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SENATE BILL 312

**54TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2019**

INTRODUCED BY

George K. Munoz

AN ACT

RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE; CHANGING THE STANDARDS FOR  
LICENSING SURVEYORS AND SURVEYOR INTERNS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. Section 61-23-27.3 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,  
Chapter 218, Section 24, as amended) is amended to read:

"61-23-27.3. CERTIFICATION OF SURVEYOR INTERN--  
REQUIREMENTS.--

A. An applicant for certification as a surveyor  
intern shall file the appropriate application and demonstrate  
that the applicant:

- (1) is of good moral character and reputation;
- (2) has obtained ~~[at least a senior]~~ a board-

approved status in a board-approved ~~[four-year curriculum in]~~  
surveying or related science curriculum; and

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1 (3) has three references, two of whom shall be  
2 licensed professional surveyors having personal knowledge of  
3 the applicant's knowledge and experience.

4 B. After acceptance of the application by the  
5 board, the applicant shall be allowed to take the appropriate  
6 examination for certification as a surveyor intern.

7 C. Upon successfully completing the examination and  
8 an approved [~~four-year~~] surveying or related science  
9 curriculum, then by action of the board, the applicant may be  
10 certified as a surveyor intern.

11 D. The certification of surveyor intern does not  
12 permit the intern to practice surveying. Certification as a  
13 surveyor intern is intended to demonstrate that the intern has  
14 obtained certain skills in surveying fundamentals and is  
15 pursuing a career in surveying.

16 E. If otherwise qualified, [~~a graduate of a board-~~  
17 ~~approved but related curriculum of at least four years~~] a  
18 candidate to be considered for certification as a surveyor  
19 intern shall have a specific record of [~~four~~] two years of  
20 combined office and field board-approved surveying experience  
21 obtained under the direction of a licensed professional  
22 surveyor. Class time will not be counted in the [~~four~~] two  
23 years of required experience, but work prior to or while  
24 attending school may be counted toward the [~~four~~] two years of  
25 required experience at the discretion of the board."

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1           SECTION 2. Section 61-23-27.4 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1993,  
2 Chapter 218, Section 25, as amended) is amended to read:

3           "61-23-27.4. LICENSURE AS A PROFESSIONAL SURVEYOR--  
4 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.--

5           A. Licensure as a professional surveyor may be  
6 either through examination, through experience or through  
7 endorsement or comity. [~~In either case~~] An applicant shall  
8 file the appropriate application to demonstrate that the  
9 applicant:

10                           (1) is of good moral character and reputation;

11                           (2) is certified as a surveyor intern; and

12                           ~~[(3) has at least four years of board-approved~~  
13 ~~surveying experience if graduated from a four-year, board-~~  
14 ~~approved surveying curriculum as defined by board rule;~~

15                           ~~(4)]~~ (3) has five references, three of which  
16 shall be from licensed professional surveyors having personal  
17 knowledge of the applicant's surveying experience; and either

18                           (4) after attaining a survey intern  
19 certificate, has at least four years of board-approved  
20 surveying experience under the direct supervision of a licensed  
21 professional surveyor and has completed a board-approved  
22 surveying curriculum as defined by board rule;

23                           (5) [~~if graduated from a board-approved, four-~~  
24 ~~year]~~ after attaining a survey intern certificate, has at least  
25 four years of board-approved surveying experience under the

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1 direct supervision of a licensed professional surveyor and has  
2 completed a board-approved related science curriculum as  
3 ~~[specifically] defined by board rules [has a minimum of four~~  
4 ~~years of board-approved surveying experience subsequent to~~  
5 ~~certification as a surveyor intern]; or~~

6 (6) has a certification as a New Mexico  
7 surveyor intern and at least fifteen years of continuous  
8 experience in New Mexico performing all duties of surveying  
9 practice under the direct supervision of a licensed surveyor  
10 and has obtained an associate's degree in a board-approved  
11 surveying or a related science curriculum or its equivalent as  
12 defined by board rules and has no record of a violation of the  
13 Engineering and Surveying Practice Act.

14 B. The applicant's experience pursuant to  
15 Paragraphs ~~[(3) and (5)]~~ (4) through (6) of Subsection A of  
16 this section shall, at a minimum, include three years of  
17 increasingly responsible experience in boundary surveying ~~[and~~  
18 ~~four years of increasingly responsible experience under the~~  
19 ~~direct supervision of a licensed professional surveyor].~~

20 C. If an applicant satisfies the requirements under  
21 Paragraphs (1), (2) and (3) of Subsection A of this section,  
22 after acceptance of the application by the board, the applicant  
23 shall be allowed to take the appropriate examination for  
24 licensure as a professional surveyor.

25 D. Upon successfully completing ~~[the examination]~~

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1 all required examinations, the applicant shall be eligible to  
2 be licensed as a professional surveyor upon action of the  
3 board.

4 E. An applicant who satisfies the requirements  
5 under Paragraph (6) of Subsection A of this section and who  
6 successfully completes an examination administered by the board  
7 shall be eligible to be licensed as a professional surveyor  
8 upon action of the board.

9 ~~[E.]~~ F. If otherwise qualified, an applicant may be  
10 licensed if the applicant is currently licensed as a  
11 professional surveyor in:

12 (1) the District of Columbia, another state, a  
13 territory or a possession of the United States; provided that:

14 (a) licensure does not conflict with the  
15 provisions of the Engineering and Surveying Practice Act and  
16 that the standards required for licensure and the applicant's  
17 qualifications equaled or exceeded the licensure standards in  
18 New Mexico at the time the applicant was initially licensed;  
19 and

20 (b) the applicant has passed  
21 examinations the board deems necessary to determine the  
22 applicant's qualifications, including a written examination  
23 that includes questions on laws, procedures and practices  
24 pertaining to surveying in this state; or

25 (2) a foreign country and can demonstrate to

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1 the board's satisfaction:

2 (a) evidence that the licensure was  
3 based on standards that equal or exceed those currently  
4 required for licensure by the Engineering and Surveying  
5 Practice Act; and

6 (b) competence in current surveying  
7 standards and procedures by passing examinations the board  
8 deems necessary to determine the applicant's qualification,  
9 including a written examination that includes questions on  
10 laws, procedures and practices pertaining to surveying in New  
11 Mexico."

12 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the  
13 provisions of this act is July 1, 2019.

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