State Surveying Regulations 2012

A list of national surveying regulations as of January 2012
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**Alabama**

*Proposed legislation for 2012*

(8) **PRACTICE OF LAND SURVEYING.** Professional services, including, but not limited to, consultation, project coordination, investigation, testimony, evaluation, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, areas, volumes, or physical features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above the earth, or any part of the earth, and the utilization and development of these acts and interpretation into an orderly survey map, plan, report, description, or project. Project coordination shall include the coordination of those technical submissions as prepared by others. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subdivision, the practice of land surveying shall exclude functions unique to engineering as specified by rules of the board. The practice of land surveying shall include, but is not limited to, any one or more of the following:

a. Locates, relocates, establishes, reestablishes, lays out, or retraces any property line or boundary of any tract of land or any road, right-of-way, easement, alignment, or elevation of all real property whether or not fixed works are sited or proposed to be sited on the property.

b. Makes any survey for the subdivision of any tract of land or for condominiums.

c. Determines, by the use of the principles of land surveying, the position for any survey, monument, or reference point; or sets, resets, or replaces any such monument or reference point.

d. Determines the configuration or contour of the surface of the earth or the position of fixed objects thereon by measuring lines and angles and applying the principles of mathematics or photogrammetry.

e. Geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth both horizontally and vertically and the precise positioning of points on the earth utilizing angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry.

f. Creates, prepares, or modifies electronic or computerized data, including land information systems and geographic land information systems, relative to the performance of the activities in paragraphs a. to e, inclusive.

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**Alaska**


(13) “practice of land surveying” means the teaching of land surveying courses at an institution of higher learning, or any service or work the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence of the act of measuring and locating land, geodetic and cadastral surveys for the location and monumentation of property boundaries, for the platting and planning of land and subdivisions of land, including the topography, alignment, and grades for streets, and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field note records and property descriptions that represent these surveys;
Arizona

http://www.btr.state.az.us/regulations/statues.asp

22. "Land surveying practice" means the performance of one or more of the following professional services:
   a. Measurement of land to determine the position of any monument or reference point which marks a property line, boundary or corner for the purpose of determining the area or description of the land.
   b. Location, relocation, establishment, reestablishment, setting, resetting or replacing of corner monuments or reference points which identify land boundaries, rights of way or easements.
   c. Platting or plotting of lands for the purpose of subdividing.
   d. Measurement by angles, distances and elevations of natural or artificial features in the air, on the surface and immediate subsurface of the earth, within underground workings and on the surface or within bodies of water for the purpose of determining or establishing their location, size, shape, topography, grades, contours or water surface and depths, and the preparation and perpetuation of field note records and maps depicting these features.
   e. Setting, resetting or replacing of points to guide the location of new construction.

Arkansas

http://www.pels.arkansas.gov/rulesRegsStandards/Pages/default.aspx

1. Land Surveying –
The term “land surveying” shall mean any determination of the location of land boundaries or land boundary corners; the preparation of plats showing the shape and areas of tracts of land and their subdivision into smaller tracts; the preparation of plats showing the location of streets, roads, easements or right-of-ways of tracts to give access to smaller tracts; the preparation of official plats or maps of land boundaries within the State of Arkansas; and teaching of land surveying. The term “land surveying” shall not include the measuring of acreage of timber, cotton, rice or other agricultural crops and/or surveying of irrigation levees.

2. Surveying Measurement Certification -
a. Means providing the professional service of certification or sealing of maps, documents, digital files, or other data for the purpose of verifying that the maps, documents, digital files, or other data are authoritative professional determinations based upon accepted methods and principals of surveying measurements or analysis representing or listing the following types of surveying measurements:
   1. The configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects on the earth’s surface;
   2. The position or elevation of any survey boundary or control monument or reference point; and
   3. The alignment or elevation of any fixed works embraced within the practice of professional engineering.
   b. The term “surveying measurement certification” shall not be construed to permit the preparation of engineering or architectural design documents or quantity payment documents.

3. Clarification to Offering to Practice Surveying
A person who is a licensed surveyor in another jurisdiction shall not be considered to be offering to practice surveying when soliciting work by any of the following means:

a. Advertising in publications or electronic media, provided there is no holding out of professional services in jurisdictions where not licensed;
b. Responding to letters of inquiry regarding requests for proposals, provides there is written disclosure that the surveyor and firm are not licensed in this jurisdiction and the response is limited to inquiries regarding scope and to demonstrate interest;
c. Responding to letters of inquiry from prospective clients, provided there is written disclosure that the surveyor and firm are not licensed in this jurisdiction and the response is limited to inquiries regarding scope of project and to demonstrate interest.
d. Submitting proposals to prospective clients in response to notices, inquiries or solicitations provided there is written disclosure that the surveyor and firm are not licensed in this jurisdiction.

Regardless of the above, contracts may not be signed, or work commenced until the surveyor and firm become licensed in this jurisdiction.

California

http://www.pels.ca.gov/licensees/pls_act.pdf

8703. “Responsible charge of work” defined
The phrase “responsible charge of work” means the independent control and direction, by the use of initiative, skill and independent judgment, of the observations, measurements, and descriptions involved in land surveying work. The phrase does not refer to the concept of financial liability.

8704. Practice of land surveying
Any person practices land surveying when he professes to be a land surveyor or is in responsible charge of land surveying work.

8726. Land surveying defined
A person, including any person employed by the state or by a city, county, or city and county within the state, practices land surveying within the meaning of this chapter who, either in a public or private capacity, does or offers to do any one or more of the following:
(a) Locates, relocates, establishes, reestablishes, or retraces the alignment or elevation for any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of civil engineering, as described in Section 6731.
(b) Determines the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface, or the position of fixed objects above, on, or below the surface of the earth by applying the principles of mathematics or photogrammetry.
(c) Locates, relocates, establishes, reestablishes, or retraces any property line or boundary of any parcel of land, right-of-way, easement, or alignment of those lines or boundaries.
(d) Makes any survey for the subdivision or resubdivision of any tract of land. For the purposes of this subdivision, the term “subdivision” or “resubdivision” shall be defined to include, but not limited to, the
definition in the Subdivision Map Act (Division 2 (commencing with Section 66410) of Title 7 of the
Government Code) or the Subdivided Lands Law (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 11000) of Part 2
of Division 4 of this Code).

(e) By the use of the principles of land surveying determines the position for any monument or
reference point which marks a property line, boundary, or corner, or sets, resets, or replaces any such
monument or reference point.

(f) Geodetic or cadastral surveying. As used in this chapter, geodetic surveying means performing
surveys, in which account is taken of the figure and size of the earth to determine or predetermine the
horizontal or vertical positions of fixed objects thereon or related thereto, geodetic control points,
monuments, or stations for use in the practice of land surveying or for stating the position of fixed
objects, geodetic control points, monuments, or stations by California Coordinate System coordinates.

(g) Determines the information shown or to be shown on any map or document prepared or furnished
in connection with any one or more of the functions described in subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

(h) Indicates, in any capacity or in any manner, by the use of the title “land surveyor” or by any other
title or by any other representation that he or she practices or offers to practice land surveying in any of
its branches.

(i) Procures or offers to procure land surveying work for himself, herself, or others.

