# TEXAS BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS

Licensure in the Geophysics Discipline



Texas Geophysics Examination Candidate Handbook

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# I. Licensure as a Professional Geoscientist and Certification as a Geoscientist-in-Training in the Geophysics Discipline

The Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG) licenses Professional Geoscientists (PGs) in accordance with criteria set forth in the Texas Geoscience Practice Act (Geoscience Act) and the Rules of the Board. The TBPG issues licenses in three disciplines: Geology, Geophysics, and Soil Science.

According to TBPG rule §851.10(22), Geophysics refers to that science which involves the study of the physical Earth by means of measuring its natural and induced fields of force, and its responses to natural and induced energy or forces, the interpretation of these measurements, applied with judgment to benefit or protect the public.

The requirements for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist (PG) are included in TBPG rule §851.20. (See Appendix 1)

In order to sit for the Texas Geophysics Examination a person must meet the educational and experience requirement (as applicable) and submit a complete application for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist or certification as a Geoscientist-in-Training in accordance with TBPG rule §851.20, all necessary supplementary documentation (such as transcripts, foreign transcript evaluation, if appropriate, an examination request form, and the appropriate fees).

Forms, docume	entation, and fees required for PG Licensure:
A com	pleted TBPG Application for Licensure (Form A)-\$255 application fee
Examination	nation Request (Form E) -\$25 fee administrative fee
☐ \$175 e	xam fee
☐ No less	s than three Professional Reference Statements (Form I)
Up to t	wo Personal Reference Statements (Form II)—as many as required submitting a total of
five ref	Ferences
Sealed	official academic transcripts
_	ation of other licenses (as applicable) Form XII
☐ Crimin	al/disciplinary/litigation history (as applicable)
The requirement (Appendix 1)	nts for GIT Certification are included in §851.40 Geoscientist-in-Training (GIT).
Forms, docume	entation, and fees required for GIT Certification:
A com	pleted TBPG Application for GIT Certification (Form H)-\$25 application fee
Examination	nation Request (Form E) -\$25 fee administrative fee
☐ \$175 e	xam fee
One Pe	ersonal Reference Statement (GIT) (Form III)
Sealed	official academic transcripts
☐ Verific	ation of other licenses (as applicable) Form XII
☐ Crimin	al/disciplinary/litigation history (as applicable)

An applicant, who is determined to be eligible to take the exam, will be contacted to schedule the examination administration date and time. The Texas Geophysics Examination is administered in the TBPG office (in Austin, TX) and can be scheduled at a time that is most convenient for the applicant and the Examination Administrator, during regular business hours.

### **II. Examination Special Accommodations Requests**

It is the policy of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists to allow an examination candidate with documented disabilities who qualifies as disabled under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to take licensing examinations under special conditions. The goal of TBPG is to provide special and reasonable consideration to disabled, qualified examinees who demonstrate functional limitations that affect their ability to take the exam.

For information and assistance regarding needs that fall under the ADA, or for more information about disability rights, contact the US ADA Information Line at 800/514-0301 (voice) or 800/514-0383 (TTY) or go to the ADA web site at (www.ada.gov).

### Requesting exam accommodations

The goal of such accommodation is to ensure that the exam results of an individual with documented disabilities accurately reflects the individual's aptitude or achievement level (or whatever other factor the exam purports to measure) rather than the individual's impaired sensory, manual or speaking skills (except where those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure).

An exam candidate must indicate any need for accommodations during the examination registration process, or upon application to sit for the examination. In order to qualify for special accommodation, an examination candidate must:

- qualify as disabled under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- submit a written statement from a licensed physician which documents that the examination candidate is disabled and describes the special conditions the candidate needs
- provide supporting documentation outlining the special needs of the candidate

*Please Note*: Additional documentation may be required. If additional documentation is requested, you will be provided a written letter detailing what additional information is required.

Typical special conditions that are approved include, but are not limited to:

- additional time up to 50%
- a separate examination area to control/minimize noise and distractions
- adjustment to the font/print size on an examination booklet
- a reader or recorder for individuals with mobility or vision impairments, who cannot read or write on their own

If a special accommodation is not requested in advance, the Examination Administrator cannot guarantee the availability of accommodation on site at the time of the examination administration.

### **Approval process**

The review/approval process can take up to 30 days and will not begin until all required documentation has been received by TBPG. Please account for processing time when planning to take the examination.

### A. Texas Geophysics Examination (TGE) Special Accommodation Request

An exam candidate must indicate any need for accommodations during the examination registration process/upon application to sit for the examination. In order to qualify for special accommodation request, an examination candidate must:

- qualify as disabled under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- notify TBPG upon application of the examination for which the candidate is requesting the special consideration
- submit a written statement from a doctor which documents that the examination candidate is disabled and describes the special conditions the candidate needs
- provide supporting documentation outlining the special needs of the candidate

*Please Note*: Additional documentation may be required. If additional documentation is requested, you will be provided a written letter detailing what additional information is required.

### B. ASBOG® Examinations Special Conditions Request

A request for special accommodation and/or modification to the examination(s) for the Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG)'s Fundamentals of Geology and Practice of Geology must be received by ASBOG® no later than ninety (90) calendar days prior to the scheduled examination; therefore, you must submit the request to TBPG one hundred and twenty (120) calendar days prior to the scheduled examination.

*Please note*: ASBOG® does not alter, revise nor compromise the contents of its examinations in any way; adjustments are made only in the physical administration of the examinations. The ASBOG® examinations are administered in English only.

### C. CSSE Examinations Special Accommodation Request

A special accommodation request for the Council of Soil Science Examiners' (CSSE) Fundamentals of Soil Science and Practice of Soil Science examination must be submitted to the CSSE in accordance with the rules of the CSSE. For more information on the exam, please visit the CSSE website at www.soils.org or contact Marta McCoy by phone at 608-268-4955.

## III. Texas Geophysics Examination

#### A. Purpose and Design

The Texas Geophysics Examination (TGE) is the qualifying licensing examination for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist in the discipline of geophysics in Texas. In conjunction with Gainesville Independent Testing Service, TBPG developed and now administers the Texas Geophysics Examination to qualify applicants for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist in the discipline of geophysics.

