



*A SunCam online continuing education course*

# Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers

by

Mark Ludwigson, P.E.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

Course Outline:

[225 ILCS 340 "Statutes"](#)

[IAC Part 1480 "Rules"](#)

[2025 Rule Changes](#)

[Sign and Seal Requirements](#)

[Practice of Structural Engineering](#)

[Continuing Education](#)

[Helpful References](#)

Examination



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

**225 ILCS 340 “Statutes”**

Laws enacted by the Illinois legislature (aka Illinois General Assembly) are called Illinois Compiled Statutes (ILCS). The statutes are organized as follows:

ILCS

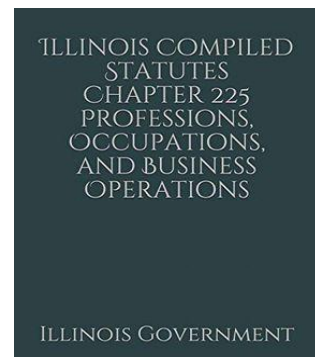
- **Category**
  - **Chapter**
    - **Subhead**
      - **Act**
        - **Section**
          - Paragraph

The statutes for professional engineers are in “225 ILCS 325” called “Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989” while structural engineers are in “225 ILCS 340” called “Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989”. The organization is shown on the next page and below:

ILCS

- **Category: REGULATION**
  - **Chapter: 225 PROFESSIONS, OCCUPATIONS, AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS**
    - **Subhead: DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**
      - **Act: 340 Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989**
        - **Sections: 1 to 38**

Statutes including the “Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989” were enacted by the Illinois General Assembly and are periodically updated by laws that create, amend, or repeal statutory material. See the “Helpful Resources” section for the websites to view the latest statutes and rules. The laws and rules cited in this course are current as of September 2025.





Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
A SunCam online continuing education course

ILCS Categories:

GOVERNMENT  
EDUCATION

**REGULATION**

HEALTH AND SAFETY  
AGRICULTURE AND CONSERVATION  
TRANSPORTATION  
RIGHTS AND REMEDIES  
BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT

Regulation Chapters:

- 205 FINANCIAL REGULATION
- 210 HEALTH FACILITIES AND REGULATION
- 215 INSURANCE
- 220 UTILITIES
- 225 PROFESSIONS, OCCUPATIONS, AND BUSINESS OPERATIONS**
- 230 GAMING
- 235 LIQUOR
- 240 WAREHOUSE/HUMAN NEEDS

225 Subheads:

HEALTH  
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENT  
**DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION**  
SERVICE AND SALES  
EMPLOYMENT  
FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES

Design and Construction Acts:

- 305 Illinois Architecture Practice Act of 1989.
- 310 Registered Interior Designers Act.
- 312 Elevator Safety and Regulation Act.
- 315 Illinois Landscape Architecture Act of 1989. (Repealed)
- 316 Landscape Architecture Registration Act.
- 317 Fire Sprinkler Contractor Licensing Act.
- 320 Illinois Plumbing License Law.
- 325 Professional Engineering Practice Act of 1989.
- 330 Illinois Professional Land Surveyor Act of 1989.
- 335 Illinois Roofing Industry Licensing Act.
- 340 Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989.**
- 345 Water Well and Pump Installation Contractor's License Act.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for PEs  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

The following are all sections of 225 ILCS 340, with bold items being of particular importance for practicing structural engineers:

- 1 The practice of structural engineering in the State of Illinois is ...
- 2 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the Structural Practice Act of 1989.
- 3 Exemptions
- 4 Definitions**
- 4.10 Address of record; email address of record
- 5 Practice of structural engineering**
- 5.5 Technical submissions**
- 6 Powers and duties of the Department
- 7 Board
- 8 Powers and duties of the Board
- 9 Application for licensure
- 9.5 Social Security Number on license application
- 10 Examinations
- 11 A person is qualified for enrollment as a structural engineer intern ...
- 12 Seal**
- 12.5 Display of license
- 14 Renewal, reinstatement, or restoration of license; persons in military service
- 14.5 Continuing education**
- 15 Inactive status
- 15.5 Structural Engineer, Retired
- 16 Endorsement
- 17 Fees
- 17.5 Returned checks; fines
- 18 Roster
- 19 Professional design firm registration; conditions**
- 20 Grounds for disciplinary action**
- 20.5 Unlicensed practice; violation; civil penalty**
- 21 Injunction; cease and desist order
- 22 Investigations; notice and hearing
- 23 Record of proceedings
- 24 Subpoenas; depositions; oaths
- 25 Compelling testimony
- 26 Hearing; motion for rehearing
- 27 Hearing officer
- 28 Order or certified copy; prima facie proof
- 29 Restoration from disciplinary status
- 30 Surrender of license or registration
- 31 Temporary suspension of a license or registration
- 32 Administrative review
- 32.5 Confidentiality
- 35 Illinois Administrative Procedure Act
- 36 Fund; appropriations; investments; audits
- 37 Pursuant to sub(i) of 6 of Article VII of the ...; home rule
- 38 All licenses and certifications of registration in effect on December 31, 1989...



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

**IAC Part 1480 “Rules”**

Statutes often lack implementing details. The legislature delegates government rulemaking (regulatory) agencies to manage implementation and to work with the Illinois General Assembly to create additional rules to complement the statutes. The regulatory agency for professionals is the Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR). Within IDFPR, the Division of Professional Regulations oversees professional engineers and structural engineers.



**IDFPR**  
 Illinois Department of  
 Financial and Professional Regulation  
 Division of Professional Regulation

The additional rules are called the Illinois Administrative Code (IAC). IAC rules have the same force of law as ILCS statutes. The IAC is a collection of dozens of “titles”, each in a different area of government. Title 68 is “Professions and Occupations”. Under Title 68, Part 1380 contains the rules for professional engineers and Part 1480 contains the rules for structural engineers. Professional engineering and structural engineering are considered different practices and are governed by different rules and boards.

IAC Part 1480 is entitled “The Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989”. This is the same title as 225 ILCS 340 (with “The” added), which can result in confusion. The contents of IAC Part 1480 are different from, although complimentary to, 225 ILCS 340.

## ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

**TITLE 68: PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS**  
**CHAPTER VII: DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL AND PROFESSIONAL REGULATION**  
**SUBCHAPTER b: PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS**  
**PART 1480 THE STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING PRACTICE ACT OF 1989**



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

The contents of IAC Part 1480 are as follows with bold items being of particular importance for practicing structural engineers:

- 1480.60 Granting of Variances (Renumbered)
- 1480.110 Approved Structural Engineering Program
- 1480.120 Definition of a Non-Approved Program
- 1480.130 Approved Experience
- 1480.135 Application for Enrollment as a Structural Engineer Intern by Acceptance of Examination
- 1480.140 Application for Licensure by Acceptance of Examination
- 1480.145 Seal and Signature Requirements**
- 1480.150 Examination
- 1480.160 Restoration
- 1480.170 Endorsement
- 1480.180 Inactive Status**
- 1480.185 Continuing Education**
- 1480.190 Renewals**
- 1480.195 Fees
- 1480.200 Professional Design Firm**
- 1480.205 Acts Constituting the Practice of Structural Engineering Pursuant to Section 5 of the Act**
- 1480.210 Standards of Professional Conduct**
- 1480.215 Structural Engineer Complaint Committee
- 1480.220 Granting Variances

Ethics and Conduct

Section 1480.210 covers standards of professional conduct (aka ethics). The section matches IAC 1380.300 and the 240.15 Rules for Professional Conduct from “Model Rules” by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES), except the term “professional engineering” is changed to “structural engineering”.