(j) Manages, or conducts as manager, proprietor, or agent, any place of business from which land
surveying work is solicited, performed or practiced.

(k) Coordinates the work of professional, technical, or special consultants in connection with the
activities authorized by this chapter.

(l) Determines the information shown or to be shown within the description of any deed, trust deed, or
other title document prepared for the purpose of describing the limit of real property in connection with
any one or more of the functions described in subdivisions (a) to (f), inclusive.

(m) Creates, prepares, or modifies electronic or computerized data in the performance of the activities
described in subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (k) and (l).

(n) Renders a statement regarding the accuracy of maps or measured survey data.

**Colorado**

[http://www.dora.state.co.us/aes/Statute-PLS.pdf](http://www.dora.state.co.us/aes/Statute-PLS.pdf)

(3.3) "Geodetic surveying" means the performance of surveys in which measure or account is taken
of the shape, size, and gravitational forces of the earth to determine or predetermine the horizontal
or vertical positions of points, monuments, or stations for use in the practice of professional land
surveying or for stating the geodetic position of control points, monuments, or stations by using a
coordinate system or derivative thereof recognized by the national geodetic survey.

(6) (a) "Professional land surveying" means the application of special knowledge of principles of
mathematics, methods of measurement, and law for the determination and preservation of land
boundaries. "Professional land surveying" specifically includes:
(I) Restoration and rehabilitation of corners and boundaries in the United States public land survey system;
(II) Obtaining and evaluating boundary evidence;
(III) Determination of the areas and elevations of land parcels;
(IV) Subdivision of land parcels into smaller parcels and layout of alignment and grades for streets or roads to serve such smaller parcels;
(V) Measuring and platting underground mine workings;
(VI) Preparation of the boundary control portions of geographic information systems and land information systems except as allowed otherwise by section 38-51-109.3, C.R.S.;
(VII) Establishment, restoration, and rehabilitation of land survey monuments and bench marks;
(VIII) Preparation of land survey plats, condominium plats, monument records, property descriptions that result from the practice of professional land surveying, and survey reports;
(IX) Surveying, monumenting, and platting of easements and rights-of-way;
(X) Geodetic surveying;
(X.5) Basic control for engineering projects; and
(XI) Any other activities incidental to and necessary for the adequate performance of the services described in this paragraph (a).

Connecticut


2) "Land surveyor" means a person who is qualified by knowledge of mathematics, physical and applied sciences and the principles of land surveying, and who is licensed under this chapter to practice or offer to practice the profession of land surveying, including, but not limited to: (A) Measuring, evaluating or mapping elevations, topography, planimetric features or land areas of any portion of the earth’s surface; (B) determining positions of points with respect to appropriate horizontal or vertical datums in order to establish control networks for topographic, planimetric or cadastral mapping; (C) measuring, evaluating, mapping, monumenting or otherwise marking on the ground, property boundary lines, interior lot lines of subdivisions, easements, rights-of-way or street lines; (D) measuring, evaluating, mapping or marking on the ground, the horizontal location of existing or proposed buildings, structures or other improvements with respect to property boundary lines, building, setback, zoning or restriction lines, existing or proposed interior lot lines, easements, rights-of-way or street lines; (E) measuring, evaluating, mapping or reporting the vertical location of existing or proposed buildings, structures or other improvements with respect to vertical reference surfaces, including base flood elevations; (F) measuring, evaluating, mapping or reporting the location of existing or proposed buildings, structures or other improvements or their surrounding topography with respect to flood insurance rate mapping or federal emergency management agency mapping; (G) measuring or mapping inland wetland boundaries delineated by a soil scientist; (H) creating or mapping surveys required for condominiums or planned communities meeting the requirements of section 47-228; (I) monumenting or otherwise marking on the ground, property subject to development rights, vertical unit boundaries, horizontal unit
boundaries, leasehold real property or limited common elements described in section 47-228; (J) evaluating or designing the horizontal or vertical alignment of roads in conjunction with the layout and mapping of a subdivision; (K) measuring, evaluating or mapping areas under the earth's surface and the beds of bodies of water;

**Delaware**

http://dpr.delaware.gov/boards/landsurveyors/newlicense.shtml

(5) "Practice of land surveying" shall mean professional services or work involving special knowledge and application of the principles of mathematics and related sciences and the relevant requirement of law in connection with the use and development of land, as described herein:

(a) The act of measuring, locating, establishing or reestablishing corners, lines, boundaries, angles, elevations, contours and natural and manmade features in the air, on the surface or subsurface of the earth, within underground workings and on the beds or surface of bodies of water for the purpose of determining or establishing facts of size, area, shape, topography, tidal datum planes, legal or geodetic location or relocation and orientation of improved or unimproved real property and appurtenances thereto;

(b) The horizontal and vertical control for aerial surveys and photogrammetric compilation; Global Positioning System Surveying (GPS), as related to boundary surveying and as defined as determining the horizontal and vertical location of an object on the earth's surface with respect to the center of the earth by observing satellites with equipment capable of acquiring, analyzing and managing the data collected; polaris and solar observations for the determination of the true azimuth; the monumentation and remonumentation of boundaries of land, divisions of land, tracts, parcels and lots; the measurement and preparation of plans showing existing improvements after construction; the layout of proposed improvements and the preparation of descriptions and plans for use in legal instruments of conveyance of real property and property rights; and

(c) The design, preparation and furnishing of subdivision plans, land development plans, sedimentation and erosion control plans, grading plans, condominium plans, record plats and horizontal alignments, and profiles and typical sections for roads, streets, utilities, sanitary sewers and storm drainage systems. This shall not be construed so as to permit the professional land surveyor to include the design of sewage disposal stations, lift stations, commercial and industrial buildings, pumping stations and bridges, or to prepare plans for the construction of engineering and architectural projects.

**Florida**


(4)(a) "Practice of surveying and mapping" means, among other things, any professional service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence of the act of measuring, locating, establishing, or reestablishing lines, angles, elevations, natural and manmade features in the air,
on the surface and immediate subsurface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds or surface of bodies of water, for the purpose of determining, establishing, describing, displaying, or interpreting the facts of size, shape, topography, tidal datum planes, legal or geodetic location or relocation, and orientation of improved or unimproved real property and appurtenances thereto, including acreage and condominiums.

(b) The practice of surveying and mapping also includes, but is not limited to, photogrammetric control; the monumentation and remonumentation of property boundaries and subdivisions; the measurement of and preparation of plans showing existing improvements after construction; the layout of proposed improvements; the preparation of descriptions for use in legal instruments of conveyance of real property and property rights; the preparation of subdivision planning maps and record plats, as provided for in chapter 177; the determination of, but not the design of, grades and elevations of roads and land in connection with subdivisions or divisions of land; and the creation and perpetuation of alignments related to maps, record plats, field note records, reports, property descriptions, and plans and drawings that represent them.

