 

**Application for**

**BOARD-CERTIFIED GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER (BC.GE)**

**Board Certification**

Eligibility Requirements:

* Active practice.
* P.E. license.**1**
* Bachelor’s degree in engineering.
* Master's degree in Geotechnical Engineering or Civil Engineering.**2**
* 10 years professional geotechnical engineering experience, of which

8 years was after the first P.E. license.

* Attainment of the Geotechnical Engineering Body of Knowledge.
* Adherence to the ASCE Code of Ethics.

For detailed eligibility information, visit [asce.org/certification](http://www.asce.org/certification) and navigate to the

Geotechnical Engineering page.

Questions? Contact us cec@asce.org

# \*\*\*IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING ELIGIBILITY FOR BOARD-CERTIFIED GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEER (BC.GE) CERTIFICATION\*\*\*

The Academy of Geo-Professionals (AGP) thanks you for applying for the Board-Certified Geotechnical Engineer (BC.GE) certification. We are pleased that you understand, and share with those who have pursued this certification, the importance and value our profession places on the BC.GE certification. The enclosed application is designed to help the Application Committee determine if you qualify for the BC.GE certification. Please note the minimum requirements listed on the cover page and in detail on the CEC website. Applications from individuals not meeting these minimum requirements will be returned without review. **As an advisory, those practicing in California and Oregon must also have the additional Geotechnical Engineering license before they can represent themselves as a Geotechnical Engineer.**

The details provided in your application will help the Application Committee determine if an oral exam is required to grant certification. Particular attention should be paid to your responses to the requirements regarding progressive responsible charge after earning your P.E., as well as information about the type of geotechnical engineering work that you have completed. Please be advised that exams will not be waived for individuals with less than 15 years of total experience.

If required, an oral exam will be conducted by a three-person panel comprised of current BC.GEs. All exams are confidential and will consist of three parts: a summary of your experience and current responsibilities; a 20 to 30-minute presentation of one or two projects on which you were lead engineer and which demonstrates advanced understanding of at least one area of geotechnical engineering; and a question-and-answer period with the panelists. The panel exam interview should take approximately 90 minutes, depending on specifics of your presentation, and length of the question-and-answer period.

1. Applicant must possess a valid license to practice professional engineering recognized by a State, District or Territory of the U.S. Foreign licenses will be also considered, but applicant must provide documentation demonstrating equivalency.

2. Master's degree must either be in geotechnical engineering, or in civil engineering with a focus in geotechnical engineering.

## Personal Information:

Name: Organization: Position: Address: Phone:

E-mail Address:

Supervisor:

## How did you hear about the geotechnical engineering board certification?

## Education: \*(Please list name of school, city, state/province, country, degree received, college/school/program of degree, and month/year of degree)

Bachelors\*: Masters\*: Doctoral\*:

List Post Graduate Coursework on a separate page (or send transcripts).

* 1. **Licensure Information OR Foreign Equivalent Registration or Licensure –** Attach additional pages as necessary:

State(s):

License numbers:

Date and location of original license:

Month and Date of First P.E. license:

If non-U.S. license, Country(s):

**Experience –** Please provide, on attached pages, your complete work history, including a clear demonstration of at least eight years of progressive responsible charge after earning your PE. Your work history should describe your years and types of employment since completing your BS degree. Also, provide at least four to five project descriptions that summarize the type of project, the nature of geotechnical engineering work that was accomplished, your role in the project, and the advanced understanding that you provide. The descriptions should show that you have participated in the planning, design, analysis, operation, management, regulation, research, or teaching of geotechnical engineering. In the case of teaching, the work experience must be at a college of engineering program accredited by ABET, Inc., acceptable to the AGP. Limit the project descriptions to no more than one or two paragraphs comprised of at least four or five sentences per paragraph. **Projects examples should be within the past 5 to 10 years.**

**Honors/Awards** – Attach additional pages as necessary: 1.

2.

3.

**Publications** – Attach additional pages as necessary: 1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Evidence of Professional Activities (i.e., - associations and the roles/activities you’ve had with them)** – Attach additional pages as necessary:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**Have there ever been or are there currently any actions against your P.E. license?** (If yes, please describe and attach additional pages as necessary)

 Yes

 No

## Achievement of Body of Knowledge Criteria

You must demonstrate you’ve achieved expertise in at least one (no more than three) of the technical specialty areas within the Geo-Profession listed below. Please provide one or two paragraphs for at least four to five recent projects and a description of your specific geotechnical engineering contribution to these projects. We want to know about the type of geotechnical engineering that was done on the project – from field investigations through engineering calculations.