**NCEES**  
advancing licensure for  
engineers and surveyors

MODEL RULES

January 2024



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

## **2025 Rule Changes**

The following is a summary of changes to the IAC Part 1480 in July of 2025:

### Licensure

- Removes the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL-iBT) exam as a requirement
- Adds a requirement that applicants for licensure and restoration must certify they have read and understand the Act and Rules
- Updates the name for the structural exam accepted for licensure
- Clarifies the exams not accepted for licensure

### Design Firms

- Allows a professional design firm to request inactive status
- Clarifies that a Limited Liability Company is not an option for registration as a professional design firm

### Renewal

- Rewords the CE requirements for greater ease and understanding

### Conduct

- Updates the standard of professional conduct section to address successor engineers



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

### **Sign and Seal Requirements**

Illinois SE seal and signature requirements are found in 225 ILCS 340/12 and AIC 1480.145. Here are a few highlights that may differ from requirements in other states:

- Seal shall include name, license number, and "Licensed Structural Engineer State of Illinois"
- Sign, date and show expiration date adjacent to the seal (not over the seal)
- There is no seal size (diameter) requirement
- Acceptable forms of signatures:
  - Handwritten (hard copy)
  - Scan of handwritten signature (pdf or image)
  - Digital or electronic signature (third party validation not required)

The following is a copy-paste of the relevant statutes and rules:

#### **225 ILCS 340**

##### **Section 12. Seal.**

Every licensed structural engineer shall have a reproducible seal, which may be computer generated, the imprint of which shall contain the name and license number of the structural engineer, and the words "Licensed Structural Engineer," "State of Illinois." The licensed structural engineer shall seal all plans, technical submissions, drawings, and specifications prepared by or under the engineer's supervision.

If technical submissions are prepared utilizing a computer or other electronic means, the seal may be generated by a computer. The licensee may provide, at his or her sole discretion, an original signature in the licensee's handwriting, a scanned copy of the technical submission bearing an original signature, or a signature generated by a computer.

A licensed structural engineer may seal documents not produced by the licensed structural engineer when the documents have either been produced by others working under the licensed structural engineer's personal supervision and control or when the licensed structural engineer has sufficiently reviewed the documents to ensure that they have met the standards of reasonable professional skill and diligence. In reviewing the work of others, the licensed structural engineer shall, where necessary, do calculations, redesign, or any other work necessary to be done to meet such standards and should retain evidence of having done such review. The documents sealed by the licensed structural engineer shall be of no lesser quality than if they had been produced by the licensed structural engineer. The licensed structural engineer who seals the work of



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

others is obligated to provide sufficient supervision and review of such work so that the public is protected.

The licensed structural engineer shall affix the signature, current date, date of license expiration and seal to the first sheet of any bound set or loose sheets prepared by the licensed structural engineer or under that licensed structural engineer's immediate supervision.

A licensed structural engineer may seal documents not produced by the licensed structural engineer when the documents have either been produced by others working under the licensed structural engineer's personal supervision and control or when the licensed structural engineer has sufficiently reviewed the documents to ensure that they have met the standards of reasonable professional skill and diligence. In reviewing the work of others, the licensed structural engineer shall, where necessary, do calculations, redesign, or any other work necessary to be done to meet such standards and retain evidence of having done such review. The documents sealed by the licensed structural engineer shall be of no lesser quality than if they have been produced by the licensed structural engineer. The licensed structural engineer who seals the work of others is obligated to provide sufficient supervision and review of such work so that the public is protected.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

**AIC 1480.145 Seal and Signature Requirements**

a) Every licensed structural engineer shall have a reproducible seal or facsimile, which may be computer generated, the impression of which shall contain the name, the license number of the structural engineer, and the words "Licensed Structural Engineer State of Illinois". A structural engineer shall seal all documents prepared by or under the direct supervision and control of the structural engineer.

Any document that bears the name of a professional design firm, rather than bearing the name of the individual licensed structural engineer responsible for the document, shall be deemed an invalid seal.