Georgia

http://www.sos.georgia.gov/plb/pels/#

(6) "Land surveying" means any service, work, or practice, the adequate performance of which requires the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the requirements of relevant law in the evaluation and location of property rights, as applied to:

(A) Measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural and manmade features in the air, on the surface of the earth, in underground works, and on the beds of bodies of water, for the purpose of determining and reporting positions, topography, areas, and volumes;

(B) Establishing or reestablishing, locating or relocating, or setting or resetting of monumentation for any property, easement, or right of way boundaries, or the boundary of any estate or interest therein;

(C) The platting and layout of lands and subdivisions thereof, including alignment and grades of streets and roads, excluding thoroughfares;

(D) The design, platting, and layout, incidental to subdivisions of any tract of land by a land surveyor

(E) Conducting horizontal and vertical control surveys, layout or stake-out of proposed construction, or the preparation of as-built surveys which relate to property, easement, or right of way boundaries;

(F) Utilization of measurement devices or systems, such as aerial photogrammetry, geodetic positioning systems, land information systems, or similar technology for evaluation or location of property, easement, or right of way boundaries; or

(G) The preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, drawings, exhibits, field notes, or property descriptions representing these services.
(6) "Direct supervisory control" shall be defined as providing direct input in preparation of engineering or land surveying plans, documents, or plats, consultation, periodic review, and final review of such plans, documents, or plats. "On a daily basis" shall mean supervising activities at the place of employment where the registrant and the employee spend the majority of the working time as dictated by payroll records including but not limited to social security, workman's compensation, unemployment insurance, etc.

Guam


(6) Practice of Land Surveying means providing, or offering to provide, professional services using such sciences as mathematics, geodesy, and photogrammetry, and involving both (1) the making of geometric measurements and gathering related information pertaining to the physical and or legal features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above, on, or below the earth, and (2) providing, utilizing or developing the same into survey products, such as graphics, data, maps, plans, reports, descriptions, or projects. Professional services include acts of consultation, investigation, testimony evaluation, expert technical testimony, planning, mapping, assembling and interpreting gathered measurements and information related to any one (1) or more of the following:

(A) Determining by measurement the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects thereon.

(B) Determining, by performing geodetic surveys, the size and shape of the earth or the position of any point on the earth.

(C) Locating, relocating, establishing, or retracing property lines or boundaries of any tract of land, road, right-of-way, or easement.

(D) Marking any survey for the division, subdivision, or consolidation of any tract(s) of land.

(E) Locating or laying out alignments, positions, or elevations for the construction of fixed works.

(F) Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any survey monument (boundary or nonboundary) or reference point; establishing or replacing any such monument or reference point.

(G) Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data, relative to the performance of the activities in the above described items (A) through (F).

(H) Certifying, within the metadata of a Geographical Information System data base, the positional accuracy of the features, cadastral and/or boundary lines, fixed objects, utilities, images and graphically displayed data sets that are used for base mapping.
A person shall be construed to practice or offer to practice surveying, within the meaning and intent of this Chapter, who by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way represents themselves to be a land surveyor or through the use of some other title implies that they are a professional land surveyor or that they are licensed under this Chapter; or who hold themselves out as able to perform, or who does perform any surveying service or work or any other service designated by the practitioner which is recognized as surveying except to references to engineering surveys.

Hawaii
http://www.lsrp.com/hi.html

"Surveyor" or "land surveyor" means a person who holds oneself out as able to make, or who does make cadastral surveys of areas for their correct determination and description, either for conveyancing or for the establishment or reestablishment of land boundaries or the plotting of lands and subdivisions thereof.

Idaho
http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title54/T54CH12SECT54-1202.htm
(11) "Professional land surveying" and "practice of professional land surveying" mean responsible charge of land surveying to determine the correct boundary description, to establish or reestablish land boundaries, or to plat lands and subdivisions thereof. Any person shall be construed to practice or offer to practice professional land surveying who engages in professional land surveying, or who, by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or in any other way represents himself to be a professional land surveyor, or who represents himself as able to perform or who does perform any professional land surveying service or work or any other service designated by the practitioner which is professional land surveying.

Illinois
Sec. 5. Practice of land surveying defined. Any person who practices in Illinois as a professional land surveyor who renders, offers to render, or holds himself or herself out as able to render, or perform any service, the adequate performance of which involves the special knowledge of the art and application of the principles of the accurate and precise measurement of length, angle, elevation or volume, mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law, all of which are acquired by education, training, experience, and examination. Any one or combination of the following practices constitutes the practice of land surveying:

(a) Establishing or reestablishing, locating, defining, and making or monumenting land boundaries or title or real property lines and the platting of lands and subdivisions;

(b) Establishing the area or volume of any portion of the earth’s surface, subsurface, or airspace with respect to boundary lines, determining the configuration or contours of any portion of the earth’s surface, subsurface, or airspace or the location of fixed objects thereon, except as performed by photogrammetric methods or except when the level of accuracy required is less than the level of accuracy required by the National Society of Professional Surveyors Model Standards and Practice;

(c) Preparing descriptions for the determination of title or real property rights to any portion or volume of the earth’s surface, subsurface, or airspace involving the lengths and direction of boundary lines, areas, parts of platted parcels or the contours of the earth’s surface, subsurface, or airspace;

(d) Labeling, designating, naming, or otherwise identifying legal lines or land title lines of the United States Rectangular System or any subdivision thereof on any plat, map, exhibit, photograph, photographic composite, or mosaic or photogrammetric map of any portion of the earth’s surface for the purpose of recording the same in the Office of Recorder in any county;

(e) Any act or combination of acts that would be viewed as offering professional land surveying services including:

(1) setting monuments which have the appearance of or for the express purpose of marking land boundaries, either directly or as an accessory;

(2) providing any sketch, map, plat, report, monument record, or other document which indicates land boundaries and monuments, or accessory monuments thereto, except that if the sketch, map, plat, report, monument record, or other document is a copy of an original prepared by a Professional Land Surveyor, and if proper reference to that fact be made on that document;

(3) performing topographic surveys, with the exception of a licensed professional engineer knowledgeable in topographical surveys that performs a topographical survey specific to his or her design project. A licensed professional engineer may not, however, offer topographic surveying services that are independent of his or her specific design project; or

(4) locating, relocating, establishing, re-establishing, retracing, laying out, or staking of the location, alignment, or elevation of any proposed improvements whose location is dependent upon property lines;

(f) Determining the horizontal or vertical position or state plane coordinates for any monument or reference point that marks a title or real property line, boundary, or corner, or to set, reset, or replace any monument or reference point on any title or real property;
(g) Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data or maps, including land information systems and geographic information systems, relative to the performance of activities in items (a), (b), (d), (e), (f), and (h) of this Section, except where electronic means or computerized data is otherwise utilized to integrate, display, represent, or assess the created, prepared, or modified data;

(h) Establishing or adjusting any control network or any geodetic control network or cadastral data as it pertains to items (a) through (g) of this Section together with the assignment of measured values to any United States Rectangular System corners, title or real property corner monuments or geodetic monuments;

(i) Preparing and attesting to the accuracy of a map or plat showing the land boundaries or lines and marks and monuments of the boundaries or of a map or plat showing the boundaries of surface, subsurface, or air rights;

(j) Executing and issuing certificates, endorsements, reports, or plats that portray the horizontal or vertical relationship between existing physical objects or structures and one or more corners, datums, or boundaries of any portion of the earth's surface, subsurface, or airspace;

(k) Acting in direct supervision and control of land surveying activities or acting as a manager in any place of business that solicits, performs, or practices land surveying;

(l) Offering or soliciting to perform any of the services set forth in this Section;

In the performance of any of the foregoing functions, a licensee shall adhere to the standards of professional conduct enumerated in 68 Ill. Adm. Code 1270.57. Nothing contained in this Section imposes upon a person licensed under this Act the responsibility for the performance of any of the foregoing functions unless such person specifically contracts to perform such functions.

