

Geology Licensure in the United States

Developing valid competency measures for the practice of geology since 1990



The Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) connects the individual state geologic registration licensing boards for the planning and preparation of uniform procedures and the coordination of geologic protective measures for the general public.

PUBLIC PRACTICE OF GEOLOGY

Applied work in any branch of the profession of geology.

Licensure may be required when applied work engages projects that may affect the health, safety and welfare of the public and the environment.

Geologic investigations may also have economic impacts to the environment or infrastructure.

BENEFITS OF GEOLOGY LICENSURE

Leadership & promotion potential

Signature authority on deliverables

Promotes business expansion

Expert-level guidance and testimony

Mentorship opportunities for staff

Equal ground with other professions

REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE

Each state has somewhat different requirements; however, there are core items that are similar:

- Earned degree in the geosciences
- Supervised work experience
- Pass both FG and PG exams

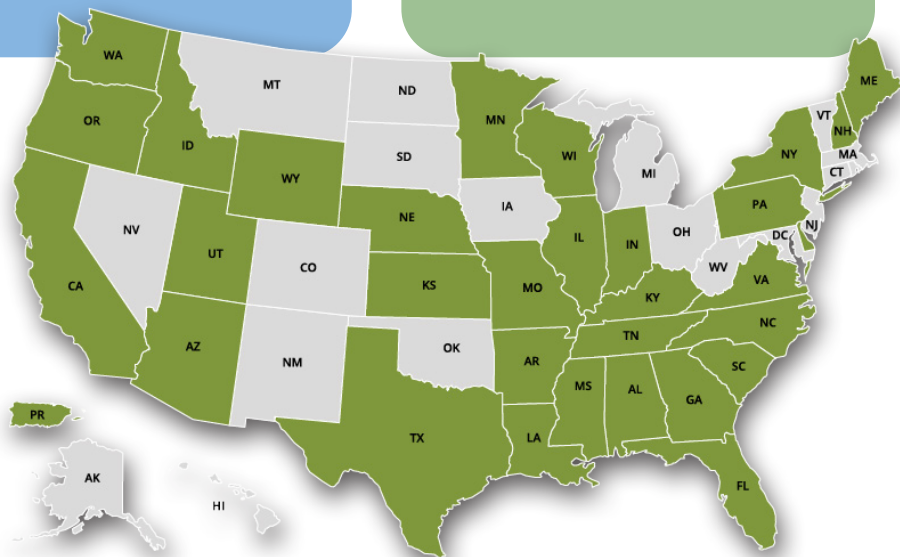
Many states also require continuing education to maintain licensure.

REGISTER FOR AN ASBOG EXAM

Eligibility to sit for the FG and PG exams is determined by each State Board. To apply candidates should contact the Board for the state in which they wish to seek licensure. Once Board has approved and pre-registered a candidate, the candidate will receive an email ~6 weeks before the exam that will contain registration instructions. Examinees will be able to sign up and take the exam(s) at any of 500+ Prometric testing facilities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

<https://www.asbog.org/>



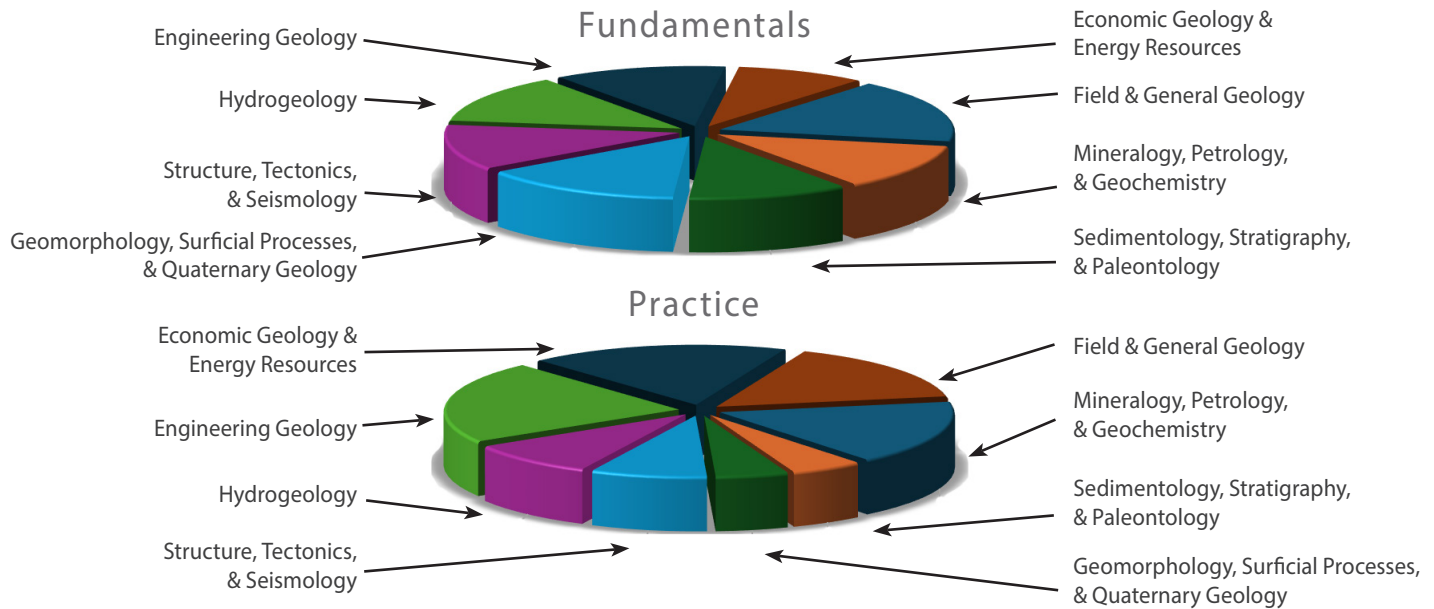
GREEN: ASBOG MEMBER BOARD STATE
GRAY: NON-REGULATORY STATE

WHICH STATES HAVE LICENSURE?

ASBOG FUNDAMENTALS AND PRACTICE EXAMS

Twice each year ASBOG develops a Fundamentals of Geology (FG) and Practice of Geology (PG) exam. The composition of each exam follows the pie charts below, and these percentages are determined by a task analysis survey every 5 to 7 years. The exams are administered by a computer-based testing center on the 3rd Friday of March and the 1st Friday of October at computer-based testing centers located in every state. Following each exam date, a Council of Examiners Workshop comprised of Subject Matter Experts independently considers the performance, validity, and test taker comments for every question before the scores are finalized and issued to the state boards.

KNOWLEDGE DOMAINS FOR TEST COMPOSITION



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Candidate handbook



FG Exam Prep Course



Candidate FAQ

EXAMS WITH NATIONWIDE VALIDITY

The 2023 Task Analysis Survey revealed a remarkable nationwide consistency in the practice of geology since 2010. Geologists of all experience, education level, and state of residency assigned similar weighting to tasks under each knowledge domain. These findings provide a sound basis for developing FG and PG Test Blueprints that are relevant to the practice of the profession throughout the nation.