The individual licensee's written signature and date of signing, along with the date of license expiration, shall be placed adjacent to the seal. The licensee may provide, at the licensee's sole discretion, an original signature in the licensee's handwriting, a scanned copy of the document bearing an original signature, or a signature generated by a computer.

b) All technical submissions issued by a structural engineering firm, corporation, limited liability company, professional limited liability company or partnership are required to bear the corporate or assumed business name and design firm registration number, in addition to the seal requirements.

c) A suggested facsimile of the design and lettering of the seal is found in Section 1480. ILLUSTRATION A (below):



[Signature]  
 [Date Signed]  
 License Expires: [Date]



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

**Practice of Structural Engineering**

The statutes and rules help define what is and what is not considered practicing structural engineering. The practice of structural engineering is defined in 225 ILCS 340 Section 5.

The following is a copy-paste of the relevant statutes and rules:

**225 ILCS 340**

**Section 5. Practice of Structural Engineering.**

Practice of structural engineering. A person shall be regarded as practicing structural engineering within the meaning of this Act who is engaged in the design, analysis, or supervision of the construction, enlargement or alteration of structures, or any part thereof, for others, to be constructed by persons other than himself or herself. Structures within the meaning of this Act are all structures having as essential features foundations, columns, girders, trusses, arches or beams, with or without other parts, and in which safe design and construction require that loads and stresses must be computed and the size and strength of parts determined by mathematical calculations based upon scientific principles and engineering data. Nothing in this Section imposes upon a person licensed under this Act the responsibility for the performance of any acts or practice unless such person specifically contracts to provide it. Nothing in this Section precludes an employee from acting under the direct supervision or responsible charge of a licensed structural engineer.

**225 ILCS 340**

**Section 5.5. Technical submissions.**

(a) As used in this Section, "technical submissions" include the designs, drawings, and specifications that establish the scope of the structural engineering project, the standard of quality for materials, workmanship, equipment, and construction systems, and the studies and other technical reports and calculations prepared in the course of the practice of structural engineering.

(b) All technical submissions intended for use related to services involving a structural engineer in the State of Illinois shall be prepared and administered in accordance with standards of reasonable professional skill and diligence. Care shall be taken to reflect the requirements of State statutes and, where applicable, county and municipal building ordinances in such submissions. In recognition that structural engineers are licensed for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare, submissions shall be of such quality and scope, and be so administered, as to conform to professional standards.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

(c) No officer, board, commission, or other public entity that receives technical submissions shall accept for filing or approval any technical submissions relating to services requiring the involvement of a structural engineer that do not bear the seal and signature of a structural engineer licensed under this Act.

(d) It is unlawful to affix one's seal to technical submissions if it masks the true identity of the person who actually exercised responsible control of the preparation of such work. A structural engineer who seals and signs technical submissions is not responsible for damage caused by subsequent changes to or uses of those technical submissions where the subsequent changes or uses, including changes or uses made by State or local governmental agencies, are not authorized or approved in writing by the structural engineer who originally sealed and signed the technical submissions.

**AIC 1480.205 Acts Constituting the Practice of Structural Engineering Pursuant to Section 5 of the Act**

- a) Design/Build. The design/build project delivery process is a method whereby an entity signs a single contract to provide a combination of professional design services and construction services. As used in this Section, design/build does not refer to contractual requirements for a subcontractor to retain a structural engineer to provide services related to performance of the contract.
- b) A design/build entity shall not offer to provide or provide structural engineering services, unless registered as a professional design firm or unless it complies with subsection (c)(3). Offering to provide structural engineering services shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, any tender of engineering services either independently or in combination with construction services by any sign, card, advertisement or other device that might indicate to the public that the entity is entitled to provide engineering services.
- c) The design/build entity will not be required to register as a professional design firm pursuant to Section 19 of the Act only if the structural engineering services in the design/build project delivery process are provided by the entity in accordance with the following:
  - 1) A structural engineer licensed or a professional design firm registered in Illinois independently contracts with the entity and participates substantially in all material aspects of the offering and providing of services relating to any bid process, contract negotiations, design, consultation, development, preparation and coordination of technical submissions, and verification of adherence to technical submissions and completion.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