(Source: P.A. 96-626, eff. 8-24-09; 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10; 97-333, eff. 8-12-11.)

Minimum Standards of Practice


Indiana

http://www.in.gov/pla/2754.htm

IC 25-21.5-1-7
Practice of land surveying
Sec. 7. (a) "Practice of land surveying" means any of the following:
(1) The measurement of directions and distances needed to establish or reestablish the corners and boundaries required to locate lots, parcels, tracts, or divisions of land.
(2) The determination of elevations and preparation of topographic drawings for tracts of land.
(3) The preparation of subdivision plats.
(4) The preparation of legal descriptions of tracts of land to be used in the preparation of deeds of conveyance or other instruments, except when prepared by an attorney who is licensed to practice law in Indiana.

(5) The determination of the amount of acreage contained in a tract of land, except when determined by an attorney who is licensed to practice law in Indiana.

(b) The term includes the following:

(1) For and within subdivisions being laid out or having been laid out by the land surveyor, the preparation and furnishing of plats, plans, and profiles for roads, storm drainage, sanitary sewer extensions, and the location of residences or dwellings where the work involves the use and application of standards prescribed by local, state, or federal authorities.

(2) The necessary staking and layout work to construct roads, storm drainage, sanitary sewer extensions or location of residences or dwellings, if the plans and profiles were prepared by or under the direction of a land surveyor.

Iowa

http://www.legis.state.ia.us/IACODE/2003/542B/

5. a. The practice of “land surveying” includes providing professional services such as consultation, investigation, testimony, evaluation, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location of property lines or boundaries, and the utilization, development, and interpretation of these facts into an orderly survey, plat, or map. The practice of land surveying includes, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, setting, or resetting of permanent monumentation for any property line or boundary of any tract or parcel of land. Setting permanent monuments constitutes an improvement to real property.

(2) Making any survey for the division or subdivision of any tract or parcel of land.

(3) Determination, by the use of the principles of land surveying, of the position for any permanent survey monument or reference point, or setting, resetting, or replacing any survey monument or reference point excluding the responsibility of engineers pursuant to section 314.8.

(4) Creating and writing metes and bounds descriptions as defined in section 354.2.

(5) Geodetic surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth both horizontally and vertically for the precise positioning of permanent land survey monuments on the earth utilizing angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry.

(6) Creation, preparation, or modification of electronic or computerized data, including land information systems and geographical information systems, relative to the performance of the activities identified in subparagraphs (1) through (5).

b. This subsection does not prohibit a professional engineer from practicing any aspect of the practice of engineering. A land surveyor is not prohibited from performing engineering surveys as defined in the practice of engineering.

c. A person is construed to be engaged in or offering to be engaged in the practice of land surveying if the person does any of the following:
(1) Engages in land surveying.
(2) Makes a representation by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, or other manner that the person is a land surveyor.
(3) Uses any title which implies that the person is a land surveyor or that the person is licensed under this chapter.
(4) Holds the person’s self out as able to perform, or who does perform, any service or work included in the practice of land surveying.

6. The term “land surveying documents” as used in this chapter includes all plats, maps, surveys, and reports, if the preparation thereof constitutes or requires the practice of land surveying.

7. The term “land surveyor” as used in this chapter shall mean a person who engages in the practice of land surveying as defined in this section.

Kansas

http://www.kansas.gov/ksbtp/
http://kansasstatutes.lesterama.org/Chapter_74/Article_70/74-7003.html

(k) “Practice of land surveying” includes:
(1) The performance of any professional service, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge and experience in the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, the relevant requirements of law and the methods of surveying measurements in measuring and locating of lines, angles, elevation of natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings and on the bed of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas, volumes and monumentation of property boundaries;
(2) the planning, mapping and preparation of plats of land and subdivisions thereof, including the topography, rights-of-way, easements and any other boundaries that affect rights to or interests in land, but excluding features requiring engineering or architectural design;
(3) the preparation of the original descriptions of real property for the conveyance of or recording thereof and the preparation of maps, plats and field note records that represent these surveys;
(4) the reestablishing of missing government section corners in accordance with government surveys;
(5) the teaching of land surveying by a licensed land surveyor in a college or university offering an approved land surveying curriculum of four years or more; and
(6) the locating or laying out of alignments, positions or elevations where such work is part of the construction of engineering or architectural works.
322.010 Definitions for chapter.

(10) "Land surveying" means any professional service or work, the adequate performance of which requires the education, training, and experience as a land surveyor.

(a) "Land surveying" shall include but not be limited to the following:

1. Measuring and locating, establishing, or reestablishing lines, angles, elevations, natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface and immediate subsurface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds or surfaces of bodies of water involving the:
   a. Determination or establishment of the facts of size, shape, topography, and acreage;
   b. Establishment of photogrammetric and geodetic control that is published and used for the determination, monumentation, or description of property boundaries;
   c. Subdivision, division, and consolidation of lands;
   d. Measurement of existing improvements, including condominiums, after construction and the preparation of plans depicting existing improvements, if the improvements are shown in relation to property boundaries;
   e. Layout of proposed improvements, if those improvements are to be referenced to property boundaries;
   f. Preparation of subdivision record plats;
   g. Determination of existing grades and elevations of roads and land;
   h. Creation and perpetuation of alignments related to maps, record plats, field note records, reports, property descriptions, and plans and drawings that represent them; and
   i. Certification of documents;

(b) "Land surveying" shall not include:
1. The measurement of crops or agricultural land area under any agricultural program sponsored by an agency of the federal government or the state of Kentucky;
2. The services of a professional engineer who engages in the practice of land surveying incident to the practice of engineering, if the land surveying work does not relate to the location or determination of land boundaries; or
3. The design of grades and elevations of roads and land;

Louisiana

http://www.lapels.com/LawsRules.html

c. Surveying and mapping functions which do not require the establishment of the relationship of property ownership boundaries may be performed by or under the responsible charge of either a professional engineer or a professional land surveyor. Such surveying and mapping functions include:

i. surveys of servitudes (easements) and rights of way
ii. surveys of leases;
iii. topographical surveys;
iv. surveys for record drawing;
v. layout surveys for construction;
vi. hydrographic surveys;
vii. mine surveys;
viii. mapping;
ix. geodetic surveys;
x. cartographic surveys;
xii. horizontal and vertical control surveys;
xiii. quantity and measurement surveys;
xiiii. profiles and cross-sections;
xiv. site grading plans.

Maine


6. Practice of land surveying. "Practice of land surveying" means any service or work involving the application of special knowledge of the rules of evidence and boundary laws, principles of mathematics and the related physical and applied sciences for measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings and on the beds of bodies of water. This service or work shall be for the purposes of determining areas and volumes, for the monumenting of property boundaries and for the platting and layout of lands and subdivisions of land, including topography, alignment and grades of streets and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field note records and property descriptions that represent these surveys.

