

Rule 16.0 Certificate of Authority; use of terms.

16.01 – Certificate of Authority required.

1. Any firm, corporation, or partnership practicing or offering to practice engineering or surveying in the state of Mississippi must be licensed to practice with a Certificate of Authority from this Board.
2. This shall apply to a professional service corporation, a corporation, a partnership (including limited partnerships and limited liability partnerships), or a limited liability company. An individual licensee practicing in his own name as a sole proprietorship shall not be required to obtain a Certificate of Authority.
3. a. In order to qualify for an Engineering Certificate of Authority, the firm must designate at least one Mississippi-licensed Professional Engineer who is either a principal officer, partner, or the designated principal engineer of the firm with management responsibility for the firm's practice, and who makes significant technical and/or contractual judgments on behalf of the firm which would affect the firm's professional reputation and liability.

b. In order to qualify for a Surveying Certificate of Authority, the firm must designate at least one Mississippi-licensed Professional Surveyor who is either a principal officer or partner of the firm with management responsibility for the firm's practice, and who makes significant technical and/or contractual judgments on behalf of the firm which would affect the firm's professional reputation and liability.
4. A licensee who renders occasional, part-time or consulting services to a firm may **not**, for the purposes of this rule, be designated as being responsible for the professional services of the firm.
5. Application for a Certificate of Authority shall be made on a form prescribed by the Board with payment of the application fee. The Certificate shall be issued when the Board determines that all requirements in compliance with the rules and regulations of the Board have been met.
6. All certificates shall expire on December 31 of each year; at that time the certificate shall be renewable at a fee to be set by the Board. Late renewal is subject to a 10% penalty per month that payment is delayed. After a certificate has expired for more than six months, an application for re-registration shall be required.
7. If any of the information on the initial, or any subsequent renewal, application changes for the firm, the firm shall notify the board in writing within thirty (30) days of the change by filing an amended application.
8. The firm, corporation, or partnership shall be responsible for the conduct or acts of its agents, employees, officers, partners, members or managers operating or practicing under the Certificate of Authority. No individual practicing engineering and/or surveying services shall

be relieved of responsibility for those services performed by reason of employment or other relationship with a firm, corporation, or partnership holding a Certificate of Authority.

16.02 Use of Words Engineer, Engineering, Surveyor, or Surveying - Any person, firm, partnership, organization, corporation or other entity using the words "Engineer" or "Engineering" or "Surveyor" or "Surveying" or any modification or derivative thereof in its name or form of business activity except as authorized in the Law, or any person presenting or attempting to use the certificate of licensure or the seal of another, or any person who shall give any false or forged evidence of any kind to the Board or any member thereof in obtaining or attempting to obtain a certificate of licensure, or any person who shall falsely impersonate any other licensee of like or different name, or any person who shall attempt to use an expired or revoked or nonexistent certificate of licensure, or who shall practice or offer to practice when not qualified, or any person who falsely claims that he is licensed under the Law, or any person who shall violate any of the provisions of the Law, shall be guilty of non-compliance with the Law.