

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR
PROFESSIONAL SOIL CLASSIFIERS**

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Act No. 81-766 establishes the profession of Soil Classifying, designates a state board of registration, provides for the regulation of that profession, and outlines the activities and procedures of this Board. However, the Act allows the Board latitude in certain areas and requires rules of application in other areas.

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION:

Application for registration as a Professional Soil Classifier shall be made on a form provided by the Board. The applicant shall answer all questions on the form. Among other things, the applicant shall provide the Board with the following:

(1) References: Applicants for Professional Soil Classifier shall provide 5 references, three of whom shall be Professional Soil Classifiers (in or out-of-state) and two shall be character references.

(2) Transcripts: Applicants shall provide the Board with transcripts for relevant college or university courses they have attempted.

(3) Experience: Applicants are to provide the Board with a descriptive record of their present and past employment. They are also to provide the Board with any other information which relates to their competence as a soil classifier such as reports published, professional organizations, etc.

The Board reserves the right to ask for additional information or ask the applicant to appear before the Board. The Board may, with sufficient reason, waive any requirement not specifically made by the Act.

(4) Deadline for Application: All applications, including the application itself, transcript(s), references (total of 5), examples of mapping, and non-refundable application fee of \$100.00, are due to the address listed on the application form **no later than May 1st** to be considered for examination the 3rd Tuesday in June.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR REGISTRATION:

1. An applicant for registration as a Professional Soil Classifier shall maintain high personal and professional ethics and standards as described in the code of ethics of the Alabama State Board of Registration for Professional Soil Classifiers.

2. An applicant for registration as a Professional Soil Classifier shall be qualified pursuant to either of the following:

(a) A graduate of an approved four-year college curriculum leading to a Bachelor of Science Degree, or its equivalent, in which the applicant has majored in a soils curriculum; and with a specific record of an additional one year or more of experience in soil classification of a grade and character which indicates to the Board that the applicant may be competent to practice as a soil classifier; and be otherwise qualified. Teaching soil classification courses in a college or university offering an approved four-year soil science or agronomic curriculum should be considered as experience in soil investigations;

(b) A graduate of any approved four-year college curriculum, leading to a Bachelor of Science Degree; and with a specific record of an additional two years or more experience in soil classification of a grade and character which indicates to the Board that the applicant

may be competent to practice as a soil classifier; and be otherwise qualified.

An applicant for registration as a Professional Soil Classifier shall sit for and pass an examination (minimum passing score of 65) before the Board or its authorized representatives.

EXAMINATIONS:

Examinations on the fundamentals of soil classification and on the principles and practice of soil classifying shall be held on dates and at locations designated by the Board. Each applicant shall be notified in writing at least 20 days in advance as to the state and location of the appropriate examination. Examinations shall be prepared and administered by persons designated by the board.

An examination on the fundamentals of soil classification and on the principles and practice of soil classifying will consist of a written, oral, and field examination.

FEES:

Application Fee -- \$100.00

Initial Registration Fee, Soil Classifier -- \$40.00

Reexamination -- \$10.00

~~Temporary -- \$40.00~~

ROSTER:

The Secretary of the Board shall provide upon request a roster of Professional Soil Classifiers registered by this Board. This roster will also indicate which Professional Soil Classifiers are available for consultant contracting.

REGISTRATION WITHOUT EXAMINATION (RECIPROCITY):

An applicant otherwise qualified shall be admitted to registration as a Professional Soil Classifier without examination if he or she holds a certificate of registration in the practice of soil classifying on the basis of comparable qualifications issued by a proper authority of another state, possession or territory of the United States and who in the opinion of the Board meets the requirements of this Act.

STANDARDS:

The Board accepts the standards of the National Cooperative Soil Survey for Professional Soil Classifiers practicing in Alabama.

TEMPORARY PERMITS:

Temporary permits may be issued to non-residents or persons who have recently become residents, for specific jobs and for specific periods of time, not to exceed 30 days in any calendar year. Applicants applying for a temporary permit are required to follow the normal registration procedures or hold a certificate of registration in the practice of soil classifying on the basis of comparable qualifications issued by a proper authority of another state, possession or territory of the United States and who in the opinion of the Board meets the requirements of this Act. The Board may consider additional temporary permits to the same applicant without examination.

REGISTRATION:

An applicant who has passed the examination or has otherwise qualified as a Professional Soil Classifier upon payment of the registration fee fixed by this Act, shall receive a certificate as a registered professional soil classifier.

Any applicant who is denied registration or authorization shall, in writing be so notified and informed of the reason therefor. Within 30 days after receipt of notice, such applicant may make written request to the Board for a hearing which, if granted, shall be heard by the Board.