- 2) At the time of offering services, a written disclosure shall be given to the client by the entity identifying the licensed structural engineer who will be engaged by and is contractually responsible to the entity offering design/build project services.
- 3) The entity agrees that the licensed structural engineer will have direct supervision of the structural engineering design work. The entity also agrees that the engineering services will not be terminated on the project without replacement within 30 days by another licensed structural engineer.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

## **Continuing Education**

### **Renewal**

Structural engineering licenses expire on November 30 of each **even** year (2024, 2026, 2028, etc.). It is the responsibility of the licensee to renew via the IDFP website: <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/renewals/defaultssl.html>. An engineer can renew during the 2 to 3 month period prior to the expiration date (September through November of renewal years). A reminder notice is emailed to licensees in advance of the renewal date.

Additional renewal requirements are listed in IAC 1480.310.

### **Continuing Education**

Per IAC 1480.185, the following is required every renewal period, where a CE hour is a professional development hour (PDH) with minimum 50 minutes:

- Total 30 CE hours, including the following:
  - 1 CE hour covering Illinois statutes and rules for structural eng. (this course)
  - 1 CE hour covering professional conduct and/or ethics
  - 1 CE hour covering sexual harassment prevention training
- Max 12 CE hours earned within a 24-hour period
- Max 10 CE hours from in-house courses
- Carryover max 15 hours from within 6 months of previous renewal deadline (June to November of even years), not including the three 1 hours above
- Retain CE records for 6 years.

Here is a copy-paste of the relevant statutes and rules:

#### **225 ILCS 340**

##### **Section 14.5. Continuing education.**

The Department may adopt rules of continuing education for persons licensed under this Act. The Department shall consider the recommendations of the Board in establishing the guidelines for the continuing education requirements. The requirements of this Section apply to any person seeking renewal or restoration under Section 14 or 15 of this Act.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

**IAC 1480.185 Continuing Education**

The continuing education ("CE") required as a condition for license renewal under the Act is set forth in this Section. All structural engineers shall meet these requirements.

a) Continuing Education Requirements

- 1) For every renewal, renewal applicants shall complete 30 hours of CE relevant to the practice of structural engineering during each prerenewal period. The prerenewal period is the 24 months preceding the expiration date of the license. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in nonrenewal of the structural engineer's license or other disciplinary action, or both.
- 2) Beginning with the November 30, 2020 renewal and every renewal thereafter, the total continuing education hours shall include one hour of sexual harassment prevention training that shall meet the requirements of 68 Ill. Adm. Code 1130.400. A licensee completing a course on sexual harassment prevention developed or offered by the Illinois Department of Human Rights pursuant to the Illinois Human Rights Act [775 ILCS 5], the licensee's employer or an acceptable provider listed within this Section, may count that course toward the one hour requirement under this Section. (See Section 2105-15.5 of the Department of Professional Regulation Law [20 ILCS 2105/2105-15.5].)
- 3) Beginning with the November 30, 2024 renewal and every renewal thereafter, the total CE hours shall include:
  - A) A minimum of one hour of programs, courses or activities in the area of Illinois statutes and rules that regulate structural engineers and structural engineering.
  - B) A minimum of one hour of programs, courses, or activities in the area of professional conduct and/or ethics.
- 4) Structural engineers licensed in Illinois but residing and practicing in another state must comply with the CE requirements set forth in this Section. Continuing education credit hours used to satisfy the CE requirements of another state and meeting the requirements of this Section may be submitted toward fulfillment of the CE requirements of the State of Illinois.
- 5) The minimum length of any single CE activity is one hour. After completion of the initial CE hour, credit may be given in one-half hour increments.
- 6) One continuing education hour shall represent a minimum of 50 minutes of instruction or participation. No credit will be allowed for introductory remarks, meals, breaks or administrative matters related to courses of study. For a CE activity consisting



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

of a single presentation with duration greater than 60 minutes or consisting of multiple individual presentations with total duration greater than 60 minutes, the CE credit earned shall be determined by totaling the minutes of instruction or participation and dividing by 60 to convert to hours. The number of hours from this calculation shall be rounded down to the nearest one-half hour increment.