A person shall be deemed to practice or offer to practice land surveying within the meaning and intent of this chapter if that person engages in land surveying or by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card or in any other way makes a representation that the person is a professional land surveyor or makes a representation that the person is able to perform or does perform any land surveying service or work or any other service designated by the practitioner that is recognized as land surveying.

Maryland

http://mlis.state.md.us/asp/statutes_Respond.asp?article=gbo&section=15-101&Extension=HTML

(j) (1) “Practice land surveying” means any service, work, documentation, or practice, the performance or preparation of which requires the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the requirements of the relevant law, as applied to:
(i) measuring, platting, and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural or artificial features in the air, on the surface of the earth, in underground work, and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining and reporting positions, topography, areas, and volumes;
(ii) the platting or replatting, establishing or reestablishing, locating or relocating, or setting or resetting the monumentation for boundaries of real property, easements, or rights–of–way;
(iii) platting, layout, and preparation of surveys, plats, plans, and drawings, including:
   1. site plans;
   2. subdivision plans;
   3. subdivision plats;
   4. condominium plats;
   5. right–of–way and easement plats; and
   6. other recordable plats;
(iv) conducting horizontal and vertical control surveys, layout or stake–out of proposed construction, and the preparation and platting of as–constructed surveys;
(v) utilizing measurement devices or systems, such as aerial photogrammetry, global positioning systems, land information systems, geographic information systems, or similar technology for evaluation or location of boundaries of real property, easements, or rights–of–way;

Massachusetts

https://www.mass.gov/?pageID=ocasubtopic&L=5&L0=Home&L1=Licensee&L2=Division+of+Professional+Licensure+Boards&L3=Board+of+Registration+of+Professional+Engineers+and+Professional+Land+Surveyors&L4=Statutes+and+Regulations&sid=Eoca

“Practice of land surveying”, any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence to the act of measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural and manmade features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes, for the monumenting of property boundaries, for locating or relocating any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of civil engineering, and for the platting, and layout of lands and subdivisions thereof, including the topography, alignment and grades of streets, and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field note records and property descriptions that represent these surveys.

Michigan


"Practice of professional surveying" means providing professional services such as consultation, investigation, testimony, evaluation, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, or physical features of the earth,
improvements on the earth, the space above the earth, or any part of the earth, and the utilization and
development of these facts and interpretations into an orderly survey map, plan, report, description, or
project. The practice of professional surveying includes all of the following:
(i) Land surveying which is the surveying of an area for its correct determination or description for its
conveyance, or for the establishment or reestablishment of a land boundary and the designing or design
coordination of the plotting of land and the subdivision of land.
(ii) Geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth
both horizontally and vertically and the precise positioning of points on the earth utilizing angular and
linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry.
(iii) Utilizing and managing land information systems through establishment of datums and local
coordinate systems and points of reference.
(iv) Engineering and architectural surveying for design and construction layout of infrastructure.
(v) Cartographic surveying for the making of maps, including topographic and hydrographic mapping.

Minnesota

http://www.aelslagid.state.mn.us/
https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=326.02

326.02 LICENSURE OR CERTIFICATION.
Subd. 4. Practice of land surveying. Land surveying means the application of the principles
of mathematics, physical and applied sciences and law to measuring and locating lines, angles,
elevations and natural or artificial features in the air, on the surface of the earth, underground and
on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of:
(1) monumenting property boundaries;
(2) planning, designing, and platting of land and subdivisions including the topography,
alignment and grades of streets; and
(3) preparing and perpetuating maps, record plats and property descriptions. Any person who offers to
perform, holds out as being able to perform, or who does perform land surveying for others shall be
practicing land surveying.
Nothing contained in the provisions of sections 326.02 to 326.15, shall prohibit a licensed
professional engineer, architect, landscape architect, or professional geoscientist from doing
any work included in the practice of engineering, architecture, landscape architecture, and
professional geoscience, if the work does not involve the establishment or reestablishment of
property corners or property lines.

Mississippi

http://www.pepls.state.ms.us/pepls/web.nsf
The practice of surveying includes, but is not limited to, any one or more of the following:
(a) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, laying out or retracing any property boundary or easement.
(b) Making any survey for the subdivision of any tract of land, including rights-of-way and easements.
(c) Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any survey monument or reference point; or setting, resetting or replacing any such monument or reference point, commonly known as control surveys.
(d) Creating, preparing or modifying electronic or computerized data, including land information systems and geographic information systems, relative to the performance of the activities in the above-described paragraphs (a) through (c).

Missouri
http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/20csr/20csr.asp#20-2030

(4) A certificate of authority is not required by a principal firm if the work is being done by a subconsultant who is licensed in this state. The principal firm cannot advertise itself as being able to provide architecture, engineering, land surveying, or landscape architecture services, or include the names of those professions in the name of their firm unless exempted pursuant to section 327.101(7), RSMo or section 327.191(5), RSMo

Montana

24.183.1110 ACTIVITIES INCLUDED WITHIN SURVEYING PRACTICE
(1) Activities that must be accomplished under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor, unless specifically exempted in ARM 24.183.1111, include, but are not limited to the following:
(a) The creation of maps and georeferenced databases representing authoritative locations for boundaries, fixed works of engineering, or topography. Examples include:
(i) legal boundary surveys;
(ii) establishing or locating the extent, alignment, and acreage included in rights of way, easements, or other legal interests in real property;
(iii) engineering surveys for designs; and
(iv) as-built surveys.
(b) Preparing or offering to prepare a certificate of survey or plat.
(c) Preparing or offering to prepare legal descriptions or exhibits, and computation of associated acreage of real property boundaries, easements, or other legal interests in real property. Lands acquired for state highways are specifically exempted under 76-3-209, MCA.
(d) Original data acquisition or the resolution of conflicts between multiple data sources, when used for the authoritative location of features within data themes. Examples include:
(i) elevation and hydrography;
(ii) fixed works of engineering;
(iii) private and public boundaries; and
(iv) cadastral information.
(e) Original data acquisition by contract or second parties for authoritative purposes.
(f) Authoritative certification of positional accuracy of maps or measured survey data.
(g) Authoritative adjustments or authoritative interpretation of survey data.
(h) Geographic Information System (GIS)-based parcel or cadastral mapping used for authoritative boundary definition purposes wherein land title or development rights for individual parcels are or may be affected. Examples include:
(i) If the boundary of an administrative district is proposed to run "diagonally across section eight from the Northeast to the Southwest corners of said section" and a GIS-based map showing that line is adopted as the official representation of the boundary, that map must be prepared by, or under the direction of, a professional land surveyor.
(ii) If the boundary of an administrative district is proposed to run "one-half mile northeasterly of and parallel to County Road #4", and a GIS-based map showing that line is adopted as the official representation of the boundary, that map must be prepared by, or under the direction of, a professional land surveyor.
(iii) If a GIS-based map is used only to provide a graphical representation of that boundary, but authoritative determination of the boundary location is dependent upon survey of the described off-set line, preparation of the map need not be accomplished under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor.
(i) Authoritative interpretation of maps, deeds, or other land title records to document or present evidence to assist in resolving conflicting boundaries.
(j) Acquisition and or verification of field data required to authoritatively position fixed works of engineering or cadastral data relative to control. Examples include:
(i) determination and identification of corner points; and
(ii) authoritative collection or calculation and compilation of geodetic coordinates of Public Land Survey System (PLSS) or any monument controlling a property line.
(k) Analysis, adjustment, or transformation of cadastral data with respect to geodetic control within a GIS, resulting in the certification of positional accuracy.
(l) Providing or offering to provide geodetic control/survey control and some types of mapping control.
(m) Establishing ground control and quality control proofing for remote sensing and photogrammetric products when used for authoritative purpose.