TBPG works with Gainesville Independent Testing Service (GITS) to review the performance of the Texas Geophysics Examination and make improvements to the examination over time. The TGE is constructed and designed to assess the examinee's knowledge in the fundamentals of geophysics and the practice of geophysics. Scoring is designed to identify whether the examinee possesses the minimum knowledge required to safely engage in the public practice of geoscience in Texas.

The TGE examination was developed by using the directed approach and following the practices and standards outlined in "Standards for educational and psychological testing" published by American Educational Research Association, American Psychological Association, and the National Council on Measurements in Education adopted in 1999 and published in the 2008 reprint, and the applicable standards listed by the National Association of State Contractor Licensing Agencies. Classic development procedures were used with support and direction of GITS, LLC staff and psychometrician Lena Zappo, PhD.

During the process of examination development, meetings were held in and around Austin and Houston, Texas, U.S.A. with the volunteer subject matter experts (SME) in attendance. There were four meeting held during the original development which included: Directed Task Analysis, Blueprint Development, Item Development, and Item Review and Scoring. Item scoring was performed using a modified Angoff Method wherein each SME estimates the difficulty of an item and how many first time takers would get the item correct using a base of 10 individuals to estimate from.

The revision process built upon the base of the original development and the following activities were undertaken: Blueprint review and revision, item review, new item development, and form review. The same standards and processes used during the original development were again applied to the revision cycle.

Scoring occurs through a multiple step quality control process. Each examination administration is graded and scored based upon the candidates' responses to the items. Each administration will be scored manually and double checked through the multi-step data entry process with the final score being arrived at through the use of the computer based testing system wherein all results will be stored indefinitely.

### B. Background

The TGE was initially constructed in 2003-2004 by a group of volunteer geophysicist subject matter experts (SMEs) at the request and authorization of the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists and Jay Bowermeister, owner of Gainesville Independent Testing Service (GITS). TBPG Board Member Kelly Krenz-Doe, P.G. worked as a SME on the initial effort and has provided guidance and oversight to the issues surrounding the examination until her term ended in April, 2016.

In 2013, the initial Texas Geophysics Examination had been in existence and use for 8 years. In 2013 the TBPG Appointed Board determined that it was prudent and necessary to update or refresh the examination because, although basic principles had not changed, technology and methodology had. The agency contracted with GITS to assemble another group of volunteer geophysicists subject matter experts to review and redesign the examination "blue print;" review existing examination items, validating, verifying and writing new items, as necessary; review the examination's reference material, verify and revise as needed; and review, verify and validate the test form assembly, revising it as necessary.

The majority of the work involved with the Texas Geophysics Examination update process was completed by the SMEs in 2015. The Second Edition of the Texas Geophysics Examination was completed and is available as of August, 2016.

The Texas Geophysics Examination is administered by TBPG staff, in conjunction with GITS. GITS maintains the item bank and draws test forms (instances of the examination) and provides access to the examination to TBPG staff. TBPG staff members administer and proctor the examination. TBPG staff members also work with GITS to score the completed examinations. GITS provide final scoring information to TBPG staff. TBPG staff members provide the scoring information to the examinee. Upon passage of the examination, TBPG staff members initiate the appropriate administrative actions with regard to the examinee's application for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist or certification as a Geoscientist-in-Training.

### C. Psychometric Review

Statistical Analysis - Data for statistical analysis is kept in the active database used for the final step of the scoring/grading process.

Statistical information shall be analyzed when requested or at intervals of every 5th (fifth) administration, though data analysis may not show significance until after 10 or more administrations will have been given. Inference may be made by evaluation of data after that point.

### D. Examination Blueprint

Texas Geophysics Examination (TGE) Blueprint				
Domain Area	Number of questions	Percent of total		
Seismic	20	28.57%		
Electrical	5	7.14%		
Magnetics	5	7.14%		
Gravity	5	7.14%		
Ground Penetrating Radar	10	14.29%		
Electromagnetic	18	25.71%		
Public Safety	4	5.71%		
Practitioner Safety	3	4.28%		
Total	70	100%		

## E. Reference Reading List

- Chapter 18, Investigations in Geophysics, No. 13, Near Surface Geophysics, Dwain K. Butler, Society of Exploration Geophysicists
- Transportation Research Circular E-C130, July 2008
- Field Geophysics, 3rd Edition, 2003 John Milsom
- Applied Hydrogeology, C.W. Fetter, Second Edition
- ASTM D6429-99 (2011)
- ASTM D 420-98 (2003)
- ASTM D5777-00 (2011)
- ASTM D4428/D4428M-2014
- ASTM D6429-11
- Trade Knowledge
- ASTM D7128-05 (2010)
- 29 CFR 1910 OSHA Subparts D,E,F,G,J
- 29 CFR 1926 OSHA Standards for the Construction Industry

### IV. Examination Day

TBPG works to provide a comfortable physical environment for the examination candidate and still provide for complete security. We ask that candidates respect measures taken by staff as we balance these two important objectives. The check-in process is completed when the candidate is in place, seated for the examination. Candidates should arrive at the TBPG offices at the scheduled time at the following location:

William P. Hobby Building 333 Guadalupe Street, Tower 1, Suite 530 Austin, Texas

Upon arrival at the William P. Hobby Building, the exam candidate must check in with building security. The candidate will need valid photo identification. The candidate should request that the agency is contacted and wait for a TBPG staff to greet them. The candidate will be escorted to a location where the examination will be administered.

An examination candidate does not need any materials to take the TGE and is not allowed to use a personal calculator, pen, pencil, ruler or other item. TBPG staff will provide a calculator, ruler, scratch paper and any other items a candidate will need. The candidate must power down (not silence) electronic devices (phones, etc.) and place them and any other personal belongings in an inaccessible area designated by TBPG staff. An examination candidate should dress in such a manner as to facilitate monitoring. Hats, coats, jackets, etc. must be removed and stored with personal items.

### A. Check-in

The TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor will guide the check-in process. The check-in process is normally completed within 15-20 minutes of arrival. The check-in process includes:

- review of the candidate's valid photo identification (e.g.: driver's license)
- familiarization with the restroom facilities
- storage of personal items
- other miscellaneous logistics

### B. Restroom breaks

A candidate may take restroom breaks. The Examination Administrator or Proctor will escort the candidate to and from the restroom. A candidate may not access personal items during a restroom break, make a phone call or otherwise communicate with persons other than the Examination Administrator or Proctor. The examination time does not stop for a restroom break.

