

HB 223

2014

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to professional geology; amending s.
3 492.105, F.S.; revising requirements for professional
4 geologist licensure applicants to take the licensure
5 examination; creating s. 492.1051, F.S.; providing for
6 registration of geologists in training; providing
7 requirements for geologist in training applicants to
8 take the fundamentals of geology portion of the
9 licensure examination; exempting registered geologists
10 in training seeking licensure as a professional
11 geologist from retaking the fundamentals of geology
12 portion of the licensure examination; providing an
13 effective date.

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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Paragraphs (d) and (e) of subsection (1) of
18 section 492.105, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

19 492.105 Licensure by examination; requirements; fees.—

20 (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a professional
21 geologist shall apply to the department to take the licensure
22 examination. The written licensure examination shall be designed
23 to test an applicant's qualifications to practice professional
24 geology, and shall include such subjects as will tend to
25 ascertain the applicant's knowledge of the theory and the
26 practice of professional geology and may include such subjects
27 as are taught in curricula of accredited colleges and
28 universities. The department shall examine each applicant who

29 | the board certifies:

30 | (d) Fulfills the following educational requirements at a
 31 | college or university the geological curricula of which meet the
 32 | criteria established by an accrediting agency recognized by the
 33 | United States Department of Education:

34 | 1. Graduation from such college or university with a major
 35 | in geology or other related science acceptable to the board; and

36 | 2. Satisfactory completion of at least 30 semester hours
 37 | or 45 quarter hours of geological courses, ~~24 of which must be~~
 38 | ~~at the third or fourth year or graduate level.~~

39 | (e) Has at least 5 ~~7~~ years of verified professional
 40 | geological work experience, which shall include a minimum of 3
 41 | years of professional geological work under the supervision of a
 42 | licensed or qualified geologist or professional engineer
 43 | registered under chapter 471 as qualified in the field or
 44 | discipline of professional engineering involved; or have a
 45 | minimum of 5 years of verified ~~accumulative years'~~ experience in
 46 | responsible charge of geological work. ~~The following criteria of~~
 47 | ~~education and experience qualify, as specified, toward~~
 48 | ~~accumulation of the required 7 years of professional geological~~
 49 | ~~work:~~

50 | 1. ~~Each year of undergraduate study in the geological~~
 51 | ~~sciences shall count as 1/2 year of the experience requirement,~~
 52 | ~~up to a maximum of 2 years, and each year of graduate study~~
 53 | ~~shall count as 1 year of the experience requirement.~~

54 | 2. ~~Credit for undergraduate study, graduate study, and~~
 55 | ~~graduate courses, individually or in any combination thereof,~~
 56 | ~~shall in no case exceed a total of 2 years toward meeting the~~

57 ~~requirements for at least 7 years of professional geological~~
58 ~~work.~~

59 ~~3. Full-time teaching or research in the geological~~
60 ~~sciences at the college level shall be credited year for year~~
61 ~~toward meeting the requirement in this category.~~

62 ~~4. The ability of the applicant shall have been~~
63 ~~demonstrated by his or her having performed the work in a~~
64 ~~responsible position as determined by the board.~~

65 Section 2. Section 492.1051, Florida Statutes, is created
66 to read:

67 492.1051 Registered geologist in training; requirements.-

68 (1) A person desiring to register as a geologist in
69 training shall apply to the department to take the fundamentals
70 of geology portion of the examination required for licensure as
71 a professional geologist in this state. The department shall
72 examine each applicant who the board certifies:

73 (a) Has completed the application form and remitted a
74 nonrefundable application fee and an examination fee that is
75 refundable if the applicant is found to be ineligible to take
76 the examination.

77 (b) Has not committed an act or offense in any
78 jurisdiction which would constitute the basis for disciplining a
79 professional geologist licensed pursuant to this chapter.

80 (c) Has completed at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter
81 hours of geological coursework at a college or university the
82 geological curricula of which meet the criteria established by
83 an accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department
84 of Education, and if still enrolled, has provided a letter of

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85 good academic standing from such college or university.

86 (2) The department shall register as a geologist in
87 training each applicant who the board certifies has passed the
88 fundamentals of geology portion of the licensure examination.

89 (3) A registered geologist in training desiring to be
90 licensed as a professional geologist shall apply to the
91 department to take the licensure examination as prescribed in s.
92 492.105(1), but is not required to retake the fundamentals of
93 geology portion of the licensure examination.

94 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.