



BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
2535 CAPITOL OAKS DRIVE, SUITE 300, SACRAMENTO, CA 95833-2944



TELEPHONE: (916) 263-2222 CALNET: 8-435-2222
FAX: (916) 263-2246 or (916) 263-2221
INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://www.dca.ca.gov/pels>

CALIFORNIA PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYOR'S TAKE HOME EXAMINATION

The Board must ensure that California licensed land surveyors are familiar with the provisions of the *Professional Land Surveyors Act and Board Rules*. Business Professions Code Section 8741.1 requires the Board to administer a test on the state laws and board rules to all Professional Land Surveyor applicants as a separate portion of the second division examination. The second division examination is comprised of the California specific examination (part I) and this take-home examination on the California Laws and Board Rules (part II) regulating the practice of land surveying in the State of California.

To be licensed as a Professional Land Surveyor in California, you must take and pass this PLS Take-Home examination. This examination should be returned within thirty (30) days of the exam. While the Board will accept and grade this examination after thirty (30) days, your license could be delayed significantly if you pass the other part of the examination and the Take-Home examination has not been received.

INSTRUCTIONS

The *Professional Land Surveyors Act and Board Rules* located on the Boards Web Site describes the provisions of the Professional Land Surveyors Act and the Board Rules and other laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to the practice of professional land surveying and is to be used as a reference for the PLS Take-Home examination. You may also use other reference materials as well. All questions have equal weight. **You must achieve a minimum score of 70% to pass this examination.** If you do not achieve a passing score, the Board will mail you a notice requesting you to retake this examination. You will not receive a license number until you pass this Take-Home examination.

1. The duty of Licensed Land Surveyors to cooperate with governmental agencies in matters of monument preservation and monument location records is stated in which Section of the Business and Professions Code?

- (a) 8772
- (b) 8764
- (c) 8771
- (d) 8773

2. Under which circumstances is a Professional Land Surveyor NOT required to use a written contract?

- (a) When the client is referred to the Professional Land Surveyor by a contractor, an engineer or another Professional Land Surveyor.
- (b) When the total fee charged by the Professional Land Surveyor is less than \$500.
- (c) When the client knowingly states in writing after being fully advised of the law that a written contract is not necessary.
- (d) When the total dollar value of the project is under \$1,000.

3. If a land surveying business is to be conducted using a fictitious name

- (a) the business may not advertise land surveying.
- (b) an organization record form must be filed with the Board.
- (c) all of the owners must be California licensed land surveyors.
- (d) at least one of the owners must be a California licensed civil engineer.

4. A Record of Survey Map shall be filed with the

- (a) County Board of Supervisors.
- (b) City Engineer.
- (c) County Assessor.
- (d) County Surveyor.

5. Identify the activity that is NOT within the scope of the legal practice of land surveying defined in the Professional Land Surveyors' Act.

- (a) Municipal improvements involving the final design of streets.
- (b) Topographic surveys.
- (c) Photogrammetric surveys.
- (d) Managing an office which offers both land surveying and civil engineering services.

6. When a Corner Record is submitted to the County Surveyor, she/he

- (a) may charge a fee for examining, indexing, and filing, not to exceed the fee for recording a deed, and deliver it to the County Recorder for filing.
- (b) may charge a fee for examining, indexing, and filing, not to exceed the fee for reviewing a Record of Survey.
- (c) may charge a fee for examining, indexing, and filing not to exceed the fee for recording a Grant Deed.
- (d) may charge a fee for examining, indexing, and filing, not to exceed the fee for a recording a Certificate of Correction.

7. A Licensed Land Surveyor may perform which of the following in connection with land surveying activities?

- (a) land planning
- (b) civil engineering services
- (c) design of fixed works for a subdivision of land
- (d) minor subdivision grading and drainage plans

8. A licensed Land Surveyor who offers to practice land surveying as a partner, member, or officer of a partnership, firm or corporation shall file a notice of association or termination of association with the Board within

- (a) ten (10) days
- (b) twenty (20) days
- (c) thirty (30) days
- (d) sixty (60) days

9. "Material discrepancy" as used in the Professional Land Surveyors Act is limited to the

- (a) discrepancy with the positions of points, lines or dimensions shown on a recorded map.
- (b) disagreement with bearings and distances shown on a recorded map.
- (c) discrepancy regarding the material from which a monument is made as shown on a recorded map.
- (d) encroachments of walls and fences not shown on a recorded map.

10. How may a Professional Land Surveyor provide notice of licensure to clients?

- (a) By including his or her license number on all documents sent to clients
- (b) By including a statement that he or she is licensed by the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors immediately above the signature line in at least 12 point type on all contracts for services
- (c) By putting "P.L.S." after his or her name on all documents sent to clients
- (d) By hanging his or her wall certificate in a private office

11. Which of the following is NOT required to be shown on a Corner Record?

- (a) the county in which the corner is situated.
- (b) the date of the most recent visit to the monument
- (c) a reference to the California Coordinate System.
- (d) a description of the physical condition of the monument.

