Introduction

This video course is designed to help you prepare for what will probably prove to be the most important tests in your career as a professional land surveyor, the Land Surveyor in Training (LSIT) and the Land Surveyor (LS) exams. This unit will cover application for admittance to the exams, content of the exams, preparation for the exams, test taking strategy, and appeals.

Natural abilities and past experience both have an impact on how individuals perform in exam situations. Some people test well because they handle the stress of the testing situation well, or have had the benefit of testing experience from college work. The single most important attribute necessary for success is the self-confidence that comes from thoroughly understanding the subject.
Performance Expected on the Exams

Apply successfully to take the exam.

List the topics covered and the type of questions used on the exam.

Develop a study plan. Elicit support for your plan from family, friends, and employer.

Develop a test taking strategy for the exam.

Outline the appeals process for the exam.

Key Terms

Responsible field training
Multiple choice
Responsible office training
Factual questions
Application questions
References (on exam)
References (on application)
Reciprocity
Comity
Grandfather clause
Certified transcript
Video Presentation Outline

Applying to Take the Exams

• For Applications and Information
  Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
  P. O. Box 659005
  Sacramento, CA 95865-9005
  (916) 920-7466

• Board Publications
  Information for Licensing as a Land Surveyor Plain Language Pamphlet of the Land Surveyor’s Act and Board Rules

• Eligibility Requirements
  – Land Surveyor in Training Exam
    For information and sample test, write: National Council of Engineering Examiners
    P. O. Box 1686
    Clemson, SC 29633-1686
  – Land Surveyor Exam
    Experience
    - Responsible field training
    - Responsible office training
    - Employment verification forms
    Education
    References

Exam Preparation

• A place to study
• A schedule for study
• A strategy for study
  – Review
  – Problem solving
• Study aids
**Taking the Exam**

- What to bring to the exams
- Exam strategy

**Overview of California Land Surveyor Exams**

- **Land Surveyor in Training Exam**
  - Closed book
  - Multiple choice questions on the fundamentals of land surveying
  - More emphasis recently on boundary and public land principles

- **Land Surveyor Exam (eight hour open book)**
  - Emphasis on:
    - Application of principles
    - Making professional judgments
  - Topics covered on exams 1987–1992 (by % of total points for each topic)
    - 61% Boundary determination and legal descriptions
    - 8% California statute law
    - 9% State plane coordinates
    - 8% Photogrammetry
    - 7% Construction, route surveying
    - 5% Astronomy
    - 2% Other (error analysis, GPS)
  - Other topics
    - From past exams
    - Probable future topics

- **Review of 1990 Exam**

- **Review of 1991 Exam**
The Appeals Process

- 60 day appeal period
- Materials provided by the Board
- Strategy

References