- 7) Nontechnical portions of a CE activity, such as receptions, dinners, etc., do not qualify for credit as CE.
  - 8) A maximum of 15 qualifying CE hours gained within six months before the current renewal deadline and not used for the current renewal period may be carried over to the subsequent renewal period, but shall not include the topics described in subsections (a)(2) and (3), which must all be satisfied during each prerenewal period. CE hours used in this manner must be documented on the appropriate Department issued form.
  - 9) A maximum of 12 CE hours may be earned within a 24-hour period, where a period begins at midnight.
- b) Activities for which CE credit may be earned are as follows:
- 1) Successful completion of a college or university course in the area of structural engineering, related sciences and structural engineering ethics. One semester credit hour is equivalent to 15 hours of CE and one quarter credit hour is equivalent to 10 hours of CE.
  - 2) All required CE hours may be obtained online; however, each self-administered course shall include an examination that will be graded by the sponsor.
  - 3) Successful completion of continuing education courses.
  - 4) A maximum of 10 CE credit hours per prerenewal period may be earned for attending in-house courses. Credit for in-house courses will be based on one CE credit for each hour of attendance. For courses presented in-house by outside individuals, see subsection (b)(3).
  - 5) Attending workshops or professional or technical meetings, conventions or conferences in person or by webinar in real-time with opportunities for interaction with the presenter. Attendance at qualifying programs, professional and/or technical society meetings will earn CE credits for the actual time of each program. Visiting exhibitor booths or similar activities shall not qualify for CE credit. Recorded webinars shall be considered self-administered and subject to the requirements of subsection (b)(2).



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

- 6) Teaching or instructing a structural engineering course, seminar, lecture, presentation or workshop shall constitute 3 CE hours for each hour spent in the actual presentation. Teaching credit shall be valid for the initial presentation only. Teaching credit shall not apply to faculty teaching regularly scheduled curriculum courses at a college, university, or other educational institution.
  - 7) Authoring published papers, articles or books. The preparation of each published paper or book chapter dealing with structural engineering may be claimed as 10 hours of CE credit.
  - 8) Active participation on a structural engineering board, on a professional engineering board that includes the structural engineering discipline, or on a committee or serving as an officer in a professional or technical engineering society that includes the structural engineering discipline as part of its charter.
    - A) Two CEs will be awarded per committee membership or office held.
    - B) A maximum of eight CEs will be accepted per prerenewal period.
- c) All programs or courses shall:
- 1) Contribute to the advancement, extension and enhancement of the professional skills and scientific knowledge of the licensee in practice of structural engineering;
  - 2) Foster the enhancement of general or specialized practice and values of structural engineering;
  - 3) Be developed and presented by persons with education and/or experience in the subject matter of the program; and
  - 4) Specify the course objectives, course content and teaching methods to be used.
- d) Acceptable providers for programs or course activities shall include, but not be limited to:
- 1) National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES);
  - 2) Structural Engineers Association of Illinois (SEAOD);
  - 3) National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE);
  - 4) Engineering Society of Illinois (ESI);



