# Licensure **EXCHANGE**

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## Headquarters Update

# New initiatives promote FE and FS exams

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GETTING COLLEGE STUDENTS ON THE PATH to licensure when they graduate is a primary goal of NCEES marketing and outreach efforts. Those who take and pass the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) or Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) exam at or near the time of graduation set themselves apart from the crowd when applying for jobs, and they enter the workforce with an added boost of confidence in knowing they are ready and on their way to becoming licensed. They are able to look forward toward completing the path as opposed to starting it. When talking to students, we often say, "You don't know you need it until you need it and don't have it." Just ask anyone who has been in this situation, and they'll tell you it's much easier and far better to have it when you graduate.

#### Digital badges

We're excited to introduce a new FE- and FSfocused initiative that launched in July to target current college students. NCEES has partnered with Credly to provide digital badges to examinees upon passing one of these exams. These digital badges can be displayed through social media, in email signatures, and in digital résumés to recognize their achievement and let others know they are on the path to licensure. The process is simple, and it is a great way for examinees to celebrate their





NCEES has partnered with Credly to provide digital badges for individuals who pass the FE and FS exams. The initiative launched in July 2022.



All three "big swings" saw significant progress made-some were fully completed; others will carry over into next year.

to licensure's public protections. We continue our support of and active participation in the Alliance for Responsible Professional Licensing, Engineering Change Lab-USA, DiscoverE, and many others. Our society partners continue to help provide subject-matter experts for our exam development committees. One new initiative started in January is a deeper analysis of overlapping or incidental practice between professions. This will be a shared effort between NCEES and our partners in architecture, landscape architecture, and interior design. Stay tuned as this gets underway in late 2022 and early 2023.

In conclusion, I want to express my humblest appreciation for the opportunity to serve this Council and our professions this year. I always tell anybody who asks me



2021–22 President Brian Robertson, P.E., (left) addresses delegates at the 2021 NCEES annual meeting. During his speech at the virtual meeting, President Robertson outlined the priority initiatives for his upcoming term.

that serving on the Colorado licensing board and my work with NCEES have been the most rewarding aspect of my entire consulting engineering career. Thank you for your enthusiasm and support for our noble mission.

Robertson is 2021-22 NCEES president and an emeritus member of the Colorado State Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers, and Professional Land Surveyors.

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accomplishment. Anyone who sees the digital badge can click on it to learn more about its significance and the value of licensure. The option has been well received by examinees, and we look forward to seeing use of the badges grow and spread through social media.

#### Honor cords

Another new initiative we are working on is providing FE and FS honor cords for students to wear during their commencement exercises. The civil engineering department at the University of South Carolina started doing this a few months ago based on the suggestion of one of their graduating seniors. They had a great response from their students, and we believe this will be a great incentive to take the exams before graduating. We are working with them to learn more about the process and hope to be able to offer FE and FS honor cords to all students who pass the FE and FS exams prior to graduation starting in December.

We are always looking for new ways to promote licensure to students, and your suggestions are always welcome. We appreciate all that member boards and volunteers do to support our efforts. As a reminder, promotional items and pop-up banners are available to member boards at no cost through the outreach fulfillment center in MyNCEES. These items are easily ordered online and delivered directly to you. Stay tuned for more exciting things coming in the future!