

# Professional Geologist Licensure Requirements and the ASBOG National Geology License Examinations





# Part 1: An Introduction to State Licensing of Geologists





# Objectives for Today

## The Basics (PG and GIT)

- Terminology
- Why is a license important?
- Qualification Requirements
- Geology Licensing and Careers



# Important Terms



- **Registration** is the creation of a list (e.g. students in a class, members of a club).
- **Certification** is the comparison of something to an established standard (e.g. a college diploma).
- **Licensure** is the government's permission for you to do something (e.g. drive a car).



# What is a “Licensed Professional”?

## license

1. formal permission from a governmental or other constituted authority to do something, as to carry on some business or profession.
2. a certificate, tag, plate, etc., giving proof of such permission; official permit: *a driver's license*.

## professional

1. Person formally certified as belonging to a specific profession by virtue of having completed a required course of studies and/or practice. And whose competence can usually be measured against an established set of standards.
2. Person who has achieved an acclaimed level of proficiency in a calling or trade. See also *professionalism*.



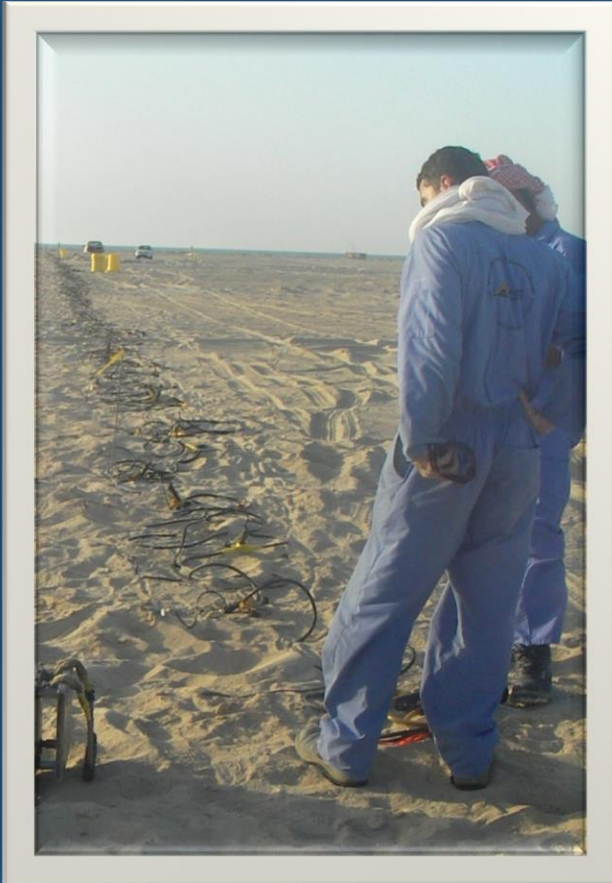


# Purpose of Licensure

- protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. This includes:
  - helping to ensure resiliency of infrastructure,
  - a sustainable economy,
  - the responsible use of natural resources,
  - and environmental protection.
- establishing standards for minimum competency in a profession



# Careers and Licensing



- Not all careers require licensure
- Required by law for many careers
- Licensure Increases Career Opportunities and Flexibility
- Credibility
- Demonstrates a commitment to Professional Responsibility
- Financial Incentives





# Qualification Requirements

- Licensure qualifications are established by law in each jurisdiction.
- Typical requirements include:
  - **Education**
    - Typically bachelor's degree or
    - minimum specified coursework (sometimes specific classes are required)
  - **Experience**
    - Generally 3 to 5 years after education
  - **Exams**
    - ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology
    - ASBOG Practice of Geology
    - Any applicable state specific license exam



# Geology License Exams

ASBOG® Fundamentals of  
Geology (FG) Exam  
Knowledge Based  
(4 hours, 140 questions)

← National Exam-Intended to test bachelor's level knowledge.

→ National Exam-Intended to test applied professional tasks.

ASBOG® Practice of Geology (PG) Exam  
Knowledge/Experience Based  
General – Not State Specific  
(4 hours, 110 questions)

→ Intended to address specific state  
issues/requirements.

State Specific Exam  
Knowledge/Experience Based



# So What About the GIT?

FG Exam  
Knowledge Based  
Intended to test bachelor's  
level knowledge

The ASBOG FG Exam is the **ONLY** exam you can take before you get your work experience.



- The Geologist in Training (GIT) is a certificate of achievement issued in recognition of passing the national ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology (FG) Exam.
- A GIT certificate allows you to use the protected title geologist in training.
- It **is not a license** to practice geology.
- It is not offered in all states.
- Students often qualify to apply for GIT before graduation and can put it on their resume.





# So Why Get a GIT?

A GIT certificate shows that *you have the qualities an employer wants:*

- Technical competence
- Understand the laws/regs
- Know what it takes to advance in your chosen profession
- Proactive





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Laurie Racca, PG 6980  
Senior Registrar, Geology & Geophysics

Direct: (916)263-2406 FAX: 916-263-2246  
Email: [Laurie.Racca@dca.ca.gov](mailto:Laurie.Racca@dca.ca.gov)  
2535 Capitol Oaks Dr., STE. 300  
Sacramento, CA 95833  
Toll Free: 1(866)780-5370 [www.bpelsg.ca.gov](http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov)

