downstate gets its contemporary spotlight too, including gems like the Champaign Public Library designed by Ross Barney Architects and built in 2008; and the Doudna Fine Arts Center in Charleston designed by Antoine Predock as a “crystalline formation that...is a new arrival point and gateway that both unifies the arts and reaches out to the community.”

“Illinois holds a unique place in the history of American architecture and our people lead with a strong tradition of design innovation that is recognized worldwide,” said Governor Bruce Rauner. “The AIA list recognizes Great Places all around our state and tells the collective story of great imagination, sheer will, and skill.”

The Illinois Great Places recognition program was created in 2007 to commemorate AIA's 150th anniversary and was designed to broadly include the “built environment,” which includes landscape and engineering places, as well as architecture. A majority of the original list—including schools, churches, offices, court houses, museums, and planned communities--were historically designated places, with many others having been built in the late 20th century. Many of the newest additions represent 21st century development.

“Illinois architecture is a significant part of the history of innovation in our state which includes the first skyscrapers in the nation,” Stuart Layne, Executive Director of the Governor's Bicentennial Office commented. “We salute the American Institute of Architects Illinois for their work on this Bicentennial project.” (Continued on page 3)

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Nominations came from AIA members from all parts of the state and were selected by each of the state's AIA chapters by region. Nominations were weighed against criteria including the AIA's "10 Principles of Livable Communities:" they must be publicly accessible, pedestrian-friendly, designed on a human scale, and provide vibrant, public spaces, among meeting other requirements.

"Illinois has achieved an incredible balance of designers, periods, building types and settings to successfully show the depth and breadth of our state's Great Places," said Mike Waldinger, Hon. AIA, Executive Director of AIA Illinois.

ONLINE Electronic Exam/License Certification.

The Department has implemented an Electronic Exam/License Certification process through the online portal system. You will no longer be required to mail your request and \$20 check to the Department and wait for it to be completed. You can now make your request online and pay for your certification via debit/credit card online. This new system will enable Department staff to process the requests within a few days, rather than weeks.

An Illinois certification will include the following items:

Licensee name, license number and current license status, license issuance and expiration date, method of licensure, scores for exams passed in Illinois, department seal and an official signature.

Note: You will receive a courtesy copy of your current license information typically within 30 minutes of processing, however the intended licensing jurisdiction, NCEES or NCARB will additionally receive scores for exams passed in Illinois.

To request a license certification, log into or create an account on the Department's Online Portal:

<https://ilesonline.idfpr.illinois.gov/DFPR/Default.aspx>

2018 Annual NCARB Business Meeting.

Members of the Illinois Architect Board, along with the Board Liaison attended the 2018 Annual National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Meeting as funded delegates on June 27-30th in Detroit, MI. This meeting was highly informative and allowed attendees to gain a better understanding of the current national trends in licensure, different state regulations of the profession, issues facing the profession as well as hearing from the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS) on why they are important to the future of Architecture and the projects that they are working on around the country with assistance from actively licensed architects. In addition, we were able to see a glimpse of a few new changes that NCARB plans to implement shortly.

2018 Annual ISPE Convention.

Stop by and see us! The Department will have a booth set up during the exhibition portions of the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers (ISPE) convention on July 19, 2018 in Normal, IL. We would be happy to answer your questions regarding examination requirements & registration, licensure requirements & process, experience, how to reinstate your license, etc. *We would like to sincerely thank the ISPE for extending the ability to attend the convention.*

LET US KNOW

Please let us know how we can serve you better as a Department. There are many aspects that are out of our direct control, however if there are ways that we can improve the way we communicate and operate, we would sincerely like to hear about it.

Email us at:

Fpr.prfgroup02@illinois.gov

FOR YOUR REFERENCE:

Registering for an NCEES examination in Illinois is a dual registration process. You **MUST** register with **BOTH** NCEES and Continental Testing Services (CTS).

If you do not register with CTS, your exam registration is not complete and your registration will be cancelled by NCEES.

If your NCEES portal says “pending board approval” it most likely means that you have not fully registered with CTS. There is nothing that this Department can do, you must contact CTS and verify that you are properly registered.

Contact CTS here:

<http://continentaltestinginc.com/state-of-illinois/>

Want to take an exam in Illinois?

We recommend you review the specific candidate exam guide for your profession to ensure a quick and easy exam process.

[Professional Engineer - Candidate Exam Guide](#)

[Structural Engineer - Candidate Exam Guide](#)

[Professional Land Surveyor - Candidate Exam Guide](#)

For Architect ARE examinations: Register directly with NCARB through the Illinois Direct Registration Program.

National Pass Rates for the latest offering of the PE Exam:

<https://ncees.org/engineering/pe/pass-rates/>

Cancellation and Refunds for NCEES exams:

(Taken from NCEES.com)

You may cancel your exam registration through your [MyNCEES](#) account any time before the NCEES registration deadline. Refunds will include exam fees paid to NCEES during the registration process, minus a \$50 processing fee.