Nebraska

http://www.sso.state.ne.us/bels/statutes.html
81-8,109.
LAND SURVEYING; DEFINITIONS.
Land surveying shall mean the establishment or reestablishment of corners and the boundaries and the location of lots, parcels, tracts, or divisions of land, which may include distance, direction, elevation, and acreage, and the correct determination and description of lots, parcels, tracts, or divisions of land for, but not limited to, any of the following purposes:

To furnish a legal description of any tract of land to be used in the preparation of deeds of conveyance when the description is not the same as the one in the deed of conveyance to the current owner or when bearings, distances, or measurements are needed to properly describe the tract being conveyed;

1. To furnish a legal description of any land surveyed to be used in the platting or subdividing of the land;
2. To determine the amount of acreage contained in any land surveyed; or
3. To furnish a topographic plat of a lot, parcel, tract, or division of land and locating natural and artificial features in the air, on the surface or subsurface of the earth, and on the beds or surface of bodies of water for the purpose of establishing the facts of size, area, shape, topography, and orientation of improved or unimproved real property and appurtenances to the real property.

Nevada

http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-625.html

NRS 625.040 “Practice of land surveying” defined.

1. A person who, in a private or public capacity, does or offers to do any one or more of the following practices land surveying:
   (a) Locates, relocates, establishes, reestablishes or retraces any property line or boundary of any tract of land or any road, right-of-way, easement, alignment or elevation of any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of professional engineering as described in NRS 625.050.
   (b) Makes any survey for the subdivision or resubdivision of any tract of land.
   (c) Determines, by the use of the principles of land surveying, the position for any monument or reference point which marks a property line, boundary or corner, or sets, resets or replaces any such monument or reference point.
   (d) Determines the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects thereon by measuring lines and angles and applying the principles of trigonometry.
   (e) Geodetic or cadastral surveying.
   (f) Municipal and topographic surveying.
   (g) Determines the information shown or to be shown on any map or document prepared or furnished in connection with any one or more of the functions described in paragraphs (a) to (f), inclusive.
   (h) Indicates in any manner, by the use of the title “land surveyor,” or by any other representation, that the person practices or offers to practice land surveying.
   (i) Procures or offers to procure land-surveying work for others or for himself or herself.
(j) Manages or conducts as manager, proprietor or agent any place from which land-surveying work is solicited, performed or practiced.

2. A person practices land surveying if the person professes to be a land surveyor or is in a responsible charge of land-surveying work.

3. Making a survey exclusively for geological or landscaping purposes, or aerial photographs or photogrammetry, not involving any of the practices specified in subsection 1, does not constitute land surveying.

4. The practice of land surveying does not include the design, either in whole or in part, of any structure or fixed works embraced in the practice of professional engineering.

New Hampshire

http://www.nh.gov/jtboard/lslaw.htm

IV. Practice of land surveying means any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence to the act of measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes, for the monumenting of property boundaries and for the platting and layout of lands and subdivisions of land, including the topography, alignment, and grades of streets and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field note records and property descriptions that represent these surveys.

New Jersey

http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/laws/pe_and_ls_regulations.pdf

"Land surveying" "surveying" or "practice of land surveying" means any service or work the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences and the relevant requirements of law to the act of measuring and locating distances, directions, elevations, topography including natural and man-made topographical features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings, and on beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes, and for the establishing of horizontal and vertical control as it relates to construction stake-out, for the monumentation of property boundaries and for platting and layout of lands and subdivisions thereof and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field notes, records and property descriptions in manual and computer coded form that represents these surveys. The practice of land surveying includes
the establishment and maintenance of the base mapping and related control for land information systems that are developed from the practice of land surveying.

New Mexico

http://www.sblpes.state.nm.us/act.html

N. "surveying", "practice of surveying" or “surveying practice” means any service or work, the substantial performance of which involves the application of the principles of mathematics and the related physical and applied sciences for:
(1) the measuring and locating of lines, angles, elevations and natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings and on the beds or bodies of water for the purpose of defining location, areas and volumes;
(2) the monumenting of property boundaries and for the platting and layout of lands and subdivisions;
(3) the application of photogrammetric methods used to derive topographic and other data;
(4) the establishment of horizontal and vertical controls that will be the basis for all geospatial data used for future design surveys, including construction staking surveys, surveys to layout horizontal and vertical alignments, topographic surveys, control surveys for aerial photography for the collection of topographic and planimetric data using photogrammetric methods, construction surveys of engineering and architectural public works projects; and
(5) the preparation and perpetuation of maps, records, plats, field notes and property descriptions;

New York

http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/pels/

§7203. Definition of practice of land surveying.
The practice of the profession of land surveying is defined as practicing that branch of the engineering profession and applied mathematics which includes the measuring and plotting of the dimensions and areas of any portion of the earth, including all naturally placed and man- or machine-made structures and objects thereon, the lengths and directions of boundary lines, the contour of the surface and the application of rules and regulations in accordance with local requirements incidental to subdivisions for the correct determination, description, conveying and recording thereof or for the establishment or reestablishment thereof.

North Carolina

(7) Practice of land surveying.

a. Providing professional services such as consultation, investigation, testimony, evaluation, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, or physical features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above the earth, or any part of the earth, whether the gathering of information for the providing of these services is accomplished by conventional ground measurements, by aerial photography, by global positioning via satellites, or by a combination of any of these methods, and the utilization and development of these facts and interpretations into an orderly survey map, plan, report, description, or project. The practice of land surveying includes the following:

1. Locating, relocating, establishing, laying out, or retracing any property line, easement, or boundary of any tract of land;
2. Locating, relocating, establishing, or laying out the alignment or elevation of any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of professional engineering;
3. Making any survey for the subdivision of any tract of land, including the topography, alignment and grades of streets and incidental drainage within the subdivision, and the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field note records, and property descriptions that represent these surveys;
4. Determining, by the use of the principles of land surveying, the position for any survey monument or reference point, or setting, resetting, or replacing any survey monument or reference point;
5. Determining the configuration or contour of the earth's surface or the position of fixed objects on the earth's surface by measuring lines and angles and applying the principles of mathematics or photogrammetry;
6. Providing geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth both horizontally and vertically and the precise positioning of points on the earth utilizing angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry; and
7. Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data, including land information systems and geographic information systems relative to the performance of the practice of land surveying.