### C. Uncontrollable circumstances

There are things TBPG cannot control, such as unscheduled emergency evacuation drills, actual emergencies, adjacent city or private construction, power disruptions, etc. If such an event disrupts an examination administration, staff will work with the candidate to make an appropriate adjustment (which, depending on the circumstances could include rescheduling of the examination at no cost to the candidate).

In the event of special circumstances in which a candidate has a special need (for example, to be contacted during the examination because of a family member's health issue, etc.) the candidate should work with the Licensing Coordinator in advance.

### V. Examination Candidate Instructions

The Texas Geophysics Examination is a three-hour, 70-question, "closed book," multiple-choice paper-administered examination. The examination is administered and proctored by TBPG staff.

### A. Start of examination

The TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor will read a set of instructions. At the appropriate time, the TBPG Examination Administrator will provide the examination to the candidate and announce that the examination has begun. The TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor will note the time the examination began and the time the exam must end. The clock and the notation of the end time will be placed in candidate's view.

### B. Statement of Examination Compliance Form (Appendix 2)

Each candidate will be provided with a Statement of Examination Compliance Form. The Statement of Examination Compliance form confirms that the candidate has read, understands, and agrees to the examination rules and security provisions outlined on the form. It is the candidate's responsibility to read, sign, and return the original Statement of Examination Compliance form to the TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor before the start of the examination. Any candidate who fails to complete, sign, and return the Statement of Examination Compliance form will not be permitted to sit for the TGE.

### C. Candidate Question Comment Form (Appendix 3)

A Candidate Question Comment Form is provided for candidates to comment on examination items. It is important to note comments regarding the examination items. Comments assist the TBPG to improve the exam. In addition, it allows for TBPG to review items for accuracy and could result in an examination candidate's score being considered for possible adjustment.

Please note that in order for an exam candidate to appeal an item on the examination, the candidate must have commented on the item or items in question. At the completion of the examination, the form must be returned to the Examination Administrator or Proctor, even if no comments were made. TBPG works with GITS (who may in turn work with one or more SME, depending on the nature of the comment) to determine whether any action or response is appropriate. In some circumstances an examination issue may be reviewed by the TBPG's Application Review / Continuing Education Committee.

#### D. Completion of examination

A candidate has three hours to complete the examination. A candidate may declare that he or she is finished and turn the examination in to the TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor at any time prior to the end of three hours. When 30 minutes remain and when 15 minutes remain, the TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor will announce the time remaining. At the end of three hours, the TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor will announce that the time has ended. When the TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor has announced that the time has expired, the candidate shall put down the pencil and turn in the examination.

# VI. Grading Process: Transposing candidate answers into the GITs system, Scoring, Release of Score and Pass/Fail Determination

- 1. The TBPG Examination Administrator or Proctor will open the candidate's examination instance (open an examination online) on the GITS system.
- 2. The TBPG staff will enter the candidate's responses for each examination item in the GITS online system. After a double check that the candidate's responses have been accurately transposed from the paper to the online examination, TBPG staff will close the exam online.
- 3. TBPG staff will send (via a secure mail process) a copy of the candidate's completed examination to GITS.
- 4. Upon receipt of the examination, GITS staff will use the copy of the completed examination to determine whether TBPG staff accurately transposed the candidate's responses into the GITS examination scoring system (check the accuracy of the TBPG staff's data entry).
- 5. After GITS has verified the accuracy of TBPG staff's transposition (data entry), the examination will be scored by the GITS software.
- 6. A score sheet will be generated with the applicant's score that will include a total score and a breakdown of the candidate's performance per subject area or domain. A passing score is 70% or higher. See example below the text. example:
- 7. GITS will send the candidate's score/breakdown to TBPG staff via e-mail. TBPG staff should receive the results from GITS within 5 days of the date GITS receives the completed examination in the mail.
- 8. TBPG staff will provide candidates with examination score/breakdown via regular US First Class mail. Generally, examination candidates should receive results within 10-14 days of the examination date.
- 9. Release of scores will be to the candidate and sponsoring agency only, or to the candidate's legally designated representative upon receipt of written approval by the candidate. Access to results will be available to GITS, LLC; the TBPG; and the candidate only and will not be released to any other agency or individual without the explicit written permission of the candidate or as mandated by law or order of a court having jurisdiction.

# VII. Final Score Report: Strength/Weakness - Example Grade Sheet



Strength/ Weakness and Final Score Report for:

Candidate Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_

Examination Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Texas Geophysics Examination Score  Result = Pass  Score 98.5%				
Seismic	19 out of 20	95%		
Electrical	5 out of 5	100%		
Magnetics	5 out of 5	100%		
Gravity	5 out of 5	100%		
Ground Penetrating Radar	10 out of 10	100%		
Electromagnetic	18 out of 18	100%		
Public Safety	3 out of 3	100 %		
Practitioner Safety	4 out of 4	100%		
TOTAL	69 out of 70	98.57%		

### XII. Texas Geophysics Examination: Manual Re-grade

Because scoring occurs through a multiple step quality control process, a manual re-grade is very unlikely to yield a different score. However, an examination candidate may request a manual re-grade. A manual re-grade is performed by GITS at a cost. A manual re-grade is performed by reviewing the original examination on which the candidate indicated his or her response in conjunction with the examination form answer sheet. A request for a manual regrade must be made in writing to TBPG within 30 days after receiving the exam results.

Upon receipt of a request for re-grade and fee, GITS will perform a manual re-grade and provide both the examination candidate and TBPG a copy of the results of the manual re-grade.

If a manual re-grade results in the change from a failing score to a passing score, TBPG staff will update the candidate's application record and take the appropriate step toward processing the applicant's application for licensure or certification (issue the license or certification or notify the applicant of any application deficiencies).

### APPENDIX 1 TBPG RULES

Chapter 851. Subchapter B: P.G. Licensing, Firm Registration, and GIT Certification.