Funds may not be transferred to a later exam administration date. After the NCEES registration deadline, registrations may not be canceled and fees will not be refunded.

If, on the day of the exam, you are unable to attend for one of the following reasons, you may submit documentation to request a refund of your fees (less the \$50 processing fee). Documentation must be submitted to NCEES within 30 days of the exam date.

- Illness, either yourself or immediate family member who requires your care
- Death of an immediate family member
- Disabling traffic accident
- Court appearance or jury duty
- Military duty

DID YOU MOVE?

It is your responsibility to make sure that your contact information (including email address) are up to date in order to receive all department notifications and courtesy renewal reminder notices as well as new license download emails.

Update your Contact Information here: [Change Your Address](#)

REGISTERING FOR NCEES EXAMINATIONS?

BEFORE you register for NCEES exams under the Illinois jurisdiction, you must meet Illinois educational requirement. Regardless of the exam you are applying to sit for, the educational requirement is always based on the BS degree, not a post-graduate degree. Foreign educated applicants may have additional requirements to complete - refer to the current requirements stated on the application instructions.

Exams under the Professional Engineer Act: (FE and PE)

ONLY approved program applicants may directly register with NCEES and CTS —the test administrator. All non-approved applicants **MUST** apply to the Department for review of your education and approval to sit for any exam **BEFORE** you register with NCEES or CTS. We recommend that you review the Professional Engineering Practice Act and Administrative Rules here: <https://www.idfpr.com/profs/ProfEngineer.asp>

- To sit for the FE exam in Illinois, the approved education is a graduate of (or a senior in) a US ABET-EAC BS program, pursuant to Section 1380.210 of the Administrative Rules.
- To sit for the PE exam in Illinois, the approved education is a graduate of a US ABET-EAC BS program, pursuant to Section 1380.210 of the Administrative Rules.
- The PE Board will also accept non-approved engineering and Related Science degree's if they meet the requirements pursuant to Section 1380.220 of the Administrative Rules.

Exams under the Structural Engineer Act: (FE and 16-hour SE)

ALL applicants **MUST** apply to the Department for review of your education and approval to sit for any exam **BEFORE** you register with NCEES or CTS. We recommend that you review the Structural Engineering Practice Act and Administrative Rules here: www.idfpr.com/profs/se.asp

- The approved education is a BS degree in Engineering or Architecture with 18 semester hours of Structural Design/Analysis coursework, pursuant to Section 1480.120 of the Administrative Rules.
- The SE Board will also accept certain ABET BS degree's and Related Science degree's, if they meet the requirements pursuant to Section 1480.120 of the Administrative Rules.

Exams under the Land Surveyor Act: (FS, PS and IL Jurisdictional)

ALL applicants **MUST** apply to the Department for review of your education and approval to sit for any exam **BEFORE** you register with NCEES or CTS. We recommend that you review the Professional Land Surveyor Practice Act and Administrative Rules here: <https://www.idfpr.com/profs/LandSurv.asp>

- To sit for the FS exam in Illinois, the approved education is a BS degree in in Land Surveying from an accredited US University or an applicant in their senior year of said program (the degree must be conferred within 12 months of taking the FS exam).
- To sit for the PS and IL Jurisdictional exam in Illinois, the approved education is a BS degree in in Land Surveying from an accredited US University.
- The LS Board will also accept any BS degree that has 24 semester hours of Land Surveying coursework, if they meet the requirements pursuant to Section 1270.15 of the Administrative Rules.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Reminder for the NCEES October exams:

The Continental Testing Services registration deadline for the October examinations is August 17th.

This is separate from the NCEES registration deadline.

DID YOU KNOW?

For an online exam/license certification request, If you request a certification for your PE, SE or LS exam/license information to be sent to another jurisdiction or NCEES, all exams passed in Illinois will be sent on the same certification. A separate request is not needed for the FE or FS exam score (assuming it was passed in Illinois).

FILE A COMPLAINT

Help us protect the public.

Complaints against any individual or entity regulated by the **Division of Professional Regulation** may be filed by contacting the Complaint Intake Unit.

To file a complaint, please use: [Online Complaint Form](#)

Have Questions?

Call the Complaint Intake Unit at **312.814.6910**.

Who is the Design Unit?

The Design Unit of the Division of Professional Regulation is responsible for maintaining the public health, safety, and welfare and to be subject to regulation and control in the public interest. Each Profession is governed by its respective Act that merits the confidence of the public, and that only qualified persons shall be authorized to engage in the practice of that profession in the State of Illinois.

We routinely receive calls or emails from individuals who preface their question with, “my friend, co-worker, or I’ve heard...” 99% of these questions invariably do not have a positive outcome for the applicant as they were given incorrect, false or misleading information.