North Dakota

http://www.ndpelsboard.org/

"Land surveying" means any service comprising the determination of the location of land boundaries and land boundary corners; incidental topography; the preparation of maps showing the shape and area of tracts of land and their subdivision into smaller tracts; the preparation of maps showing the layouts of roads, streets, and rights of way of same to give access to smaller tracts; and the preparation of official plats or maps of land within this state.

Ohio

http://www.peps.ohio.gov/4733/473301.aspx
(F) “Practice of surveying” means any professional service that requires the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law for the adequate performance of the art of surveying, including, but not limited to, measuring the area or the contours of any portion of the earth’s surface, the lengths and directions of the bounding lines, and the contour of the surface, for their correct determination and description and for conveyancing for recording, or for the establishment or re-establishment of land boundaries and the platting of lands and subdivisions; and like measurements and operations involved in the surveying of mines, commonly known as “mine surveying.”

Oklahoma

http://www.ok.gov/pels/Regulations/Statutes/index.html#21

7. a. "Practice of land surveying" means any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, methods of measurement, and the law for the determination and preservation of land boundaries. "Practice of land surveying" includes, without limitation:
(1) restoration and rehabilitation of corners and boundaries in the United States Public Land Survey System or the subdivision thereof,
(2) obtaining and evaluating evidence for the accurate determination of land boundaries,
(3) determination of the areas and elevations of land parcels for a survey,
(4) monumenting the subdivision of land parcels into smaller parcels and the preparation of the descriptions in connection therewith,
(5) measuring and platting underground mine workings,
(6) preparation of the control portions of geographic information systems and land information systems,
(7) establishment, restoration, and rehabilitation of land survey monuments and bench marks,
(8) preparation of land survey plats, condominium plats, monument records, and survey reports,
(9) surveying, monumenting, and platting of easements, and rights-of-way,
(10) measuring, locating, or establishing lines, angles, elevations, natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes for a survey,
(11) geodetic surveying, and
(12) any other activities incidental to and necessary for the adequate performance of the services described in this paragraph.
Oregon

http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/rules/OARS_800/OAR_820/820_tofc.html

820-010-0010
Definitions

(5) "Responsible charge," as used in ORS 672.002(9), means to have supervision and control over engineering work as defined in 672.005(1), land surveying work, and photogrammetric mapping, as evidenced by performing substantially the following:
(a) Establishing the manner or method by which services are rendered;
(b) Establishing quality controls for the services rendered;
(c) Communicating with clients;
(d) Reviewing designs, calculations, plans, surveys or maps;
(e) Supplying deficiencies found in or correcting errors contained in designs, calculations, plans, surveys or maps;
(f) Making changes to documents, including but not limited to, designs, plans, plats, surveys or maps; and
(g) With respect to land surveying, reviewing field evidence and making final decisions concerning the placement of survey monuments and surveyed lines.

(6) "Supervision and control," as used in ORS 672.002(10), means establishing the nature of, directing and guiding the preparation of, and approving the work product and accepting responsibility for the work product, as evidenced by performing the following:
(a) Spending time directly supervising the work to assure that the person working under the licensee is familiar with the significant details of the work;
(b) Providing oversight, inspection, observation and direction regarding the work being performed;
(c) Providing adequate training for persons rendering services and working on projects under the licensee;
(d) Maintaining readily accessible contact with the person providing services or performing work by direct proximity or by frequent communication about the services provided or the work performed. Communications between the licensee and persons under the licensee's supervision and control include face-to-face communications, electronic mail, and telephone communications and similar, other communications that are immediate and responsive; and
(e) Applying the licensee's seal and signature to a document.

(2) “Practice of land surveying” means doing any of the following:
   (a) Providing or offering to provide professional services that apply mathematics, geodesy and other sciences and involve:
      (A) The making of geometric measurements and gathering of related information pertaining to:
      (i) The physical or legal features of the earth;
      (ii) Improvements on the earth; or
(iii) The space above or below the earth; or
(B) The development of measurements and information described in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph into graphics, data, maps, plans, reports, descriptions, projects or other survey products.
(b) Performing geodetic surveys.
(c) Establishing, reestablishing or replacing boundaries or geodetic control monuments or reference points.
(d) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing or retracing any property lines or boundaries for any tract of land, road right-of-way or easement.
(e) Making any survey for the division or subdivision of a tract of land or for the consolidation of tracts of land.
(f) Locating and laying out alignments, positions or elevations for the construction of fixed works.
(g) Performing or offering to perform any investigation, interpretation or evaluation of, or any consultation or testimony about, any of the services described in paragraphs (a) to (f) of this subsection.
(h) Collecting, preparing, manipulating or modifying data related to activities described in paragraphs (a) to (f) of this subsection, other than acting as a scrivener.
(i) Performing photogrammetric mapping.
(j) Making surveys that involve horizontal or vertical mapping control or geodetic control. [1971 c.751 §2; 1973 c.531 §1; 1977 c.620 §1; 1981 c.143 §2; 1991 c.339 §5; 1997 c.210 §2; 2005 c.445 §7]

Pennsylvania

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/state_registration_board_for_professional_engineers_land_surveyors_and_geologists/12510

ENGINEER, LAND SURVEYOR AND GEOLOGIST REGISTRATION LAW
Act of May 23, 1945, P.L. 913, No. 367 Cl. 63
(d) "Practice of Land Surveying" means the practice of that branch of the profession of engineering which involves the location, relocation, establishment, reestablishment or retracement of any property line or boundary of any parcel of land or any road right-of-way, easement or alignment; the use of principles of land surveying, determination of the position of any monument or reference point which marks a property line boundary, or corner setting, resetting or replacing any such monument or individual point including the writing of deed descriptions; procuring or offering to procure land surveying work for himself or others; managing or conducting as managers, proprietors or agent any place of business from which land surveying work is solicited, performed, or practiced; the performance of the foregoing acts and services being prohibited to persons who are not granted certificates of registration under this act as a professional land surveyor unless exempt under other provisions of this act.
Rhode Island

http://www.rilin.state.ri.us/statutes/title5/5-8.1/5-8.1-2.HTM

(11) "Practice of land surveying" means any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence to perform the act of measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural and manmade features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes, for the monumenting of property boundaries and for the platting and layout of lands and their subdivisions, including the topography, alignment, and grades of streets and for the preparation of maps, record plats, field note records and property descriptions that represent these surveys.

South Carolina

SECTION 40-22-20. DEFINITIONS.

(24) “Practice of TIER A surveying” means providing professional services including, but not limited to, consultation investigation, testimony evaluation, expert technical testimony, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, or physical features of the earth, the space above the earth, or part of the earth, and utilization and development of these facts and interpretation into an orderly survey map, site plan, report, description, or project.