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

- 5) American Council of Engineering Companies of Illinois (ACEC-IL);
  - 6) Technical or professional societies or organizations relating to professional engineering, such as the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE);
  - 7) Technical or professional societies or organizations relating to structural engineering;
  - 8) Colleges, universities or other accredited educational institutions; or
  - 9) Providers of services or products used by or specified by structural engineers.
- e) The Division shall not pre-approve individual courses or programs.
- f) CEs that are non-structural in nature shall not be accepted unless licensee can substantiate how the course enhances their license, as a structural engineer in Illinois cannot legally offer or perform non-structural services.
- g) For auditing or restoration purposes, it shall be the responsibility of a licensee to maintain a record of CE for six years after the renewal that includes:
- 1) All of the following:
    - A) The name and address of the sponsor or presenter;
    - B) A brief statement of the subject matter, printed program schedules, registration receipts or other proof of participation;
    - C) The number of hours attended in each program; and
    - D) The date and place of the program; or
  - 2) The certificate of attendance, transcript or records of CE credits maintained by an acceptable provider of continuing education or a records administrator, or log of activities that include activities for CE credit not given by a CE provider.
- h) Certification of Compliance with CE Requirements
- 1) Each renewal applicant shall certify, on the renewal application, full compliance with the CE requirements set forth in subsection (a).
  - 2) The Division may require additional documentation in order to demonstrate compliance with the CE requirements. It is the responsibility of each renewal applicant



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

to retain or otherwise produce evidence of compliance. The additional documentation will be required in the context of a Division audit.

- 3) When there appears to be a lack of compliance with CE requirements, an applicant will be notified and may request an interview with the Board. At that time the Board may recommend that steps be taken to begin formal disciplinary proceedings as required by Section 10-65 of the Illinois Administrative Procedure Act [5 ILCS 100/10-65].
  - i) The Division may conduct random audits to verify compliance with continuing education requirements.
  - j) Waiver of CE Requirements: A licensee may be exempt from the foregoing CE requirements if one of the following situations occurs. If an exemption is claimed, it is required that the renewal fee and any documentation needed to support the exemption be submitted for renewal of a license. Waiver requests must be made before the end of the renewal period. Waiver requests sent after the end of the renewal period shall not be considered.
    - 1) A licensee shall not be required to report continuing education hours during the first biennial renewal period in which the licensee obtained initial licensure in Illinois, but shall be subject to the continuing education requirements for all subsequent biennial renewal.
    - 2) A licensee who is on full-time active duty in the military service of the United States, or is a licensee who is called to temporary active duty in the military service or Armed Forces of the United States for a period of time exceeding 120 consecutive days during the renewal period, when that activity or location restricts participation in a continuing education program.
    - 3) A licensee who demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Division that meeting these requirements would be an undue hardship by reason of disability, illness, or other clearly mitigating circumstances shall submit supporting documentation.
      - A) The documentation shall be in the form of a sworn statement by the licensee, statement from a licensed healthcare professional, or medical record showing the disability, illness, or circumstance preventing the licensee's participation in the continuing education program during a substantial part of the prerenewal period.
      - B) If the Division finds from the evidence that good cause has been shown for non-compliance, the Division may waive enforcement, extend the time within which the applicant shall comply, or establish a particular program or schedule of continuing education for the renewal period in which the undue hardship existed.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

- C) Consecutive waiver requests made for reasons of disability, illness, or other circumstances may be prima facie evidence for non-renewal of applicant's license based on an inability to actively engage in licensed practice.
- 4) Any renewal applicant who, prior to the expiration date of the individual's license, submits a request for a waiver, pursuant to the provisions of this subsection (j), shall be deemed to be in good standing and may practice until the Division's final decision on the waiver has been made.



Illinois Statutes and Rules for Structural Engineers  
*A SunCam online continuing education course*

**Helpful References**

Illinois Compiled Statutes: 225 ILCS 340, Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989  
<https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1347&ChapterID=24>

Illinois Administrative Code, Part 1480, The Structural Engineering Practice Act of 1989  
<https://www.ilga.gov/agencies/JCAR/Sections?PartID=06801480&TitleDescription=TITLE%2068:%20%20PROFESSIONS%20AND%20OCCUPATIONS>

Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation (IDFPR):

Structural Engineers: <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/se.html>

Structural Eng. Board: <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/profs/boards/profeng.html>

Renewals: <https://idfpr.illinois.gov/renewals/defaultssl.html>

License Lookup: <https://online-dfpr.micropact.com/lookup/licenselookup.aspx>

July 2025 Rule Changes:

<https://idfpr.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idfpr/forms/dpr/68-IAC-1480-final-adoption-documents.pdf>