With a combined total of almost 30 years of experience, the Design Unit staff is the best resource for answers to your questions for examinations, licensure, renewals or restoration of licensure in the State of Illinois.

The Design Unit oversees the Licensing and Registration for:

- ◆ Architecture
- ◆ Professional Land Surveying
- ◆ Professional Engineering
- ◆ Structural Engineering
- ◆ Professional Design Firm

Design Licensing Manager's Corner



With the newly implemented online electronic certification request method, we have seen a dramatic decrease in the delays that were occurring as we are able to send the official certification with any Illinois exam scores to the recipient usually within 2 business days.

I have spoken with a few licensees who have used this new method and found it to be a great resource and a huge improvement over the paper certification process. I am hopeful that this implementation will be the first of many online options for applicants and licensees to use to more effectively communicate with the Department. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we continue to transition to a more user friendly platform of electronic services.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in white ink on a blue background, appearing to read "Kyle Lazell".

Kyle Lazell

Review your Practice Act and Administrative Rules.

Periodically, the Practice Act and Administrative Rules for each profession are updated due to a number of reasons. Whether due to procedural, educational, examination, industry or national changes, we strive to ensure that the changes are published and dispersed to allow for public knowledge and use.

Quite frequently, the Department receives correspondence from individuals who were unaware of the changes and as a result, are unable to be licensed or have difficulty becoming licensed in Illinois or encounter difficulties renewing or reinstating their license.

It is important that each applicant and active licensee reviews the current Practice Act and Administrative Rules every year to ensure they are adhering to the current requirements for licensure as well as to ensure that any changes that took effect since the previous renewal are being observed.

You can review the Practice Act and Administrative Rules for each profession here: <https://www.idfpr.com/profs/proflist.asp>

REMINDER:

The Architect, Land Surveyor and Structural Engineer licenses will be in renewal this year (around mid-September) and will expire 11/30/2018. Be sure that your current email address is on file with the Department in order to receive the courtesy renewal reminders. Additionally, we recommend that you review the current renewal requirements for your profession so you are not surprised by any possible changes.

You can locate your specific profession here: <https://idfpr.com/>

Functions available online.

To better serve applicants and licensees, several important functions may be found on the Department website to ensure quick and accurate interaction with the Department.

Apply for a license: <https://www.idfpr.com/Apps/NewApplications.asp>

License Look-up: <https://ilesonline.idfpr.illinois.gov/DPR/Lookup/LicenseLookup.aspx>

License Renewal (during renewal period): <https://www.idfpr.com/Renewals/defaultSSL.asp>

Update your contact information: <https://www.idfpr.com/applications/LicenseReprint/Verify.aspx>

Download a license: <https://www.idfpr.com/Applications/GetMyLicense/select.asp>

Review the Code Enforcement Manual: http://www.idfpr.com/forms/DPR/Design_Code_Manual.pdf

Registration for a Professional Design Firm: <https://www.idfpr.com/Applications/GetMyLicense/select.asp>

Add or remove professional services from your firm: [Change of Services Request](#)

File a complaint: <https://www.idfpr.com/Admin/Complaints.asp>

License application tips.

- The most important tip is to read the application instructions for the license you are applying for. The instructions will give you precise information on how to properly complete the application and apply for your license.
- We recommend that you pay your application fee by personal or business check. That way you can track when the payment has been processed by the Department. Typically our unit will receive your application for initial review 2-4 business days after the payment has been processed by our accounting unit.
- If you are applying for your initial license with this Department and submitted any supporting documents to Continental Testing Services (CTS) for exam registration— official transcripts for your BS degree (showing conferral date), name change documents, exam verifications, etc., the department should receive those documents from CTS for use with your license application. You do NOT need to submit additional copies of documents unless requested by the Department.
- Applicants applying for licensure for the Professional Engineer, Structural Engineer or Land Surveyor profession may submit an NCEES Record as supplemental documentation to the required license application. Illinois accepts the NCEES record for the education and examination scores. The experience aspect of the record is not accepted in Illinois as each profession requires the respective VE (verification of employment) form to be completed.
- Applicants applying for licensure as an Architect are required to read the Act and Rules and sign/date a self-written affidavit attesting that he/she has read and understands the Illinois Architecture Practice Act and Administrative Rules. This requirement is the most overlooked item when initially sending an application to the Department.
- If you are applying for licensure by Endorsement of license from another U.S. jurisdiction, Illinois allows for self-verification of your experience on the respective VE form if you were operating under your own license.
- If you have questions regarding the application process, we recommend that you contact the Department yourself and not a friend, spouse, mother/father, etc. This will enable you to receive direct information from the Department.

Newly licensed by Illinois?