We are particularly interested in your recent experience and therefore request that project descriptions be from the past 5 to 10 years. This information will help us judge the level of geotechnical work that you have been doing relative to what is required in the Body of Knowledge.

**PLEASE SELECT NO MORE THAN 3 AREAS OF EXPERTISE:**

o Site Characterization

o Laboratory/Field Testing and Analysis

o Foundations

o Slope Stability

o Excavations and Retaining

o Structures Tunnels and Underground Construction

o Embankments, Dams, and Levees

o Geosynthetics

o Ground Improvement

o Soil and Rock Dynamics

o Geoenvironmental Engineering

o Geotechnical Earthquake

o Engineering Pavements

o Other (self-designated)

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## PROFESSIONAL ETHICS

[**American Society of Civil Engineers Code of Ethics**](https://www.asce.org/career-growth/ethics/code-of-ethics)

**PREAMBLE**

BC.GEs of The Academy of Geo-Professionals shall conduct themselves with integrity and professionalism, and above all else protect and advance the health, safety, and welfare of the public through the practice of civil engineering.

Engineers govern their professional careers on the following fundamental principles:

• create safe, resilient, and sustainable infrastructure;

• treat all persons with respect, dignity, and fairness in a manner that fosters equitable participation without regard to personal identity;

• consider the current and anticipated needs of society; and

• utilize their knowledge and skills to enhance the quality of life for humanity.

BC.GEs of the Academy of Geo-Professionals shall commit to the following ethical responsibilities. In the case of a conflict between ethical responsibilities, the five stakeholders are listed in the order of priority. There is no priority of responsibilities within a given stakeholder group with the exception that 1a. takes precedence over all other responsibilities. 1

**CODE OF ETHICS**

1. SOCIETY

BC.GEs:

a. first and foremost, shall protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public;

b. enhance the quality of life for humanity;

c. express professional opinions truthfully and only when founded on adequate knowledge and honest conviction;

d. have zero tolerance for bribery, fraud, and corruption in all forms, and report violations to the proper authorities;

e. endeavor to be of service in civic affairs;

f. treat all persons with respect, dignity, and fairness, and reject all forms of discrimination and harassment;

g. acknowledge the diverse historical, social, and cultural needs of the community, and incorporate these considerations in their work;

h. consider the capabilities, limitations, and implications of current and emerging technologies when part of their work; and

i. report misconduct to the appropriate authorities where necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

1. NATURAL AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT

BC.GEs:

a. adhere to the principles of sustainable development;

b. consider and balance societal, environmental, and economic impacts, along with opportunities for improvement, in their work;

c. mitigate adverse societal, environmental, and economic effects; and

d. use resources wisely while minimizing resource depletion.

1. PROFESSION

BC.GEs:

a. shall uphold the honor, integrity, and dignity of the profession;

b. practice engineering in compliance with all legal requirements in the jurisdiction of practice;

c. represent their professional qualifications and experience truthfully;

d. reject practices of unfair competition;

e. promote mentorship and knowledge-sharing equitably with current and future engineers;

f. educate the public on the role of civil engineering in society; and

g. continue professional development to enhance their technical and non-technical competencies.

1. CLIENTS AND EMPLOYERS

BC.GEs:

a. shall act as faithful agents of their clients and employers with integrity and professionalism;

b. make clear to clients and employers any real, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest;

c. communicate in a timely manner to clients and employers any risks and limitations related to their work;

d. present clearly and promptly the consequences to clients and employers if their engineering judgment is overruled where health, safety, and welfare of the public may be endangered;

e. keep clients’ and employers’ proprietary information confidential;

f. perform services only in areas of their competence; and

g. approve, sign, or seal only work products that have been prepared or reviewed by them or under their responsible charge.

1. PEERS

BC.GEs:

a. shall only take credit for professional work they have personally completed;

b. provide attribution for the work of others;

c. foster health and safety in the workplace;

d. promote and exhibit inclusive, equitable, and ethical behavior in all engagements with colleagues;

e. act with honesty and fairness on collaborative work efforts;

f. encourage and enable the education and development of other engineers and prospective members of the profession;

g. supervise equitably and respectfully;

h. comment only in a professional manner on the work, professional reputation, and personal character of other engineers; and

i. report violations of the Code of Ethics to the Academy of Geo-Professionals.

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1This Code does not establish a standard of care, nor should it be interpreted as such.

