

**PROPOSED REGULATION OF THE  
STATE ENGINEER**

**LCB FILE NO. R027-25I**

**The following document is the initial draft regulation proposed  
by the agency submitted on 08/07/2025**

**PROPOSED PERMANENT REGULATION OF THE  
NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES  
Nevada Administrative Code Chapter 534  
August 10, 2025**

**Section 1.** Chapter 534 of NAC is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth:

- 1. A person holding a valid license from another state or jurisdiction of the United States, who has held their license for at least two years, and whose licensing requirements are comparable to or exceed those outlined in this chapter, may be eligible for reciprocity in Nevada. The State Engineer will determine if the licenses held are satisfactory and appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying. To be granted reciprocity, an applicant must:  
(a) Submit an application to the Division pursuant to NAC 534.280;  
(b) Submit a request for reciprocity on a form provided by the Division; and  
(c) Satisfy all requirements of NAC 534.282.*
- 2. An applicant for reciprocity will be exempt from taking the oral examination pursuant to subsection 1(b)(2) of NAC 534.282 if the applicant obtains a passing score of at least 87 percent on the written exam pursuant to NAC 534.282 subsection 1(b)(1).*

**Sec. 2.** NAC 534.280 is hereby amended to read as follows:

An application for a well-drilling license must be submitted to the Division. The application:

1. Must:
  - (a) Be completed and signed by the applicant on a form provided by the Division.
  - (b) Be accompanied by evidence that the applicant has at least 2 years of full-time experience. ~~[acquired during the immediately preceding 5 years.]~~ The State Engineer will determine whether such experience is satisfactory and appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying.
  - (c) Be accompanied by at least four professional references *of which a minimum of three must be received and accepted prior to being eligible to take the written examination pursuant to subsection 1(b)(1) of NAC 534.282.* The State Engineer will determine whether such references are satisfactory and appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying.
  - (d) Include any other information requested by the State Engineer.
  - (e) Be accompanied by the fee prescribed in [NRS 534.140](#).
2. Is valid for 1 year after the date of submission of the application unless the applicant fails any part of the examination required pursuant to [NAC 534.282](#).

**Sec. 3.** NAC 534.282 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. An applicant for a well-drilling license must:
  - (a) Be at least 18 years of age; and
  - (b) Pass: ~~[a two-part examination, consisting of the following sections:]~~
    - (1) A written examination ~~[which includes:~~

~~———(I) A written test]~~ consisting of questions on which the applicant must obtain a passing score of at least 80 percent; and

~~[(II) A test of the applicant's ability to use a standard 7.5 minute topographic map from the United States Geological Survey to provide the public land survey description of the location of a well, which will be scored on a pass or fail basis; and]~~

(2) An oral examination conducted by the Board.

2. The State Engineer will deny an applicant a license if the applicant:

(a) Fails to notify the Division at least 3 working days before the scheduled examination date that he or she cannot appear for the examination as instructed by a notice to appear before the State Engineer or the Board;

(b) Reschedules the written or oral examination more than twice; or

(c) Fails to pass any section of the examination described in paragraph (b) of subsection 1 *after two consecutive attempts*.

**Sec. 4.** NAC 534.288 is hereby amended to read as follows:

The Board is not required to conduct the oral examination section of the examination for an applicant for a well-drilling license:

1. Who receives a score of less than 80 percent on the written test portion of the written examination;

~~[2.—Who is unable to demonstrate his or her ability to locate a well by public land survey on a topographic map; or]~~

~~[3]~~ 2. If the State Engineer finds that the applicant's experience or professional references required pursuant to [NAC 534.280](#) are not satisfactory or appropriate for the type of license for which the applicant is applying~~[-];~~ *or*

3. *Who is issued a reciprocity license pursuant to Section 1.*