We recommend that you review the code enforcement manual to ensure that you and your Design Firm are in compliance with all applicable requirements as well as find an example to use when you purchase your Illinois seal. Illinois does not supply a seal or approves any vendors. You may purchase your seal at any vendor you choose. As long as it is a reproducible seal (non-embossed) it will be accepted.

Code Enforcement Manual: http://www.idfpr.com/forms/DPR/Design_Code_Manual.pdf

We also recommend that you review the Act and Administrative Rules for your profession. It is your requirement as a licensee to know the current Statutes for which you are licensed. You may also wish to visit the following sites for resources on available Continuing Education courses for your renewal requirements.

Architect

www.aiaill.org | www.alatoday.org

Professional Land Surveyor

www.iplsa.org

Professional Engineer

www.illinoisengineer.com

Structural Engineer

www.seaoi.org

Monthly Enforcement Actions Taken.

Information regarding disciplinary actions taken against unlicensed individuals, licensed professionals and businesses, including the date(s) of discipline and a brief synopsis are public record and available on our website.

With regard to the design professions, the following enforcement actions were taken in the past few months by the Director of Professional Regulation, Jessica Baer. Note: For the current status of any license, please visit the department's license look-up feature at: <https://ilesonline.idfpr.illinois.gov/DFPR/Lookup/LicenseLookup.aspx>

March:

Architect

Arlene Warda - 001014488

License suspended for failure to file and/or pay Illinois state income taxes.

Professional Engineer

Darien Gildardo Bucio - 062052428

License restored from refuse to renew status and fined \$150.

Jesus Cortez - 061022772

Enrolled professional engineer intern license indefinitely suspended for being more than 30 days delinquent in the payment of child support.



April:

Unlicensed Activity

Altay Architects, Inc.

Ordered to cease and desist the unlicensed practice of architecture.

Officium Design Engineering, LLC.

Ordered to cease and desist the unlicensed practice of structural engineering.

Davor Marlj

Ordered to cease and desist the unlicensed practice of land surveying.

Jesus Serrato and Construction Technology & Design Services, Inc.

Both ordered to cease and desist the unlicensed practice of architecture.

Professional Engineer

Christopher Jenkins - 061031893

Enrolled professional engineer intern license suspended for failure to file and/or pay Illinois state income taxes.

Jason Needham - 062063673

Professional engineer license placed in refuse to renew status due to his felony conviction for unauthorized access of a secured server.

Jeremy VanScyoc - 062057649

Professional engineer license restored to non-reporting probation for five years.

May:

Unlicensed Activity

Andrew Weiss/Reiss

Ordered to cease and desist the unlicensed practice of land surveying.

Upcoming Board Meetings:

We invite the public to attend the [open session](#) of our Board Meetings to gain a better understanding of what current issues are prevalent in the respective professions as well as how the Board is working toward ensuring the Health, Safety and welfare of the public are being protected.

Note: As unforeseen issues may occur, always check the Department website to ensure that the Board is meeting and at what location.

July:

Structural Engineer – July 10, 2018 – Springfield
Professional Engineer – July 11, 2018 – Springfield
Land Surveyor – July 13, 2018—Springfield
Architect – July 24, 2018 – Springfield

September:

Architect – September 13, 2018 – Chicago
Land Surveyor – September 28, 2018 – Chicago
Structural Engineer – September 26-27, 2018 – Chicago
Professional Engineer – September 25, 2018 – Chicago

Want to serve on an Illinois Licensing Board?

The office of citizen is the highest office in the land. One of the best ways to participate in our democracy is by serving on a state board, commission or committee. These groups advise Illinois' state agencies and organizations on a wide range of issues that affect public policy and welfare.

Current Board Openings:

Professional Engineer Board

Licensed Member

Link:

[Board Member Application Form](#)

State of Illinois

Continuing Education / Professional Development Credit

Reading this newsletter is worth credit toward your Illinois Design Profession license renewal requirement of Illinois laws, statutes, rules and regulations.

This shall serve notice and certify that the person named below has earned .25 CE for Architects and Structural Engineers and .25 PDH for Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors by thoroughly reading the July 2018 issue of the DesignTimes, Illinois DPR quarterly newsletter.

PRINTED NAME OF LICENSEE

ATTESTATION:

I attest, on my professional honor and by my signature below, that I have personally read and am familiar with the content of the July 2018 issue of DesignTimes, an Illinois DPR quarterly newsletter.

SIGNATURE OF LICENSEE

DATE

LICENSE NUMBER

NOTES:

- By claiming credit for reading this newsletter, you shall be required to produce the signed and dated certificate as documentation if required.
- You are responsible for maintaining a copy of this completed certificate in your file with your other supporting documentation.

Want to be on the list to receive this newsletter?

Send us an email at: Fpr.prfgroup02@illinois.gov



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Design Unit - 3rd FL
Springfield, IL 62786

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Web: www.idfpr.com



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