### §851.20. Professional Geoscientist Licensing Requirements and Application Procedure.

- (a) Requirements for licensure:
- (1) Passing score on an examination or examinations required by the Texas Board of Professional Geoscientists (TBPG) covering the fundamentals and practice of the appropriate discipline of geoscience documented as specified in §851.21 of this chapter;
- (2) A minimum of five years of qualifying work experience during which the applicant has demonstrated being qualified to assume responsible charge of geoscience services documented and verified through professional references as specified in §851.23 of this chapter and Texas Occupations Code (TOC) §1002.256;
- (A) A total of one year of qualifying work experience credit may be granted for each full-time year of graduate study in a discipline of geoscience, not to exceed two years;
- (B) The Appointed Board may accept qualifying work experience in lieu of the education requirement as provided in TOC §1002.255;
- (3) Good moral character as demonstrated by the submission of a minimum of five reference statements submitted on behalf of the applicant attesting to the good moral and ethical character of the applicant as specified in §851.24 of this chapter or as otherwise determined by the Appointed Board;
- (4) Academic requirements for licensure as specified in TOC §1002.255 and §851.25 of this chapter; and
- (5) Supporting documentation of any license requirement, as determined by Board staff or the Appointed Board, relating to criminal convictions as specified in §851.108 of this chapter; relating to substance abuse issues as specified in §851.109 of this chapter; and relating to issues surrounding reasons the Appointed Board may deny a license as specified in the Geoscience Practice Act at TOC §1002.401 and §1002.402.
- (b) An applicant may request a waiver of any licensure requirement by submitting a Waiver Request (Form VI) and any additional information needed to substantiate the request for waiver with the application. If the Appointed Board determines that the applicant meets all the other requirements, the Appointed Board may waive any licensure requirement except for the payment of required fees.
- (c) An application is active for one year including the date that it is filed with the Appointed Board.
- (d) Professional Geoscientist application procedure. To be eligible for a Professional Geoscientist license under this chapter, an applicant must submit or ensure the transmission (as applicable) of the following to the TBPG:
- (1) A completed, signed, notarized application for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist:
- (2) Documentation of having passed an examination as specified in §851.21 of this chapter;
- (3) Documentation of having met the experience requirements as specified in §851.23 of this chapter;
- (4) A minimum of five (5) reference statements as specified in §851.24 of this chapter;
- (5) Official transcript(s), as specified in §851.25 of this chapter;
- (6) The application/first year licensing fee as specified in §851.80(b) of this chapter;
- (7) Verification of every license, current or expired, in any regulated profession related to the public practice of geoscience in any jurisdiction; and
- (8) Any written explanation and other documentation as required by instructions on the application or as communicated by Board staff, if applicable.
- (e) Any transcripts, evaluations, experience records or other similar documents submitted to the TBPG in previous applications may be included in a current application provided the applicant requests its use in writing at the time the application is filed and the Executive Director authorizes its use.
- (f) An application may be forwarded to the Appointed Board at the Executive Director's discretion.
- (g) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license by fraud or false misrepresentation is grounds for an administrative sanction and/or penalty.

- (h) An applicant who is a citizen of another country and is physically present in this country shall show sufficient documentation to the TBPG to verify the immigration status for the determination of their eligibility for a professional license in accordance with the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.
- (i) Applications are not reviewed until the application and fee have been received in the TBPG office. Applicants are initially notified of any deficiencies in the application within approximately thirty (30) days after the receipt of the application and fee.
- (j) An applicant should respond to a deficiency notice within forty-five (45) days from the date of notification for applicants to correct deficiencies. If an applicant does not respond to a deficiency notice or does not ensure that necessary documents are provided to the TBPG office, the application will expire as scheduled one year after the date it became active.
- (k) Upon receipt of all required materials and fees and satisfying all requirements in this section, the applicant shall be licensed and a unique Professional Geoscientist license number shall be assigned to the license. A new license shall be set to expire at the end of the calendar month occurring one year after the license is issued. Board staff shall send a new license certificate, initial license expiration card, and an initial wallet license expiration card as provided in subsection (p) of this section.
- (l) An original license is valid for a period of one year from the date it is issued. Upon the first timely renewal of a license, the renewal period shall be from the date the license is renewed until the last day of the next birth month for the licensee. A license that is renewed late (one day after the expiration date of the license through the end of the 36th month past the expiration date of the license) is renewed in accordance to the rules set forth in §851.28 of this chapter.
- (m) A license number is not transferable.
- (n) Any violation of the law or the rules and regulations resulting in disciplinary action for one license may result in disciplinary action for any other license.
- (o) Altering a license wall certificate, certificate expiration card, or wallet expiration card in any way is prohibited and is grounds for a sanction and/or penalty.
- (p) The Professional Geoscientist license is the legal authority granted the holder to actively practice geoscience upon meeting the requirements as set out in the Act and this chapter. When a license is issued, a license wall certificate, the first license certificate expiration card, and the first wallet license card are provided to the new licensee.
- (1) The license wall certificate shall bear the name of the licensee, the licensee's unique Professional Geoscientist license number, the discipline in which the individual is licensed, and the date the license was originally issued.
- (2) The license wall certificate is not valid proof of licensure unless the license certificate expiration card is accompanying the license certificate and the date on the license certificate card is not expired.
- (3) The license certificate expiration card shall bear the name of the licensee, the licensee's unique Professional Geoscientist license number, and the date the license will expire, unless it is renewed.
- (4) The wallet license card shall bear the name of the licensee, the licensee's unique Professional Geoscientist license number, the discipline in which the individual is licensed, and the date the license will expire, unless it is renewed.
- (q) Once the requirements for licensure have been satisfied and the new license and license certificate have been issued, within sixty (60) days of notification the new licensee must then:
- (1) Obtain a seal and submit TBPG Seal Submission (Form X) to the TBPG; and
- (2) Register as a Geoscience Firm, if appropriate, as described in §851.30 of this chapter.
- (r) An applicant who is a military service member, military veteran or a military spouse is directed to TBPG rule §851.26 of this chapter for additional licensing provisions.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.20 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective October 1, 2013, 38 TexReg 5731; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539; amended to be effective March 18, 2015, 40 TexReg 1384; amended to be effective March 15, 2016, 41 TexReg 1843

### §851.21. Licensing Requirements-Examinations.

(a) Qualifying examinations:

- (1) An applicant for the Geology discipline must pass both parts of the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) examination. Applicants taking the ASBOG® examinations must also abide by the rules and regulations of ASBOG®.
- (2) An applicant for the Soil Science discipline must pass both parts of the Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE) examination. Applicants taking the CSSE examinations must also abide by the rules and regulations of CSSE.
- (3) An applicant for the Geophysics discipline must pass the Texas Geophysics Examination (TGE).
- (b) An applicant may request an accommodation in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Proof of disability may be required.
- (c) An applicant who does not timely arrive at and complete a scheduled examination will forfeit the examination fee.
- (d) Cheating on an examination is grounds for denial, suspension, or revocation of a license and/or an administrative penalty.
- (e) An applicant who has passed an examination may not retake that type of examination.
- (f) Applicants requesting a waiver from any examination(s) shall complete a Waiver Request (Form V) and any additional information needed to substantiate the eligibility for the waiver with the application.
- (g) Examination requirements and examination procedure: A qualified individual who has not passed qualifying licensing examination(s) may access and abide by all relevant components of one of the following procedures to sit for a qualifying examination(s) in the appropriate discipline:
  - (1) Licensure in the discipline of geology (part I)/ASBOG® Fundamentals of Geology examination:
    - (A) Requirements: Completion of the education qualifications for licensure as specified in Texas Occupations Code §1002.255 and §851.25 of this chapter or currently enrolled in a course of study that meets the education requirements for licensure and within two regular semesters of completion of the qualifying course of study.
    - (B) Procedure:
      - (i) The applicant shall complete and submit an Exam Request (Form E) and any required documents to the TBPG, along with the appropriate fee by the deadline posted on the TBPG website for the examination date desired by the applicant.
      - (ii) The Board staff will review the application and inform the applicant of any deficiencies in the application. Upon determination that the requirements have been met, the Board staff will mail an ASBOG® Examination Candidate Request Form to the applicant.
      - (iii) The applicant shall submit the ASBOG® Examination Candidate Request Form and send the form, along with the examination fee to ASBOG®. A courtesy copy of the ASBOG® Candidate Request Form shall be provided to the TBPG.
      - (iv) The applicant shall follow all examination administration procedures and take the examination.
      - (v) The Board staff shall notify the applicant of the results of the examination after receiving the results from ASBOG®.
  - (2) Licensure in the discipline of geology (part II)/ASBOG® Practice of Geology examination:
    - (A) Requirements:
      - (i) Under application for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist with the TBPG.
      - (ii) Meet all other qualifications for licensure in subsection (a) of this section, and be within six months of meeting the qualifying experience requirement.
    - (B) Procedure:
    - (i) The applicant shall complete and submit both the Initial Application for P.G. Licensure (Form A), in accordance with the application procedures specified in subsection (d) of this section, along with the appropriate fee and an Exam Request (Form E) along with the appropriate fee and any required documents to the TBPG, by the deadline posted on the TBPG website for the examination date desired by the applicant.
      - (ii) The Board staff will review the application and inform the applicant of any deficiencies in the application. Upon determination that the requirements have been met, the Board staff will mail an ASBOG® Examination Candidate Request Form to the applicant.
      - (iii) The applicant shall submit the ASBOG® Examination Candidate Request Form and send the form, along with the examination fee to ASBOG®. A courtesy copy of the ASBOG® Examination Candidate Request Form shall be provided to the TBPG.

- (iv) The applicant shall follow all examination administration procedures and take the examination.
- (v) The Board staff shall notify the applicant of the results of the examination after receiving the results from ASBOG®.
- (3) Licensure in the discipline of geophysics/TGE:
  - (A) Requirements:
    - (i) Under application for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist with the TBPG and meet all qualifications for licensure in subsection (a) of this section, with the exception of the examination requirement; or
    - (ii) Under application for certification as a Geoscientist-in-Training with the TBPG and meet all qualifications for certification as a Geoscientist-in-Training in §851.41 of this chapter with the exception of having passed the TGE.
  - (B) Procedure:
    - (i) The applicant shall complete and submit both Application for Professional Geoscientist (Form
    - A), in accordance with the application procedures specified in subsection (d) of this section, along with the appropriate fee and Examination Request Form (Form E) along with the appropriate fee and any required documents to the TBPG.
    - (ii) The Board staff will review the application and inform the applicant of any deficiencies in the application. Upon determination that the requirements have been met, the Board staff will provide TGE scheduling and examination payment information to the applicant.
    - (iii) The applicant shall submit the required information, along with the examination fee to the TBPG.
    - (iv) The applicant shall follow all examination administration procedures and take the examination.
    - (v) The Board staff shall notify the applicant of the results of the examination.
- (4) Licensure in the discipline of soil science/Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE) Fundamentals of Soil Science and Practice of Soil Science Examinations: An applicant must meet the examination requirements of the CSSE; apply to take the required examinations directly with the CSSE and submit the required fees; follow all examination procedures of the CSSE; take and pass both parts of the examination; and follow CSSE procedures to ensure that the passing scores are forwarded to the TBPG.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.21 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539

### §851.23. Qualifying Experience Record.

Applicants shall submit a Qualifying Experience Record (Form IV) to the TBPG as a part of the P.G. Professional Reference Statement (Form I).

- (1) The experience record shall be written by the applicant, shall clearly describe the geoscience work that the applicant personally performed, and shall delineate the role of the applicant in any group geoscience activity.
- (2) The experience record should provide an overall description of the nature and scope of the work with emphasis on detailed descriptions of the geoscience work personally performed by the applicant.
- (3) Professional geoscience references must be provided to verify enough of the experience record to cover at least the minimum amount of time needed by the applicant for issuance of a license.
- (4) Parts of the experience record that are to be verified by references shall be written in sufficient detail to allow the Board staff to document the minimum amount of experience required and to allow the reference provider to recognize and verify the quality and quantity of the experience claimed.
- (5) The experience record must demonstrate evidence of the applicant's competency to be placed in responsible charge of geoscience services of a similar character.
- (6) Experience is qualifying if the applicant's duties and responsibilities included the performance of geoscience tasks or is acceptable to the TBPG.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.23 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539; amended to be effective March 15, 2016, 41 TexReg 1843

