TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION BOARD, INC.

Board Members

Certification FAQs

Application Form *

Examination Preparation *

Exam Schedule

PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ENGINEER

Certification as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer is a powerful demonstration of requisite knowledge, skill and ability in the specialized application of traffic operations engineering. The certification process which has been adopted for Professional Traffic Engineers requires that the holder be a licensed professional engineer if he or she practices in the United States, Canada or any other country that provides governmental licensing of engineers. This certification process builds on and supports the practice of professional engineering registration. It is a long-term investment in one's professional career, which can be presented with pride!

There are 403 certified professionals as of March 15, 2000.

Available from the ITE Bookstore

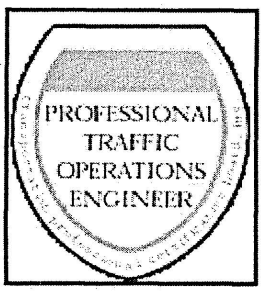
Professional Traffic Operations Engineers Certification Program *Refresher* Course
Provides an overview of topics, key references, and a brief independent study guide by topic for practicing engineers who intend to take the PTOE certification examination, but is not keyed specifically to the examination questions.

ITE, 1999, 216 pp. Publication # PD-021.
Member price: $20.00 , Non-member price: $25.00

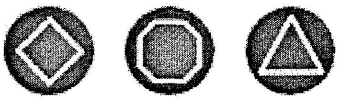
Transportation Professional Certification Board Inc.
525 School Street, SW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20024-2797 USA
Telephone: +1 202-554-8050 | FAX: +1 202-863-5486
E-mail: **certificatn@ite.org**
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BZA
Case No. 16559
Exhibit No. 427
Board of Zoning Adjustment
District of Columbia
CASE NO.16559
EXHIBIT NO.427

Professional Traffic Operations Engineer



Frequently Asked Questions



Certification FAQs
Application Form *
Examination Preparation *
Exam Schedule

TRANSPORTATION PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION BOARD, INC.



- What is certification?
- Relationship to Professional Engineering Registration
- Why certification?
- Why me?
- Who sponsors certification of Professional Traffic Operations Engineers?
- What are the requirements for certification as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer?
- Definition of a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer
- How were these components selected?
- When and where will examinations be offered?
- Substitution of examinations
- Future plans
- The examination process
- Fees
- Further information

WHAT IS CERTIFICATION?

Certification is a voluntary process through which individuals are recognized for specialized knowledge and skill in a specified field of endeavor. The purpose of voluntary certification is to enhance public safety and welfare by providing assurance that the certification holder

possesses the knowledge, skills and abilities required to provide services to the public at a professional level with a competence which will safeguard life, health and property and protect the general public welfare.

Voluntary certification is firmly established in such professional areas as accounting, financial planning, association management and medical specialties. Increasingly it is being established in engineering specialties such as environmental, irrigation and corrosion engineering; and now, traffic operations engineering!

Back to top

RELATIONSHIP TO PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING REGISTRATION

The certification process which has been adopted for Professional Traffic Operations Engineers requires that the holder be a licensed professional engineer if he or she practices in the United States, Canada or any other country that provides governmental licensing of engineers. Thus this certification process builds on and supports the practice of professional engineering registration!

Back to top

WHY CERTIFICATION?

The process of licensing professional engineers, as is practiced in North America, provides the public with an important assurance that the holder of that registration has demonstrated acceptable knowledge and skill in basic engineering areas: civil, electrical, mechanical, etc. Comparable credentials exist in some other countries.

However, as engineering knowledge and practice have expanded, it has become more difficult for decision-makers to discern which practitioners hold skills appropriate for practice in the growing number of engineering specialties. State and provincial registration agencies have found it impractical to expand into these specialty areas.

Voluntary certification seeks to meet this need by providing an additional credential which the public, employers and clients can rely upon to assure that the required specialty skills and knowledge are held.

Back to top

WHY ME?

The certification process is designed to protect and promote the public safety and welfare. However, it must and does offer value to the certificate holder; it must, because obtaining certification takes time and hard work and out-of-pocket costs to travel to and sit for the examination. Keeping the certification valid requires the holder to pay attention to regularly upgrading knowledge and skills through continuing education.

In both public employment and private practice, public, regulatory bodies, clients, co-workers and employers will accept the professional competence of the certification holder. Certification as a Professional Traffic Operations Engineer is a powerful demonstration of requisite knowledge, skill and ability in the specialized application of traffic operations engineering. It is a long-term investment in one's professional career, which can be presented

with pride! Perhaps the greatest benefit of holding certification is self-satisfaction; the certification holder has been tested and demonstrated that his or her knowledge and skill meet exacting and objective criteria!

Back to top

WHO SPONSORS CERTIFICATION OF PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ENGINEERS?

The Transportation Professional Certification Board, Inc. is an autonomous non-profit organization incorporated and located in the District of Columbia. Eight elected or appointed Directors govern the Board.

The Certification Board grew out of nearly 10 years of committee study by members of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, supported in part by funds from the U. S. Federal Highway Administration. The Institute still provides significant support to the Board; however the Certification Board's policies for the award of certification status are entirely independent of the Institute and its membership requirements and grades. Certification is open to any professional meeting the Certification Board's qualifications on a non-discriminatory and objective basis, and the Board actively seeks endorsement and cooperation from all professional societies with common goals.

