Arizona Board of Technical Registration

PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYING

CANDIDATE HANDBOOK

2017

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INTRODUCTION

The Arizona Board of Technical Registration (BTR) is responsible for developing the Arizona Land Surveying Examination (AZLS) for candidates seeking licensure as professional land surveyors. The BTR devotes substantial time and effort developing a state-specific examination that is a valid measure of competency to the practice of the profession.

The BTR conducts land surveying test development and validation workshops using the guidelines established in the Technical Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing (1999). All workshops are intended to maximize the fairness and quality of the examinations as measures of minimum competency.

The AZLS Examination is a 90 question, **closed-book**, multiple-choice exam and is administered in the BTR office:

1110 West Washington Street, Suite 240
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Telephone: (602) 364-4930

The examination is developed and reviewed by a committee comprised of professional land surveyors. These land surveyors supply the content expertise essential in developing a fair exam for measuring competency to practice the profession.

In addition, the BTR requires that candidates pass the Fundamentals of Surveying (FS) and the Principles and Practice of Surveying (PS) Examinations prepared by the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES). Candidates may obtain information for use in preparing for the FS and PS Exams by contacting the NCEES:

National Council of Examiners
for Engineering and Surveying
P.O. Box 1686
Clemson, SC 29633-1686

Homepage: http://www.ncees.org

This candidate handbook is designed to help you prepare for the AZLS Exam. We hope you find the information useful. We extend our best wishes for success on this examination and in the practice of land surveying.

DESCRIPTION OF EXAMINATION

Examination Schedule and Timetable

The AZLS Examination is administered at the BTR offices. Candidates should contact the BTR and schedule an appointment to take the examination:

1110 West Washington Street, Suite 240
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Telephone: (602) 364-4930

The examination (total questions = 90) is administered in a 3-hour session.

Examination Validity

The content of the AZLS Examination has been determined by evaluating the statutes, rules and regulations that impact the practice of professional land surveying in Arizona. The AZLS Exam complements the knowledge and skills measured on the NCEES Examinations.

Test Blueprint

The AZLS Test Blueprint (page 4) specifies the content areas/domains for the examination. Each question on the examination is designed to test for knowledge of subject matter within one or more of these content domains. More weight is assigned to content domains that are most directly related to public protection issues.

Test Development/Review

The BTR periodically conducts test development and review workshops so that questions remain current with changes in the profession. Sample questions for the AZLS Examination are presented on page 5.

The sample questions do not make up a complete examination. However, they do illustrate the general content areas and format and should be helpful in your preparation for the examination.

Scoring Procedures

Scores are calculated by summing the number of correct responses within an examination. Credit is given for correct responses while no points are received for incorrect responses.

All questions are written using a multiple-choice format. You should select the <u>one best answer</u> for each of the questions in the examination. Credit will <u>not</u> be given for questions with no answer or response <u>or</u> for questions receiving two or more responses. Also, there will be no penalty for guessing, and therefore, it is to your advantage to complete each and every question in the examination.

TAKING THE EXAMINATION

Location

The AZLS Exam will be administered in the BTR offices. Candidates should contact the BTR and schedule an appointment to take the examination:

1110 West Washington Street, Suite 240
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Telephone: (602) 364-4930

Copying, reproducing, or any action taken to reveal the contents of examination, in whole or in part, is unlawful. Removal of test questions from the examination room by unauthorized persons is prohibited.

References

The AZLS is a **closed-book** examination. No references are permitted, however, you may use hand-held calculators. Remember that you have 90 multiple-choice questions to complete within 3 hours. Familiarity with the reference material (see AZLS Test Blueprint, page 4) should allow sufficient time to complete the examination. Failure to thoroughly learn and review the reference materials will result in insufficient time to complete the 90 item examination within 3 hours.

The examination questions are primarily developed from several references. It is to your advantage to spend time learning and reviewing the relevant material.

1. Arizona Revised Statutes (ARS) located at: http://www.azleg.state.az.us/

   The entire ARS can be accessed, including those statutes listed in the AZLS Test Plan.

2. Manual of Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands of the United States 1973 located at:

   http://www.blm.gov/cadastral/Manual/73man/id1.htm

3. Manual of Instructions for the Survey of the Public Lands of the United States 2009 can be purchased for $75.00 at:

   http://www.nsps.us.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=Page.ViewPage&PageID=952

4. Applicable Statutes and Rules of the State Board of Technical Registration, including the Minimum Standards for Arizona Land Boundary Surveys, located at: http://www.btr.state.az.us/

Special Accommodations

If you require special accommodations in the test-taking procedure because of a disabling condition, communicate your need well before the examination to the:

Arizona Board of Technical Registration
1110 West Washington Street, Suite 240
Phoenix, Arizona 85007
Telephone: (602) 364-4930

Arizona Land Surveying Examination (2017)
Test Blueprint
(Total Items = 90)

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1. Definitions (9-463 and 32-2101)
2. Authority (9-463.01)
3. Subdivision Defined, Applicability (9-463.02)
4. Violations (9-463.03)
5. Subdivisions Plats, Projection of Street and Alley lines, Approval, Survey (9-474)
6. Subdivision Name, Limitation, Title to Streets (9-477)
7. Conveyance by Reference to Plat, Restriction, Violation, Penalty (9-479)
8. Size Prerequisites for Recording Maps and Plats (11-481)
9. Subdivision Regulation, Platting Rules, Penalty (11-821; 11-822)
10. Condominiums (33-1201through1230)
11. Board of Technical Registration (32-101 through145)(AAC R4-30)
12. Survey of Property, Maps and Plats (32-2194.21)
13. Landmarks and Surveys (33-101through106)
14. "Old" Arizona Coordinate System (Repealed 33-121through128)
15. "New" Arizona Coordinate System (33-131 through 138)
16. Adverse Possession (12-521 through 530)
17. Arizona Minimum Standards
18. Mining Locations (27-201through209)
19. Public Land Survey System

Sample Questions

1.

(11-481)
Maps and plats for recording EXCEPT subdivisions shall be on a sheet or sheets measuring:

A) eight and one-half by eleven inches.
B) eleven by seventeen inches.
C) eighteen by twenty-four inches.
D) eighteen by twenty-six inches.

2.

(AZ Minimum Standards)
Minimum Standards for Arizona Land Boundary Surveys (Section 1), requires the land surveyor to make a diligent search for pertinent record documents. Copies of applicable deeds, maps, title report or title opinions:

A) must be obtained when a Record of Survey is to be filed.
B) should be obtained.
C) are required if subject property is an aliquot part of the U.S. Public Land System.
D) are needed to show senior rights.

3.

(Public Land Survey System)
Manuals of instructions were issued in 1881, 1890, 1894, 1902, 1930, 1947, 1973, and most recently 2009. You have been retained to retrace an original government survey performed in 1898. As a guide to retracement, you should use:

A) the most recently published manual of 1973.
B) the manual of 1894.
C) the manual of 1881.
D) accepted local practice as the manual is to be used only by official government surveyors.

4.

(9-474)
Your client has asked you to subdivide a tract of land in an unincorporated area of the county without a planning commission. How close must the subdivision be to the corporate limits of a city or town before you must make them aware of his development?

A) 1 mile
B) 3 miles
C) 4 miles
D) 5 miles

5.

(9-479)
Every sale of a lot or parcel in an unrecorded subdivision:

A) must be recorded in Records of Survey.
B) must be surveyed by a Registered Land Surveyor.
C) must be approved by the local governing body.
D) constitutes a separate violation of state law.

AZLS Exam Sample Questions - Answer Key

1. C
2. B
3. B
4. B
5. D