

## The Nebraska Professional

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Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects

Volume 44, August 27, 2024

## 103rd NCEES Annual Meeting



Board members Jason Suelter, PE, S.E., and Jan Bostelman, PE, PMP, represented Nebraska during the ceremonial event to sign the mutual recognition agreement with the Engineering Council - UK.

On August 14-17, 2024, board members and staff from NCEES member boards convened for the 103rd NCEES Annual Meeting in Chicago.

To kick off the annual meeting, NCEES hosted a ceremonial event to celebrate the signing of its mutual recognition agreement (MRA) with the Engineering Council–UK. The agreement provides a more direct path for licensed engineers to practice in each country without compromising professional standards. Nebraska was proud to be amongst the almost 30 NCEES member licensing boards present to signify their intent to participate in the agreement.

Professional engineers in the United States who would like to become licensed in the United Kingdom through this agreement must be a member of the NCEES International Registry for Professional Engineers (IRPE). For more information regarding the agreement, please click [here](https://ncees.org/ncees-signs-historic-mutual-recognition-agreement-with-the-engineering-council-uk/) ([https://ncees.org/ncees-signs-historic-mutual-recognition-agreement-with-the-engineering-council-uk/?](https://ncees.org/ncees-signs-historic-mutual-recognition-agreement-with-the-engineering-council-uk/)

fbclid=IwY2xjawEzGVNleHRuA2FibQIxMAABHXoeifiuv8\_Bmy5jlgwv3Bw9RvMgMT1vnp7IIQMbxrOsEKCRgHJgzka-GQ\_aem\_CajoxXRF0YAZMVIYK7toSg).

Elsewhere during the meeting, attendees came together to discuss several issues and voted on motions related to regulation of the engineering profession. Additionally, attendees engaged in workshops with conversations around various topics and NCEES initiatives. The forums provide a space to discuss professional issues and share ideas.

## Suelter Begins Term as NCEES Central Zone Vice President

Board Chair Jason Suelter, P.E., S.E., recently began a two-year term as NCEES Central Zone Vice President. As Central Zone VP, Suelter will both serve on the NCEES Board of Directors and as the Central Zone's administrative officer through 2027.

Suelter served as a member of the NCEES Committee on Examinations for Professional Engineers in 2022–23, and was chair of the Committee on Examination Policy and Procedures in 2023–24. He has been a member of the PE Structural PE Exam development committee for 13 years.

Suelter has been a member of the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects since 2020.



## NBEA Lunch and Learn Webinar Series



**NBEA Lunch and Learn Webinar Series**

Join us for a FREE live and interactive webinar regarding professional practice and ethics!

Click Here To Register!

- September 25, 2024
- 12 pm (Central)
- WebEx

STATE OF NEBRASKA BOARD OF ENGINEERS AND ARCHITECTS

The Board will host its next installment in its Lunch and Learn webinar Series on Wednesday, September 25th, at noon Central time. This webinar will discuss professional practice and ethics.

Please note the webinar is limited to 1,000 participants. If you register and are unable to attend due to the participant limit being reached, this webinar will be held again on Wednesday, October 9th, at noon Central time. A link for this webinar will be available at a later date.

If you have questions about these topics, you may submit them before the webinar, and we can address them during the webinar! Please submit questions to [nbea.marketing@nebraska.gov](mailto:nbea.marketing@nebraska.gov) (mailto:nbea.marketing@nebraska.gov). To register, please click [here](https://sonvideo.webex.com/weblink/register/ref6ec3ea675a58ad878f4810293c1476) (https://sonvideo.webex.com/weblink/register/ref6ec3ea675a58ad878f4810293c1476).

## Board Celebrates 87th Anniversary

On August 16, 2024, the Nebraska Board of Engineers and Architects marked its 87th year regulating the practices of engineering and architecture in Nebraska to protect life, health, and property and promote public welfare.

The Board was created by the Nebraska Unicameral Legislature by enacting Legislative Bill 14, which became effective on August 16, 1937. The Board ensures that those practicing architecture and engineering are competent. Additionally, the Board enforces the Engineers and Architects Regulation Act. To be licensed, architects and professional engineers must meet rigorous education, experience, and examination standards. The Act also mandates that architects and professional engineers must be involved in the design of buildings and structures of significant size or complexity.

Today, the Board comprises four professional engineers, three architects, and one member of the public. In its first year, the Board, which was initially called the State Board of Examiners for Professional Engineers and Architects, consisted of three engineers and two architects. Since then, the Board has licensed more than 5,500 architects and 20,600 professional engineers.

To read more about the history of the Board, please click [here](https://ea.nebraska.gov/history-nebraska-board-engineers-and-architects?fbclid=IwY2xjawE0RjFleHRuA2FibQIxMAABHTg5U1jBGC-HFT25W85hnePRSc5AE5vNqAlaMSPap1RP9dMnTWukvUyT8A_aem_x1Qjoi_6B1H1gd7kAY4KQ) (https://ea.nebraska.gov/history-nebraska-board-engineers-and-architects?fbclid=IwY2xjawE0RjFleHRuA2FibQIxMAABHTg5U1jBGC-HFT25W85hnePRSc5AE5vNqAlaMSPap1RP9dMnTWukvUyT8A\_aem\_x1Qjoi\_6B1H1gd7kAY4KQ).