12. The exemption allowing non-licensed persons to be in responsible charge of land surveying is provided for in Business and Professions Code Section(s)

- (1) 8731.
 - (2) 8726.
 - (3) 8730.
 - (4) 8728.
-
- (a) 1 only
 - (b) 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 2 and 3 only

13. A monument set by a Licensed Land Surveyor in the field

- (a) shall be embedded in concrete by the land surveyor setting it.
- (b) shall be tagged with the certificate number of the land surveyor setting it.
- (c) shall be tied by bearing and distance to the nearest County Surveyor monument.
- (d) shall provide field observed direct connections to at least two stations in the National Geodetic Reference System.

14. Which of the following conditions must be met for a business to offer to provide land surveying and engineering services?

- (1) The corporation is owned in part by a licensed land surveyor.
 - (2) The corporation has filed an organization record form with the Board indicating the licensed Land Surveyors in responsible charge of the land surveying services provided.
 - (3) The corporation is owned in part by a currently licensed civil engineer, who is an officer of the corporation, and has filed an organization record form with the Board indicating a person in responsible charge of the land surveying services provided.
 - (4) The corporation is owned in part by a non-licensed person and has filed an organization record form with the Board indicating the person in responsible charge of the land surveying services provided.
-
- (a) 1 and 4 only.
 - (b) 2 only
 - (c) 3 only
 - (d) 1 and 2 only.

15. A person is guilty of a misdemeanor in which of the following cases?

- (1) offering to practice land surveying in California without legal authorization.
- (2) using the license of another person as his or her own.
- (3) using an expired or suspended license.
- (4) providing false evidence to the Board, or any member, in obtaining a license.

- (a) 1, 2, and 4
- (b) 1 and 2
- (c) 2, 3, and 4
- (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

16. A Record of Survey map shall be filed within a certain period of time after the establishment of one or more land boundary or property lines or points not previously shown on a filed map or record. This time period is

- (a) twenty (20) days.
- (b) thirty (30) days.
- (c) sixty (60) days.
- (d) ninety (90) days.

17. New legal descriptions for deeds, trust deeds, or other title documents prepared for the purpose of describing the limits of real property may NOT be prepared by

- (a) Professional Civil Engineers whose licenses were issued after January 1, 1982.
- (b) Attorneys and Licensed Civil Engineers whose licenses were issued before January 1, 1982.
- (c) Licensed Civil Engineers whose licenses were issued before January 1, 1982.
- (d) Chief Title Officers and Licensed Land Surveyors.

18. The right of entry to perform surveys is provided for in which of the following California Laws?

- (a) the Civil Code and Business and Professions Code.
- (b) the Public Resources Code and Penal Code.
- (c) the Code of Civil Procedure and Streets and Highways Code.
- (d) the California Code of Regulations and the Penal Code.

19. Any person who is licensed by the Board and changes his/her address must notify the Board in writing within

- (a) thirty (30) days.
- (b) forty-five (45) days.
- (c) sixty (60) days.
- (d) ninety (90) days.

20. Of the following, who may survey property boundaries?

- (1) a person who owns a legal interest in the property.
 - (2) a California Professional Civil Engineer whose license was issued before January 1, 1982.
 - (3) an employee acting as a subordinate under the direction of a person authorized to practice land surveying.
- (a) 1 and 2 only
 - (b) 2 and 3 only
 - (c) 1 and 3 only
 - (d) 1, 2, and 3

21. A Record of Survey that shows coordinates based on the California Coordinate System and the control scheme through which the coordinates were determined

- (a) may not be filed unless the coordinates and scheme have been approved by the county surveyor.
- (b) may be filed.
- (c) may only be filed if it shows field observed direct connections to at least two stations in the National Geodetic Reference System.
- (d) may only be filed if there are tie to at least two Cal-Trans monuments.

22. After the re-establishment of a "Lost Corner" as defined in the BLM "Manual of Instructions"

- (a) a Record of Survey shall be filed.
- (b) a Record of Survey may be filed.
- (c) a Corner Record may be filed.
- (d) a Corner Record shall be filed.

23. "Span of control" as defined in the Professional Land Surveyors' Act and Board Rules relates to

- (a) the distance between primary and secondary HPGN control points.
- (b) delegation of authority by the Board.
- (c) responsible charge of land surveying activities.
- (d) the distance between HPGN control monuments in adjacent counties.

24. The requirement that a Licensed Land Surveyor may only practice in those areas in which she/he is fully proficient and competent is mandated in the

- (a) Professional Land Surveyors' Act.
- (b) California Code of Regulations.
- (c) California Civil Code.
- (d) California Code of Civil Procedure.

25. The requirements for the form and type of information to be shown on a Corner Record are found in

- (a) the California Code of Regulations.
- (b) the Professional Land Surveyors' Act.
- (c) the Public Resources Code.
- (d) the Government Code.