**I attest that I have read, understand, and accept the ASCE Code of Ethics and agree to adhere to it. I further understand and agree that violation of the ASCE Code of Ethics is grounds for expulsion from the Academy of Geo-Professionals and revocation of the Board-Certified Geotechnical Engineer (BC.GE) credential.**

Signature Date

**APPLICANT AGREEMENT FORM**

1. I agree to conduct myself in accordance with AGP policies and requirements, including the ASCE Code of Ethics and the Continuing Certification Requirements.
2. I agree not to discuss, debrief, or disclose, in any manner, the specific content of the certification oral assessment questions and answers to any individual.
3. I agree that any failure to provide true, timely and complete responses to questions in this application or renewal form may result in rejection or loss of certification.
4. I certify that I currently hold a professional engineers license in the United States jurisdiction indicated on my application or have provided AGP with sufficient documentation to demonstrate my license equivalency from a foreign jurisdiction.
5. I will report to the AGP within 60 days, any action by the licensing board against my professional license by any jurisdiction in which I have a professional engineer license.
6. I agree to notify the AGP in a timely manner of changes concerning the information I have provided, including my current professional engineer license, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address.
7. I agree that the AGP has the right to confirm the information in this application or any supporting documents.
8. I agree that information related to my participation in the AGP certification process can only be used in an anonymous manner by AGP and its affiliates.
9. I understand and agree that any decision concerning my qualifications for certification rest within the sole and exclusive discretion of the AGP.
10. I agree that certification as Board-Certified Geotechnical Engineer does not imply licensure, registration or government authorization to practice professional engineering.
11. I agree to release AGP from all liability and claims that may arise out of, or be related to, my professional engineering work and related activities.

## I hereby attest to my agreement with the foregoing statements. I further understand and agree that violation of the ASCE Code of Ethics or non-compliance with any of the foregoing may be grounds for revocation of certification of Board-Certified Geotechnical Engineer by the Academy of Geo-Professionals.

 Signature Date

**ORAL ASSESSMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

AGP encourages all qualified applicants to take the Board-Certified Geotechnical Engineer (BC.GE) oral assessment and works to address all reasonable disability related accommodations disclosed with this application. **Please note, AGP conducts oral assessments virtually through Microsoft Teams online meeting platform**.

Please check one of the two options:

1. I DO NOT have a disability (as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or other applicable state or local law/regulation) that requires reasonable accommodation during the oral assessment.

2. I HAVE a disability (as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act or other applicable state or local law/regulation) that requires reasonable accommodation during the oral assessment.

If you checked item 2 and indicated that you have (YES) a disability that requires reasonable accommodation during the oral assessment, please provide:

(1) documentation on your disability (please attach letter or other disability documentation from qualified expert such as treating physician)

(2) a brief explanation of how this disability impacts your ability to take the oral assessment,

and

(3) your requested reasonable accommodation.

The Academy retains the right to verify the claimed disability and provide reasonable accommodation of its choosing to enable equal access to the BC.GE oral assessment.

By signing this page, the applicant agrees and attests that no reasonable accommodations are required beyond those outlined above.

Signature Date

## PAYMENT INFORMATION($350 ASCE or G-I Member / $450 Non-members)

**Please note, the application fee is part of a multi-step application process and is non-refundable. Please confirm you meet the eligibility requirements before paying your application fee.**

Application steps for board certification:

1. Submit the **completed application** and your **resume or C.V.**

2. Pay the [**application fee**](https://sp360.asce.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Merchandise/Product-Details/productId/186186338).

3. Send the [**reference form**](https://www.asce.org/-/media/asce-images-and-files/career-and-growth/cec/documents/agp-reference-form-sept-2023.docx) to a minimum of three references (must be licensed professional engineers).\*

*\*If only 3 references are submitted, each reference must be from separate organizations.*

Once all application documents are received, the application will be reviewed by the Admissions Committee. A status of application will be provided to you after full review by the Admissions Committee.

**Ready to Submit your Application Fee?**

Select payment method below:

\_\_ Pay for application [**fee online now**](https://sp360.asce.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Merchandise/Product-Details/productId/186186338) **\*Recommended method**

\_\_ \*I will mail a check made payable to the “Academy of Geo-Professionals or AGP”.

\***Please send checks to**:

AGP

1801 Alexander Bell Dr

Reston, VA 20191

USA

**IMPORTANT**: Please submit your completed application form, resume and confirmation of payment to AGP by email: agp@asce.org to move forward with your submission.