## NCARB Updates ARE Guidelines

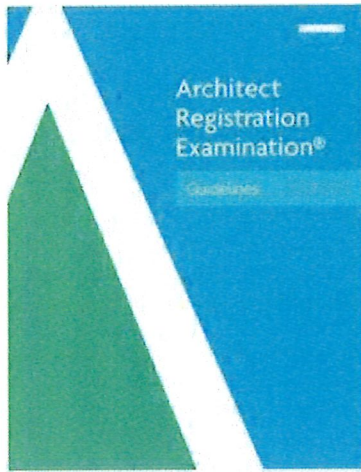
NCARB has updated the **Architect Registration Examination® (ARE®) 5.0 Guidelines**

([https://www.ncarb.org/sites/default/files/ARE-5-Guidelines.pdf?utm\\_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm\\_campaign=140c09c194-are-](https://www.ncarb.org/sites/default/files/ARE-5-Guidelines.pdf?utm_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm_campaign=140c09c194-are-update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-140c09c194-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)

[update&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_-140c09c194-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.ncarb.org/sites/default/files/ARE-5-Guidelines.pdf?utm_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm_campaign=140c09c194-are-update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-140c09c194-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)) to reflect current exam

fees, which took effect on August 1, 2024. The updated Guidelines also include changes to PSI's identification verification process for online proctored appointments.

**Updated exam fees:** Effective August 1, 2024, the fee for each exam appointment is \$250 (previously \$235). This includes both first attempts and retakes. [Learn more about fees associated with NCARB's programs and services.](https://www.ncarb.org/fees?utm_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm_campaign=140c09c194-are-update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-140c09c194-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D) (https://www.ncarb.org/fees?utm\_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm\_campaign=140c09c194-are-update&utm\_medium=email&utm\_term=0\_-140c09c194-%5BLIST\_EMAIL\_ID%5D)



**Updated PSI identification verification process:** PSI has launched a new process for verifying identification for candidates taking an online proctored exam, enabling candidates to upload a photo of their ID through PSI's mobile ID upload feature rather than showing it on their webcam during the security check. The ID verification process for test center appointments is not changing at this time.

For questions, please **contact NCARB** ([https://www.ncarb.org/contact-us?utm\\_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm\\_campaign=140c09c194-are-update&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_-140c09c194-%5BLIST\\_EMAIL\\_ID%5D](https://www.ncarb.org/contact-us?utm_source=NCARB+Email+List&utm_campaign=140c09c194-are-update&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-140c09c194-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D)).

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## NCARB Architect Spotlight Series

Calling All Architects! Your story could inspire the next generation of architects! NCARB is looking for passionate professionals to feature in their Architect Spotlight series.

Whether your licensure path to licensure was considered "traditional" or filled with unexpected challenges, your experiences matter. Share your journey and help pave the way for future architects.

Ready to share your story? Learn more and complete the interest form today! Please click [here](https://www.ncarb.org/blog/share-your-licensure-journey-be-ncarb-s-next-architect-spotlight) (<https://www.ncarb.org/blog/share-your-licensure-journey-be-ncarb-s-next-architect-spotlight>) for further information.

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## Licensure Updates

**NEWLY-LICENSED ARCHITECTS**

Alex N. Heiden	Omaha, NE
Abigail C. Incontro	Omaha, NE
Jordan B. Morris	Lincoln, NE

**NEWLY-LICENSED PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS****Architectural**

Brooke E. Ryan	Bellevue, NE
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**Civil**

Charbel-Marie K. Akplogan	
Ronald A. Alvarado	Omaha, NE
Trevor A. Breeling	Omaha, NE
Spencer J. Ellwanger	Omaha, NE
Austin M. Hoops	Lincoln, NE
Timothy S. Hums	Lincoln, NE
Brianne M. Inselman	Plattsmouth, NE
Connor J. Mislivec	Omaha, NE
Colleen E. Ocken	Lincoln, NE
Samuel J. Pearce	Richmond Hill, GA
Riing A. Riing	Omaha, NE
Sarah N. Sutfin	Omaha, NE

**Mechanical**

Stephanie A. Ahrens	Omaha, NE
Matthew D. Benardis	Gretna, NE
Brenton D. Regier	Arlington, NE
Mitchael H. Sieh	Omaha, NE

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## Recently Resolved Compliance Cases

### 24.19 – Audit Failure

Summary: A complaint was initiated alleging that **Keith Bettencourt** provided false information regarding the completion of continuing education requirements. Board Rule 9.1.1 requires every architect to meet the continuing education requirements as a condition for license renewal.

Action: The Board found that Bettencourt failed to meet continuing education requirements during the 2022-2023 renewal period. The Board proposed a settlement agreement in which Bettencourt agreed to the disciplinary action, which required successful completion of the continuing education audit, his license being suspended, and a \$500 civil penalty and \$126.55 in investigative costs to be paid within thirty (30) days. The Board accepted and executed the settlement agreement in May 2024. Bettencourt's license was reinstated during the August 2024 Board meeting.

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## The Nebraska Professional Archive

**The Nebraska Professional #43** ([https://ea.nebraska.gov/sites/default/files/doc/July\\_Blog.pdf](https://ea.nebraska.gov/sites/default/files/doc/July_Blog.pdf))

**The Nebraska Professional #42** ([https://ea.nebraska.gov/sites/default/files/doc/June\\_Blog.pdf](https://ea.nebraska.gov/sites/default/files/doc/June_Blog.pdf))

Please click [here](https://ea.nebraska.gov/nebraska-professional-archive) (https://ea.nebraska.gov/nebraska-professional-archive) for past issues.

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If you have questions about topics in this blog post, previous issues, or other topics that would be helpful to publish in our next release, please [contact us](mailto:nbea.marketing@nebraska.gov) (mailto:nbea.marketing@nebraska.gov).