



## **TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS**

*P.O. Box 13225 • Austin, Texas 78711 • (512) 936-4400 • fax (512) 936-4409  
Website: [www.tbpg.state.tx.us](http://www.tbpg.state.tx.us)*

### **REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF LICENSING EXAMINATION BOARD POLICY**

**INTRODUCTION:** The Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists is charged with the responsibility of issuing a license to engage in the public practice of geoscience in the state of Texas only to those individuals who meet the qualifications for licensure, as provided by Texas law. The successful completion of the required examination for the specific discipline is an essential element in the Professional Geoscientist licensure process and, to date, the Board has found extremely limited circumstances that would cause the Board to consider waiving this requirement.

The Texas Geoscience Practice Act (TGPA) (Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 1002), Section §1002.259 provides that "Except for the payment of required fees, the board may waive any of the requirements for licensure by a two-thirds vote of the entire board if the applicant makes a written request and shows good cause and the board determines that the applicant is otherwise qualified for a license." The Board's rules (Texas Administrative Code; Title 22; Part 39; Chapters 850 and 851) at §851.20 (e) also address the submission of a request for the waiver of a license requirement.

An applicant for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist may request a waiver by submitting a copy of this request/Board policy acknowledgement form, along with supporting documentation. Only an applicant for licensure may request a waiver. An applicant must have submitted a complete application, supporting documentation (such as transcripts and references), and applicable fees in order for an examination waiver request to be considered.

Once a request for a waiver of the examination and all relevant documents and information supporting the request have been received, subject to scheduling logistics, the request will be placed on the next available meeting of the TBPG's Application Review and Continuing Education Committee.

### **TBPG'S APPLICATION REVIEW AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE REVIEW:**

The TBPG's Application Review and Continuing Education Committee will review the request and supporting documentation and recommend to the full TBPG Board whether or not to approve the request (grant the requested waiver). All requests recommended for approval will be scheduled for review for approval by the full Board. Requests the Committee does not recommend to approve may be scheduled for review by the full Board at the applicant's request.

**TBPG'S BOARD REVIEW:** The TBPG Board will review the request and supporting documentation and determine whether or not to approve the request (grant the requested

waiver). An applicant who believes that there is additional information that was not available to the Board when it reviewed the request, may submit additional information to staff regarding the current application, along with a written request that the Board reconsider the request. If, in staff judgment, new information is submitted that may be relevant to the Board's review of an application/request, staff will schedule the review of the request to re-review the application at the next full Board meeting.

In the review of a request to re-review an application/waiver request, the Board will first determine by a simple majority vote whether to reconsider the application/waiver request. If the Board were to determine by vote that the new information warrants the re-review of an application, the Board would then reconsider the waiver request, including all of the information available at that time. An applicant may appear before the Board and present information related to the request. The Board will reconsider the re-review of an application for licensure only once.

In accordance with TOC §1002.259, *an approval of a waiver request requires a vote of 2/3 of the entire Board (6 affirmative votes), regardless of the number of Board members in attendance.*

**GUIDANCE POLICY: POLICY ON EXAMINATION WAIVERS**  
(as approved by the Board, June 2008)

All applicants granted a waiver of examination would need to meet **ALL** other qualifications for licensure and must have minimum experience practicing as a geoscientist as listed below. Experience must have been obtained post-degree and be actual working experience.

<u><b>Applicant Education</b></u>	<u><b>Examination</b></u>	<u><b>Years of Experience</b></u>
B.S.	ASBOG-Fundamentals	15
	ASBOG-Practice	no waiver
	CSSE-Fundamentals	15
	CSSE-Practice	no waiver
	TBPG-Geophysics	no waiver
M.S.	ASBOG-Fundamentals	13
	ASBOG-Practice	no waiver
	CSSE-Fundamentals	13
	CSSE-Practice	no waiver
	TBPG-Geophysics	no waiver
Ph.D.	ASBOG-Fundamentals	10
	ASBOG-Practice	no waiver
	CSSE-Fundamentals	10
	CSSE-Practice	no waiver
	TBPG-Geophysics	no waiver



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### REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF LICENSING EXAMINATION APPLICANT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

\_\_\_\_\_ **Initials** Waiver of examinations is not automatically approved. The Application Review and Continuing Education Committee will consider waiver requests and make a recommendation to the Board. A waiver request that has been recommended for approval by the Application Review and Continuing Education Committee may not be approved by the full TBPG Board. A request for a waiver of a licensing requirement can only be granted by a two-thirds vote of the entire Board.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Initials** I understand that requests for waiver are not guaranteed, and that the Board has established the above specific policy guidance regarding the waiver of examination requirement.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Initials** I understand that should I wish to pursue such a waiver, and my waiver request is denied, my application fee is non-refundable.

By my signature I certify that I understand the Board policy as stated above and, request a waiver of the examination requirement as provided in Section §1002.259. I have attached all of the documentation and other information relevant to the request.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date