EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ENGINEERING LICENSURE

**Approved by the IEEE-USA
Board of Directors (22 Nov. 2019)**

IEEE-USA endorses the need for engineering education to evolve to meet the increasing technical and professional requirements for the practice of electrical, computer, or software engineering; and it supports the efforts of the National Academy of Engineering to anticipate the future educational needs of electrical engineers.[1] IEEE-USA is confident ABET (incorporated as the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology, Inc.), with IEEE input and leadership, will adapt its educational program accreditation criteria to meet the evolving needs of electrical engineering career paths.

- IEEE-USA believes that the current EAC[2]/ABET requirements for an accredited bachelor's degree in Electrical, Computer, or Software Engineering are adequate to attain licensure as a Professional Engineer. Per the NCEES Model Law[3], licensure requires competency as achieved by education, experience and examination. Completing these three steps (with the bachelor's degree representing an acceptable educational level) allows the candidate to demonstrate the necessary skills and ethical standards for licensure.

    IEEE-USA also supports the use of continuing education to keep P.E.s up-to-date with new technological developments. IEEE-USA will work with the IEEE's Educational Activities Board (EAB) to ensure that engineering education is consistent with the licensure-related needs of U.S. IEEE members.

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[1] See, e.g., *Educating the Engineer of 2020: Adapting Engineering Education to the New Century* (National Academy of Engineering, 2005). Source: http://www.nap.edu/catalog/11338.html

[2] Engineering Accreditation Commission, an ABET commission

[3] https://ncees.org/records/model-law-designation/

- Increasing numbers of state licensing boards also require supplementary education and evidence of continuing professional competence--as prerequisites for engineering licensure renewal. Others are considering adopting similar requirements. IEEE-USA encourages those state licensing boards to adopt uniform competency requirements throughout the United States and its territories.

This statement was developed by the IEEE-USA Licensure and Registration Committee, and represents the considered judgment of a group of U.S. IEEE members with expertise in the subject field. IEEE-USA advances the public good and promotes the careers and public policy interests of the nearly 180,000 engineering, computing and allied professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. The positions taken by IEEE-USA do not necessarily reflect the views of IEEE, or its other organizational units.