The Certification Board is supported by start-up funds from the Institute and by its examination and certification fees. The Transportation Professional Certification Board, Inc. is a member in good standing of the National Organization for Competency Assurance (NOCA.)

Back to top

WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION AS A PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ENGINEER?

The primary requirement is that the applicant passes a professionally created written examination. However, to be admitted to the examination, the applicant must hold a valid license to practice civil, mechanical, electrical or general professional engineering if he or she resides in any jurisdiction issuing such registration. Applicants from countries that do not license professional engineers must submit evidence that they have professional status in their country equivalent to professional licensure in the United States or Canada.

The applicant must also have at least four years of professional practice in traffic operations engineering. (Advanced education may be substituted for some of this experience.) Two years of experience in traffic operations engineering must have been obtained as a licensed professional engineer.

Back to top

DEFINITION OF A PROFESSIONAL TRAFFIC OPERATIONS ENGINEER

A Professional Traffic Operations Engineer is a person who applies a comprehensive knowledge of technology and scientific principles acquired through study and experience to the supervision of day-to-day operation of traffic systems. Responsibilities often include the analysis of those operations, detection of problems and deficiencies, setting of priorities,

assignment of resources and development of improvements in operations through geometric design, traffic control or other means. The Professional Traffic Operations Engineer may carry out some but not all of the above duties or serve as a consultant to individuals with the above responsibilities.

Traffic Operations Engineering generally includes:

- Traffic Operation Analysis
- Operational Effects of Geometric Designs
- Traffic Safety
- Traffic Control Devices
- Traffic Engineering Studies
- Social, Environmental and Institutional Issues

Back to top

HOW WERE THESE COMPONENTS SELECTED?

Determining the components of traffic operations engineering started with an extensive review of frequently used textbooks, recognized traffic operations references, professional society programs, periodicals and publications. The initial listing was culled and perfected by two carefully selected study groups of practitioners, employers and academicians. This work was carried out in an independent study sponsored by the National Highway Institute.

A panel appointed by the Institute of Transportation Engineers refined and consolidated this listing and, in 1997, the panel's categories were verified by a professionally conducted validation study involving over 300 traffic operations practitioners. This final study both confirmed the components of the practice of traffic operations engineering and assigned weights to each element and sub-element based on the perceived importance and criticality of each skill or knowledge area.

This carefully controlled evolution has paid off in the considerable confidence that can be placed in the components and scope of practice which will be certified and in the balance of the certification examination.

Back to top

WHEN AND WHERE WILL EXAMINATIONS BE OFFERED?

An initial examination for Professional Traffic Operations Engineer certification was offered in the Washington, DC metropolitan area on January 9, 1999. Added 1999 examinations are scheduled for July 31 in Las Vegas, NV preceding the ITE Annual Meeting and for November 6 in the following metropolitan areas: Toronto, ON, Canada; New York, NY; Detroit, MI; Chicago, IL; Atlanta, GA; Seattle, WA; Denver, CO; Dallas, TX; and Tallahassee, FL.

Back to top

SUBSTITUTION OF EXAMINATIONS

The Certification Board has determined that the examination for the California Traffic Engineer license is equivalent to and may be substituted for the Board's examination. The

Oregon Traffic Engineer license examination may be accepted as a substitute examination when an ongoing study is completed. See Instruction 1 of the Application Form for methods to proceed if either examination could affect your application.

Back to top

FUTURE PLANS
In 2000, the examination will be offered in Washington, DC on January 8 and in Nashville, TN on August 5.

Future examinations will be offered at least annually at varying locations (initially in North America.) On a longer time scale, the Certification Board hopes to find professional acceptance of certification by practitioners outside North America. This will, of course, take time, but the Board has pledged to respond when the profession calls.

Similarly, there may be justification and interest in certification in other professional specialties under the broad umbrella of transportation engineering. The Board will seek to respond to such demand in years ahead.

Back to top

THE EXAMINATION PROCESS
The examination for Professional Traffic Operations Engineer will consist of 150 multiple-choice problems and questions created by subject matter experts and verified as objective, relevant and reliable by professional psychometricians following established procedures. The examination will be scheduled for six hours. It will be closed book and will require some mathematic applications. However, the examination will not cover knowledge and skill areas which are testified to by professional engineering registration.

The examination is designed to assure that the successful applicant possesses the specialized knowledge, skills and abilities which are required to practice traffic operations engineering at a professional level with a competence which will safeguard life, health and property and promote and protect the general public welfare.

Back to top

FEES
See Instruction 11 of the **Application Form** for the current fee schedule.

Back to top

FURTHER INFORMATION
An **application form** is available to download. If you desire further information on certification or want detailed candidate information please write, call, fax or e-mail to a number given below. The Certification Board invites your interest.

Back to top

Transportation Professional Certification Board Inc.
525 School Street, SW, Suite 410 | Washington, DC 20024-2797 USA
Telephone: +1 202-554-8050 | FAX: +1 202-863-5486
E-mail: **certificatn@ite.org**
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