



Ohio's Professional Engineers and Surveyors Ethics Educational Requirement

On January 6, 2017, Governor Kasich signed House Bill 236 into law. The bill updated Ohio Revised Code (ORC) § 4733.151 (C) by adding #2 as listed below:

“(C) (1) A person registered as both a professional engineer and professional surveyor shall complete at least ten of the thirty hours required under division (A) of this section in engineering-related coursework or activities and at least ten of those thirty hours in surveying-related coursework or activities.

(2) Beginning with registrations expiring on or after the last day of December 2017, a person registered as a professional engineer or professional surveyor shall complete at least two of the thirty hours required under division (A) of this section on professional ethics or rules relevant to the practices of engineering or surveying.”¹

This update to the law for Engineering and Surveying Continuing Professional Development (CPD) means license holders are now required to complete two hours of training on ethics or the rules relevant to the practices of engineering or surveying when submitting license renewals for the 2020/2021 period. This training needs to be taken during 2018/2019 for the 2020/2021 renewal period.

So how or where can Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors obtain the required ethics or rules training? The following sources are currently available, free of charge, as an option to complete ethics training:

- **The Ohio Ethics Law E-Course from the Ohio Ethics Commission** - The course is approximately one hour in length and offers an overview of the entire Ethics Law. An electronic certificate of completion will be offered at the end of the e-course. *Do not turn off your browser at completion of course until you have completed the Certificate of Completion page!* To receive your Certificate of Completion, the course must be viewed in one sitting and the learner must achieve a passing score of at least 70 percent on the quiz contained throughout the course. The course fulfills the annual Ethics Law training requirement per Executive Order 2011-03 for state employees. The course is equally applicable and appropriate for all local government employees and officials, as well.
 - This course can be accessed at the following webpage link:
<http://www.ethics.ohio.gov/education/elearning/ecourses.html>
- **Ohio Ethics Law Webinars** - The Ohio Ethics Commission presents monthly one-hour webinars to provide a convenient and helpful overview of the Ohio

¹ Full text of ORC § 4733.151 available at: <http://codes.ohio.gov/orc/4733.151v1> (last visited 6/7/18)



Ethics Law. Once registered, you will receive an email confirming your registration with information you need to join the webinar.

- The webinar sign-up can be accessed at the following webpage link:
<http://www.ethics.ohio.gov/education/webinars.html>

It is important for license holders to remember each licensed professional engineer/surveyor is responsible for making sure courses they take for CPD credit meet the CPD requirements. CPDs are **NOT** preapproved. There are three basic questions that will help you judge if a course is acceptable.

1. Is the activity, course or seminar relevant to the practice of engineering or surveying and does it include technical, ethical or managerial content?
2. Is the provider of the course, seminar or activity reputable and one that can demonstrate knowledge and expertise on the subject matter?
3. Does the provider supply a course outline and a record of attendance?

If the answer to these questions is yes, then the courses will likely meet Ohio's CPD requirement.²

Ohio LTAP is also planning to launch an eLearning course from the American Association of State Transportation Officials (AASHTO) Transportation Training Coordination Curriculum Council (TC3) program as soon as the course is made available for general distribution. Individuals subscribed to the Ohio LTAP listserv will receive a notification as soon as the course is made available. The course will be offered free of charge through [Ohio LTAP's eLearning system](#).

The Ohio Board for Professional Engineers and Professional Surveyors (PEPS) provides an editable word document log for license holders to track their CPDs credits as they are earned. The log is available on the PEPS website at:
<http://www.peps.ohio.gov/Portals/0/forms/Individuals/2017/CPD%20Log%20Jan%202017.docx>

We encourage you to review the CPD requirements on the PEPS board's webpage at:
<http://www.peps.ohio.gov/IndividualLicensing/ContinuingEd.aspx>

As Ohio LTAP becomes aware of additional training opportunities, we will make certain to announce them through our listserv. Training opportunities which are on-going (not one time offerings) for ethics and/or rules training will also be listed on our website's CPD page at:
<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Planning/LocalPrograms/LTAP/Pages/CPDQuestionInformation.aspx>

² Frequently Asked Questions concerning CPD Credits from the Ohio PEPS Board:
<http://www.peps.ohio.gov/IndividualLicensing/ContinuingEd/FAQ.aspx> (last visited 6/7/2018).