#### §851.24. References.

- (a) Applicants for a license shall provide at least five reference statements to the TBPG, of which not fewer than three are from Professional Geoscientists or other professionals acceptable to the Appointed Board who have knowledge of the applicant's moral and ethical character, reputation, general suitability for holding a license, and relevant work experience, unless more references are required to meet the requirements in this chapter.
  - (1) One or more of the reference statements shall verify geoscience experience claimed to meet the minimum years of experience required. Professional Geoscientists who have not worked with or directly supervised an applicant may review and judge the applicant's experience; such review shall be noted in the reference statement.
  - (2) References should include one or more individuals who have directly supervised or maintained responsible charge of the applicant.
- (b) Professional Geoscientists who provide reference statements and who are licensed in a jurisdiction other than Texas shall include a copy of their pocket card or other verification to indicate that their license is current and valid.
- (c) The Appointed Board members and/or Board staff may, at their discretion, consider any, all or none of the responses from reference providers. Additional references may be required of the applicant when the Executive Director finds it necessary to adequately verify the applicant's experience or character. The Appointed Board and/or Board staff may at their discretion communicate with any reference provider or seek additional information.
- (d) The applicant shall provide the reference statement form and a complete copy of the applicable portion(s) of the experience record to each reference provider.
- (e) For a reference statement to be considered complete, the reference provider shall:
  - (1) Accurately complete the reference statement in detail;
  - (2) Review and evaluate all applicable portions of the supplementary experience record;
  - (3) Signify agreement or disagreement with the information written by the applicant and add any comments or concerns on the reference statement; and
  - (4) Place the completed reference statement and signed qualifying experience record in an envelope. After sealing the envelope, the reference provider's signature shall be placed across the sealed flap of the envelope and covered with transparent tape. The reference provider shall return the sealed envelope to the applicant.
- (f) Applicants shall enclose all of the sealed reference envelopes with the Initial Application for P.G. Licensure (Form A) when submitted to the TBPG.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.24 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539

### §851.25. Education.

- (a) An applicant must have graduated from a course of study from an accredited university or program in one of the following disciplines of geoscience that consists of at least four years of study and includes at least 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of credit in geoscience, of which at least 20 semester hours or 30 quarter hours of credit must be in upper-level college courses in that discipline; or satisfactorily completed other equivalent educational requirements as determined by the Appointed Board.
  - (1) Geology or sub-discipline of geology including but not limited to engineering geology, petroleum geology, hydrogeology, and environmental geology. (2) Geophysics. (3) Soil science.
- (b) An official transcript (including either grades or mark sheets and proof that the degree was conferred) shall be provided for the degree(s) utilized to meet the educational requirements for licensure. Official or notarized copies of transcripts shall be submitted to the TBPG. Official transcripts shall be forwarded directly to the TBPG office by the respective registrars. The applicant is responsible for ordering and paying for all such transcripts. Additional academic information including but not

limited to grades and transfer credit shall be submitted to the TBPG at the request of the Executive Director.

- (c) If transcripts cannot be transmitted directly to the TBPG from the issuing institution, the Executive Director may recommend alternatives to the Appointed Board for its approval. Such alternatives may include validating transcripts in the applicant's possession through an Appointed Board-approved commercial evaluation service.
- (d) Degrees and coursework earned at foreign universities shall be acceptable if the degree conferred and coursework have been determined by a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) to be equivalent to a degree conferred by or coursework completed in an accredited institution or program. It is the applicant's responsibility to have degrees and coursework so evaluated. The commercial evaluation of a degree shall be accepted in lieu of an official transcript only if the credential evaluation service has indicated that the credential evaluation was based on a verified official academic record or transcript.
- (e) The relevance to the licensing requirements of academic courses, the titles of which are not self-explanatory, must be substantiated through course descriptions in official school catalogs, bulletins, syllabi, or by other means.
- (f) The Board staff shall accept no coursework which an applicant's transcript indicates was not completed with a passing grade or for credit.
- (g) In evaluating two or more sets of transcripts from a single applicant, the Board staff shall consider a quarter hour of academic credit as two-thirds of a semester hour.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.25 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective February 15, 2013, 38 TexReg 644; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539

### §851.26. Licensing of Military Service Members, Military Veterans, and Military Spouses

- (a) This section sets out licensing procedures for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses required under Texas Occupations Code, Chapter 55 (relating to Licensing of Military Service Members, Military Veterans, and Military Spouses). For purposes of this section:
- (1) "Active Duty" means current full-time military service in the armed forces of the United States or active duty military service as a member of the Texas military forces, as defined by §437.001, Government Code, or similar military service of another state.
- (2) "Armed Forces of the United States" means the army, navy, air force, coast guard, or marine corps of the United States or a reserve unit of one of those branches of the armed forces.
- (3) "Military service member" means a person who is on active duty.
- (4) "Military spouse" means a person who is married to a military service member.
- (5) "Military veteran" means a person who has served on active duty and who was discharged or released from active duty.
- (b) An applicant shall provide documentation of the applicant's status as a military service member, military veteran, or military spouse. Acceptable documentation includes, but is not limited to, copies of official documents such as military service orders, marriage licenses, and military discharge records. The application of a person who fails to provide documentation of his or her status shall not be processed under the provisions of this section.
- (c) Upon request, an applicant shall provide acceptable proof of current licensure issued by another jurisdiction. Upon request, the applicant shall provide proof that the licensing requirements of that jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements of this state.
- (d) An individual who holds a P.G. license or a GIT Certification issued by TBPG is exempt from any increased fee or other penalty imposed for failing to renew the license in a timely manner if the individual establishes to the satisfaction of TBPG that the individual failed to renew the license in a timely manner because the individual was serving as a military service member.
- (e) A Military Service Member who holds a P.G. license or a GIT certification is entitled to two years of additional time to complete any continuing education requirement and any other requirement related to the renewal of the military service member's P.G. license or GIT certification.
- (f) The TBPG may issue a license to an applicant who is a military service member, military veteran, or a military spouse and who:

- (1) Holds a current license issued by another jurisdiction that has licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the requirements for a P.G. license or a GIT certification in Texas; or
- (2) Within the five years preceding the application date held the P.G. license or GIT certification in Texas.
- (g) The executive director may waive any prerequisite to obtaining a license for an applicant described by subsection (f) after reviewing the applicant's credentials.
- (h) An applicant who is a military service member, military veteran, or a military spouse and who does not meet criteria in subsection (f) may provide an alternate demonstration of competency to meet the requirements for obtaining a P.G. license or a GIT certification.
- (i) TBPG may accept as an alternate method of demonstrating competence certain service, experience, training, or education obtained in the military that is verified and that is relevant to the practice of professional geoscience.
- (j) As soon as practicable after a military service member, military veteran or military spouse files an application for a license, Board staff shall:
- (1) Process the application; and
- (2) Issue a license to an applicant who qualifies for the license under this section. A license issued under this subsection may not be a provisional license and must confer the same rights, privileges, and responsibilities as a license not issued under this section.
- (k) This section may not apply to an applicant who:
- (1) Holds a restricted license issued by another jurisdiction;
- (2) Has held a license that was subject to disciplinary action in another jurisdiction; or
- (3) Has an unacceptable criminal history under the Texas Geoscience Practice Act, rules of the Board, or under Texas Occupations Code Chapter 53, related to Consequences of Criminal Conviction.
- (l) Upon the issuance of a license under subsection (g) of this section, Board staff shall notify the new licensee of the requirements for the license holder to renew the license. A license issued under subsection (g) shall be valid for a term of 12 months from the end of the month the license is issued. (m) TBPG shall waive the license application and examination fees paid to the state for an applicant who is:
- (1) A military service member or military veteran whose military service, training, or education substantially meets all of the requirements for the license; or
- (2) A military service member, military veteran, or military spouse who holds a current license issued by another jurisdiction that has licensing requirements that are substantially equivalent to the requirements for the license in this state.
- (n) This section applies to an application for license filed with the TBPG on or after January 1, 2016, except for subsection (m), which applies to an application filed on or after September 1, 2015.

Source Note: The provisions of this §851.26 adopted to be effective March 15, 2016, 41 TexReg 1843

### §851.27. Replacement License Certificate or License Expiration Cards.

A new or duplicate license certificate, a new or duplicate license certificate expiration card, or a new wallet license expiration card to post in a secondary work location or to replace one lost, destroyed, or mutilated, may be issued, subject to the rules of the TBPG, on payment of the established fee. A licensee need not destroy his or her current license certificate, but shall remain responsible for its care and custody, including any misuse of the certificate.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.27 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539

### §851.28. Professional Geoscientist License Renewal and Reinstatement.

(a) The Board staff will mail a renewal notice to the last recorded address of each licensee, at least sixty (60) days prior to the date the license is about to expire. Regardless of whether the renewal notice is received, it is the sole responsibility of the licensee to pay the required renewal fee together with any applicable penalty at the time of payment. A licensee may renew a current license up to sixty (60) days in advance of its expiration. An expired license may be renewed within three years of the license expiration date.

- (b) Upon the first renewal of a license, the licensure period will be prorated so that the new expiration date will be the last day of the licensee's birth month. The prorated renewal period will be for a minimum of four months and a maximum of fifteen months. Every subsequent expiration date shall be set for one year past the previous renewal date.
- (c) A late penalty fee of \$50 will be charged for a complete renewal application and fee received or postmarked sixty-one (61) days after the licensee's expiration date.
- (d) The Appointed Board may refuse to renew a license if the licensee is the subject of a lawsuit regarding his/her practice of geoscience or is found censurable for a violation of TBPG laws or rules that would warrant such disciplinary action under §851.157 of this chapter.
- (e) A license that has been expired for sixty (60) days or less may be renewed by submitting a P.G. Renewal Application (Form B) and the annual renewal fee to the TBPG. The renewal fee for a license that is renewed within sixty (60) days of expiration is the fee that was in place at the time the license expired. The licensee must also submit a signed Statement of Affirmation (Form VII) indicating whether the licensee practiced as a P.G. when their license was expired. Information regarding unlicensed non-exempt public geoscience practice received under this section shall be referred to the enforcement division for appropriate action that could include the initiation of a complaint by the Board staff.
- (f) A license that has been expired for more than sixty (60) days and less than ten months from the license expiration date may be renewed by submitting to the TBPG a P.G. Renewal Application (Form B), the annual renewal fee, and the late penalty fee. The renewal fee for a license that is renewed for more than sixty (60) days and less than ten months of expiration is the fee that was in place at the time the license expired. The licensee must also submit a signed Statement of Affirmation (Form VII) indicating whether the licensee practiced as a P.G. when their license was expired. Information regarding unlicensed non-exempt public geoscience practice received under this section shall be referred to the enforcement division for appropriate action that could include the initiation of a complaint by the Board staff.
- (g) A license that has expired for ten months or more but less than three years after the license expiration date may be renewed by submitting to the TBPG a P.G. Renewal Application (Form B), the annual renewal fee for each year missed plus the current year's renewal fee, and the late penalty fee. The licensee must also submit a signed Statement of Affirmation (Form VII indicating whether the licensee practiced as a P.G. when the license was expired. If an applicant for renewal who has met the requirements for renewal has practiced as a P.G. with the license expired, the license shall be renewed. Information regarding unlicensed practice received under this section shall be referred to the enforcement division for appropriate action that could include the initiation of a complaint by the Board staff
- (h) A license that is allowed to expire for a period of three years after the license expiration date is permanently expired and may not be renewed. The former licensee may re-apply for a new license as provided by the Act and applicable TBPG rules and will have to meet all licensure requirements in said Act and rules at the time of re-application.
- (i) As per §1002.403 of the Act, the Appointed Board may suspend or revoke a license as disciplinary action against a licensee who is found censurable for a violation of the Act or rules.
  - (1) A license that has been suspended can be reinstated by the Board staff only if the suspended licensee complies with all conditions of the suspension, which may include payment of fines, continuing education requirements, participation in a peer review program or any other disciplinary action outlined in the Board Order that suspended the license.
  - (2) A license that has been revoked can be re-instated only if, by a majority vote, the Appointed Board approves reinstatement, given the applicant:
    - (A) Re-applies and submits all required application materials and fees;
    - (B) Successfully completes an examination in the required discipline of geoscience being sought for reinstatement if the applicant has not previously passed said examination; and
    - (C) Provides evidence to demonstrate competency and that future non-compliance with the statute and rules of the TBPG will not occur.
- (j) Pursuant to Texas Occupations Code §55.002, a licensee is exempt from any increased fee or other penalty imposed in this section for failing to renew the license in a timely manner if the licensee provides adequate documentation, including copies of orders, to establish to the satisfaction of the

Executive Director that the licensee failed to renew in a timely manner because the licensee was serving on active duty in the United States armed forces outside of Texas.

