The 2014 FE and FS Transition:

CANDIDATE INFORMATION FOR THE SWITCH TO COMPUTER-BASED TESTING

Prepared April 2013

BACKGROUND

Transition to CBT Underway

Exam candidates planning to take the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) or the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam in 2014 will see significant changes in both format and administration. NCEES and its exam vendor, Pearson VUE, are slated to complete the transition of both exams to computer-based testing (CBT) by January 2014. New FE specifications and FS specifications have been developed and posted on the NCEES website.

The last administration of both exams in pencil-and-paper format will be in October 2013. After that, candidates can begin to register for the January CBT administration on November 4, 2013. Four two-month testing windows will be available in 2014 and each year thereafter. Candidates will be able to take the exams one time during each testing window, but are limited to three times total in a 12-month period.

PROCEDURE

You’ve Been Approved to Take the FE or FS. Now What?

- Registration for both exams will open Monday, November 4, 2013. The first available seating at a Pearson VUE testing center for the FE and FS exams will be Tuesday, January 2, 2014.

- There will be four testing windows for the FE and FS exams annually. Each of these windows will last two months, with a month between each testing window.

- Candidates for a CBT exam may take the exam only one time per testing window and no more than three times in a 12-month period.

- Beginning November 4, 2013, candidates registering to take the FE or FS exam will be required to pay NCEES directly for all exam-related fees. This will be included as a part of the online registration process and will require payment with MasterCard or Visa.

- The FE and FS exams will be six hours in length, and will continue to be closed-book. Supplied reference material will be available on the NCEES website. Examinees will be allowed to bring NCEES-approved calculators.

- Sample exams for the computer-based FE and FS will be available for purchase after the October 2013 exam administration.

CONTACTS AND MD TESTING LOCATIONS

State Board for Professional Engineers
Phone: 410-230-6269
Email: peeltexam@dllr.state.md.us
www.dllr.state.md.us/license/pe/

State Board for Professional Surveyors
Phone: 410-230-6256
Email: surveyor@dllr.state.md.us
www.dllr.state.md.us/license/ls/

Pearson VUE Testing Locations
Baltimore, Bethesda, Columbia and Salisbury

NCEES.ORG
ncees.org/CBT

TIMELINE

Important Dates in the Transition

- July 2013 – Sample FE and FS exams and supplied references released

- October 2013 – Last administration of the FE and FS exams in paper-and-pencil format

- November 2013 – Registration for the FE and FS exams in CBT format

- January 2014 – First offering of the FE and FS in CBT format