ASPRS Certification Program

URISA-New England Chapter Annual Conference

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Topics

• Brief Overview of ASPRS Certification
• Brief History of the Certification Program
• The ASPRS Certification Process
• Preparation for Certification
• Re-Certification
• Future Programs
ASPRS Committee Organization

• 20 Standing Committees
  – Represents Every Aspect of the Geospatial Sciences and the ‘Practice’ Issues
• ‘Evaluation For Certification Committee’
  Established in 1975
• History of Certification (~700 active)
  – 1502 as Photogrammetrist
  – 190 as Mapping Scientist in Remote Sensing
  – 241 as Mapping Scientist in GIS/LIS
Background of Certification

• Voluntary Program Open to Members and Non-Members
• Originally Established in 1975 for ‘Certified Photogrammetrist’ and Expanded for MS-RS and MS-GIS/LIS in 1991
• Added the Certified Technologist Program in October, 2003 for 3 Specialist’s Areas
• ASPRS Manages Certification Nationally and Internationally
• Provisional Certification in-place since 2007
Certification Program Structure

• **Peer Review Process (1st Step)**
  – Evaluation of Professional Experience, Training, Activities, and 4 References
  – Reviewed by Evaluation Sub-Committees
    2 Review Committees  (Photogrammetry & Certified Mapping Scientist)
    Points Awarded Based on the Application

• **Examination Process (2nd Step)**
  – In-Place Since January 1999
  – Customized By Specialty Area
    • Knowledge of All 3 Technical Areas is Required
      – Photogrammetry, Remote Sensing, GIS/LIS, **plus**, Standards, Ethics, and Practice Issues
Certification Designations

• Certified Photogrammetrist (ASPRS)
• Certified Mapping Scientist, Remote Sensing (ASPRS)
• Certified Mapping Scientist, GIS/LIS (ASPRS)
• Certified Photogrammetric Technologist (ASPRS)
• Certified Remote Sensing Technologist (ASPRS)
• Certified GIS/LIS Technologist (ASPRS)
### Experience Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Certification Type</th>
<th>Minimum Total Experience</th>
<th>Professional Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CP</td>
<td>6 Years</td>
<td>3 Years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS-RS</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MS-GIS/LIS</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P-T</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RS-T</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS/LIS-T</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Plus........
General Certification Requirements

• Completed Application with Fee
• 4 References with Knowledge About Your Work and Experience
• Compliance with the ASPRS Code of Ethics
• Peer-Review by Sub-Committee
• Successful Completion of a Written Examination
Examination Requirement

• Final Step in Certification
• Designed to Assure a Minimum Level of Technical and Professional Knowledge
• Covers a Variety of Focus Areas with Emphasis on the Specific Certification
• Format for Professional Certification Exams

  100 Questions, Multiple-Choice, Pass/Fail
  May Have – Hand-held Calculator & One Bound Reference
  May Not Have – Laptop, Cell Phone, PDA
  4 Hour Time Allotment – Proctored Environment
## Question Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Focus Area</th>
<th>Photogrammetrist</th>
<th>Mapping Scientist GIS/LIS</th>
<th>Mapping Scientist Remote Sensing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Math/Science</td>
<td>13-15%</td>
<td>14-16%</td>
<td>14-16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering/Surveying</td>
<td>6-7%</td>
<td>5-6%</td>
<td>5-6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>9-11%</td>
<td>7-9%</td>
<td>9-10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imaging</td>
<td>12-15%</td>
<td>18-20%</td>
<td>25-28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photogrammetry</td>
<td>25-27%</td>
<td>10-13%</td>
<td>10-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GIS</td>
<td>12-15%</td>
<td>21-23%</td>
<td>12-15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethics/General</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table Extracted From the ASPRS Web Page
ASPRS Technologist Program

• Newer Program Designed for Entry-level and Technician Positions
  – Perhaps a Stepping Stone to ‘Professional’
  – Recognition for Career Technical Positions

• Similar to the Professional Certification, but Emphasizing Technical Tasks and Minimal Project Management Responsibility

• Implemented in October 2003

• Similar Track Requiring Peer Review and An Examination
  – Application and Processing Fee Required
  – Examination of 50 Questions with 2 Hour Time Limit
Preparation For Certification

• ASPRS Workshop “Preparing for ASPRS Certification”
  – Offered at Spring and Fall ASPRS Conferences
  – Can be Offered at Regional ASPRS Meetings
  – Webinars every 3 months

• Maximizing the ASPRS Web Site Resource
  – On-line Fillable Forms, Instructions, References Forms, Information

• Applicants Advised To Seek Support from Associates
  – Mentoring is Encouraged
Re-Certification Program

• ‘Active’ Status Requires Re-Certification
  – Every 5 Years for Certified Professional
  – Every 3 Years for Certified Technologist

• Submit Completed Application with Fee
• 4 References
• No Written Examination Required
• Sub-Committee Evaluation
  – Document Experience and Activity During the Previous 5 (or 3) Years
  – Must Satisfy Minimum Requirements
Re-Certification Criteria

• **Up to 20 Points**
  – Active in area being re-certified, or in academic arena involved directly with the subject matter

• **Up to 8 Points**
  – Participation in panels, presented or published papers

• **Up to 8 Points**
  – Attended/taken workshops or classes in related subjects

• **Up to 4 Points**
  – Attended technical conferences
Certification Status

• **Active**
  – Currently Certified or Re-certified
  – Fully Certified Status

• **Inactive**
  – Certified, but not Re-certified, and Practicing
  – Cannot Use ‘Certified’ Title

• **Retired**
  – Certified, Not Re-Certified, and No Longer Practicing in the Field
  – Cannot Use ‘Certified’ Title
On-Going Certification Activity

- Certification ‘Marketing’ Effort
- Maintain the ASPRS Web Site
  - New Information Twice a Year
  - New Forms and Information
- New Editions of the Exam
  - New Question Bank with New Technology Questions
  - Maintain Exams for Each Specialty
  - In-Place since Jan. 2005
On-Going Activity

• Continuing Marketing / Outreach Program
• Interaction with State Licensure and NCEES Model Law Implementation
  – Partnering with the Colonial States Board for Licensure of Land Surveyors to Develop a New Exam for Licensing Photogrammetrists
  – Exam Ready for the States in Spring 2007
  – NCEES Houses the Exam Items and Provide Administration
• Update the ASPRS List of Certified Individuals
  – On the Web Site since the end of 2005
Accreditation

• ASPRS Membership in CESB
  – ‘Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards’
  – Membership as a Board Member in January 2011

• Full Accreditation for all Certifications
  – Application Process underway (March 2011)
    • Minor program adjustments to meet CESB Guidelines
  – Accreditation in place in late-summer 2011
  – The **Only** Accredited Geospatial Certification

• All previous certifications accredited
  – All new certificates will have both the ASPRS and CESB logos
Provisional Certification

• Available to all graduating Students (within 1 year of graduation)

• Same Requirements- different timeline
  – Application, Partial Fee, 1 Reference, Pass Peer-review, and Pass the Exam
  – Achieve Experience Requirement
    • 10 years for Professional Certification / 5 years for Technologist Certification
  – Submit Experience Application, Complete Fee, and 3 references & Pass Peer-review
  – Become fully certified
Information

- Mike Renslow
  - Chair, Evaluation for Certification Committee
  - renslow76@comcast.net
  - 541-335-1251

- ASPRS
  - www.asprs.org / certification