(k) The application fee is non-refundable.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.28 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective October 1, 2013, 38 TexReg 5731; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539

### §851.40. Geoscientist-in-Training (GIT).

- (a) The GIT certification is intended for individuals who wish to express the intent to become a Professional Geoscientist while they are gaining qualifying geoscience work experience. Individuals who meet the educational requirements of \$1002.255(a)(2)(A) of the Act and have successfully passed an examination as specified in \$851.21 of this chapter are eligible to apply for GIT certification. This certification does not entitle an individual to practice as a licensed Professional Geoscientist.
- (b) Upon accruing 5 years of post graduate geoscience work experience, individuals who are GIT certified and in good standing with the TBPG may apply for licensure as a Professional Geoscientist by submitting the following:
  - (1) TBPG Initial Application for P.G Licensure (Form A);
  - (2) The application fee as detailed in §851.80 of this chapter;
  - (3) The required reference statements as detailed in §851.24 of this chapter;
  - (4) The required evidence of qualifying work experience as described in §851.23 of this chapter; and
  - (5) Proof of having passed one of the following discipline specific examinations:
    - (A) National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®) Practice of Geology;
    - (B) Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE) Soil Science Practice Examination; or
    - (C) Texas Geophysics Examination.

**Source Note:** The provisions of this §851.40 adopted to be effective December 15, 2010, 35 TexReg 10695; amended to be effective December 11, 2014, 39 TexReg 9539

### §851.80. Fees.

- (a) All fees are non-refundable.
- (b) P.G. Initial application and license fee--\$255.
- (c) Examination processing fee--\$25.
- (d) Applicable examination fees:
- (1) Geology--Fundamentals and Practice as determined by the National Association of State Boards of Geology (ASBOG®).
- (2) Geophysics--\$175.
- (3) Soil Science-Fundamentals and Practice as determined by the Council of Soil Science Examiners (CSSE).
- (e) Issuance of a revised or duplicate license--\$25.
- (f) P.G. renewal fee--\$223 or as prorated under \$851.28(b) of this chapter. The fee for annual renewal of licensure for any individual sixty-five (65) years of age or older as of the renewal date shall be half the current renewal fee.
- (g) Late renewal penalty--\$50.
- (h) Fee for affidavit of licensure--\$15.
- (i) Verification of licensure--\$15.
- (i) Temporary license--\$200.
- (k) Firm registration initial application--\$300.
- (1) Firm registration renewal--\$300.
- (m) Insufficient funds fee--\$25.
- (n) Initial application for Geoscientist-in-Training certification--\$25.
- (o) Annual renewal of Geoscientist-in-Training certification--\$25.

### APPENDIX 2 STATEMENT OF EXAMINATION COMPLIANCE

### STATEMENT OF EXAMINATION COMPLIANCE

Please read carefully this *Statement of Examination Compliance* in its entirety and sign on the line provided to acknowledge your understanding of, and concurrence with, this agreement.

IF THIS AGREEMENT IS NOT COMPLETED, SIGNED AND RETURNED WHEN REQUESTED BY THE PROCTOR, YOU WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO TAKE THE EXAMINATION.

By signing this *Statement of Examination Compliance*, you agree that the following actions/behaviors constitute prohibited conduct at the examination site:

- (1) Impersonating an examination candidate or using false identification to take an examination. Only the person named on the examination application/answer sheet is authorized to take the examination, and his/her correct name must be signed on the examination;
- (2) Possession of **any** of the following during the examination is prohibited: electronic device (cellular phone, PDA, tape/digital recorder, alpha programmable calculators, camera, scanning pens, etc.), notes, sample tests, references, answer keys, manuals or other aids. It is the candidate's responsibility to turn in any of these items to the Proctor before the start of the examination. Calculators, or any other wireless electronic devices, that have e-mail/Internet/text messaging capability shall **NOT** be allowed. Violation of any of the above-mentioned prohibitions will result in immediate expulsion from the examination site and forfeiture of examination privileges (examination will not be scored) and fees.
- (3) Copying, reproduction, taking notes, or taking pictures for the purpose of transmitting examination information in any form to another person or device or any action taken to reveal the content of examinations in whole or in part is prohibited. Removal of the examination booklet from the Examination room at any time is prohibited.
- (5) Exhibiting irrational or disruptive behavior at the examination site at any time; and
- (6) Continuing to fill in answer sheets or answer test questions after time has been called.

Further, I pledge to neither give, use, obtain, attempt to obtain by any means, nor receive information concerning the whole or any part of an examination (individual examination problems, questions, solutions or answers), nor to transmit such to any third party, before, during, or after an *Examination*, whether orally, in writing, by telephone, during any Internet "chat room" sessions or otherwise.

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### **AGREEMENT**

I have read and understand the provisions of this *Agreement*. I further understand that a breach of this *Agreement* includes, but is not limited to, my immediate expulsion from the examination site. Violation of any of the above-mentioned prohibitions shall also result in voiding of my examination and forfeiture of all examination fees. I further understand that I may be subject to any liabilities and/or penalties that may be imposed by an administering body.

Candidate's Name (Please print clearly):		
Candidate's Signature	Date	

### \*

# APPENDIX 3 CANDIDATE QUESTION COMMENT FORM

## **Texas Geophysics Examination**

## CANDIDATE QUESTION COMMENT FORM

This form must be returned to the Examination Administrator or Proctor even if no comments are made

NAME:	EXAM DATE:			
Please use this form to record specific comments that you may have about questions appearing in this examination. Record the number of the question about which you have a comment; then write your comments in the space provided. Be as specific as possible and include references if appropriate.				
QUESTION	COMMENTS			
(ITEM) #				