The practice of TIER A surveying consists of three separate disciplines: land surveying, photogrammetry, and geographic information systems. A surveyor may be licensed in one or more of the disciplines and practice is restricted to only the discipline or disciplines for which the land surveyor is licensed. The practice of TIER A surveying does not include the use of geographic information systems to create maps pursuant to Section 40-22-290, analyze data, or create reports. The scope of the individual disciplines are identified as follows:

(a) Land surveyor:

(1) locates, relocates, establishes, reestablishes, lays out, or retraces any property line or boundary of any tract of land or any road, right-of-way, easement, alignment, or elevation of any fixed works embraced within the practice of land surveying, or makes any survey for the subdivision of land;

(2) determines, by the use of principles of land surveying, the position for any survey monument or reference point; or sets, resets, or replaces such monument or reference; determines the topographic configuration or contour of the earth’s surface with terrestrial measurements; conducts hydrographic surveys;

(3) conducts geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of geographic position in an international three-dimensional coordinate system, where the curvature of the earth must be taken into account when determining directions and distances; geodetic surveying includes the use of terrestrial measurements of angles and distances, as well as measured ranges to artificial satellites.
(b) A photogrammetric surveyor determines the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects on the earth’s surface by applying the principles of mathematics on remotely sensed data, such as photogrammetry.

(c) A geographic information systems surveyor creates, prepares, or modifies electronic or computerized data including land information systems and geographic information systems relative to the performance of the activities described in subitems (a) and (b).

(d) An individual licensed only as a geodetic surveyor before July 1, 2004, determines the geographic position in an international three-dimensional coordinate system, where the curvature of the earth must be taken into account when determining directions and distances; geodetic surveying includes the use of terrestrial measurements of angles and distances, as well as measured ranges to artificial satellites. A geodetic surveyor is not authorized to perform the other services a land boundary surveyor is authorized to perform.

South Dakota

http://www.state.sd.us/dol/boards/engineer/

36-18A-4. "Practice of land surveying" defined. For the purposes of this chapter, the term, practice of land surveying, means the practice or offering to practice professional services such as consultation, investigation, testimony evaluation, expert technical testimony, land-use studies, planning, mapping, assembling, interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, or physical features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above the earth, or any part of the earth, and utilization and development of these facts and interpretation into an orderly survey map, plan, report, description, or project.

The practice of land surveying includes any of the following:
(1) Locates, relocates, establishes, reestablishes, lays out, or retraces any property line or boundary of any tract of land or any road, right-of-way, easement, alignment, or elevation of any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of land surveying;
(2) Makes any survey for the subdivision of any tract of land;
(3) Determines, by the use of principles of land surveying, the position for any survey monument or reference point; or sets, resets, or replaces any such monument or reference point;
(4) Determines the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects on the earth’s surface by measuring lines and angles and applying the principles of mathematics;
(5) Geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth utilizing angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry;
(6) Creates, prepares, or modifies electronic or computerized data, including land formation systems and geographic information systems, relative to the performance of the activities in subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of this section.
Tennessee


(3) “Practice of land surveying” means any service of work, the adequate performance of which involves the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence to the act of measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, natural and man-made features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes, for the monuments of property boundaries and for the platting and layout of lands and subdivisions of land, including the topography, drainage, alignment and grades of streets, and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, records, plats, field notes, records and property descriptions that represent these surveys;

Texas

(6) "Professional surveying" means the practice of land, boundary, or property surveying or other similar professional practices. The term includes:
(A) performing any service or work the adequate performance of which involves applying special knowledge of the principles of geodesy, mathematics, related applied and physical sciences, and relevant laws to the measurement or location of sites, points, lines, angles, elevations, natural features, and existing man-made works in the air, on the earth ’s surface, within underground workings, and on the beds of bodies of water to determine areas and volumes for:
(i) locating real property boundaries;
(ii) platting and laying out land and subdivisions of land; or
(iii) preparing and perpetuating maps, record plats, field note records, easements, and real property descriptions that represent those surveys; and
(B) consulting, investigating, evaluating, analyzing, planning, providing an expert surveying opinion or testimony, acquiring survey data, preparing technical reports, and mapping to the extent those acts are performed in connection with acts described by this subdivision.

Utah


(11) "Professional land surveying or the practice of land surveying" means a service or work, the adequate performance of which requires the application of special knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law for adequate evidence to the act of measuring and locating lines, angles, elevations, nature and man-made
features in the air, on the surface of the earth, within underground workings, and on the beds of bodies of water for the purpose of determining areas and volumes, for the monumenting or locating property boundaries or points controlling boundaries, and for the platting and layout of lands and subdivisions of lands, including the topography, alignment and grades of streets, and for the preparation and perpetuation of maps, record plats, field notes records, and property descriptions that represent these surveys and other duties as sound surveying practices could direct.

**Vermont**

[Link to Vermont statute](http://www.leg.state.vt.us/statutes/fullchapter.cfm?Title=26&Chapter=045)

Title 26: Professions and Occupations  
*Chapter 45: LAND SURVEYORS*

(4) "Practice of land surveying" means providing, or offering to provide, professional services, including record research, reconnaissance, measurements, gathering parol evidence, analysis of evidence, mapping, planning, expert testimony, and consultation related to any of the following:  
(A) locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, or retracing property lines or boundaries, or demarcating other legal rights or interests in any tract of land, road, right-of-way, or easement;  
(B) determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any boundary monument or reference point, or replacing any monument or reference point;  
(C) making any survey for the division, subdivision, or consolidation of any tract of land;  
(D) creating, preparing, or modifying graphic documents such as maps, plats, and plans, or electronic data used or referenced in instruments of conveyance of rights in real property, or which define rights in real property, or are used to define such rights;  
(E) calculating dimensions and areas, which may be used to define rights in real property.

**Virginia**

[Link to Virginia statute](http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/dporweb/lawsandregs.cfm)

The "practice of land surveying" includes surveying of areas for a determination or correction, a description, the establishment or reestablishment of internal and external land boundaries, or the determination of topography, contours or location of physical improvements, and also includes the planning of land and subdivisions thereof. The term "planning of land and subdivisions thereof" shall include, but not be limited to, the preparation of incidental plans and profiles for roads, streets and sidewalks, grading, drainage on the surface, culverts and erosion control measures, with reference to existing state or local standards.

C. Persons utilizing photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology shall not be required to be licensed as a land surveyor pursuant to subsection B of § 54.1-404 or 54.1-406 to: (i)
determine topography or contours, or to depict physical improvements, provided such maps or other
documents shall not be used for the design, modification, or construction of improvements to real
property or for flood plain determination, or (ii) graphically show existing property lines and boundaries
on maps or other documents provided such depicted property lines and boundaries shall only be used
for general information.

Any determination of topography or contours, or depiction of physical improvements, utilizing
photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology by persons not licensed as a land
surveyor pursuant to § 54.1-406 shall not show any property monumentation or property metes and
bounds, nor provide any measurement showing the relationship of any physical improvements to any
property line or boundary.

Any person not licensed pursuant to subsection B of § 54.1-404 or 54.1-406 preparing documentation
pursuant to subsection C of § 54.1-402 shall note the following on such documentation: "Any
determination of topography or contours, or any depiction of physical improvements, property lines or
boundaries is for general information only and shall not be used for the design, modification, or
construction of improvements to real property or for flood plain determination."

Washington

http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/engineerslandsurveyors/
Chapter 18.43 RCW
ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS
(9) Practice of land surveying: The term "practice of land surveying" within the meaning and intent of this
chapter, shall mean assuming responsible charge of the surveying of land for the establishment of
corners, lines, boundaries, and monuments, the laying out and subdivision of land, the defining and
locating of corners, lines, boundaries and monuments of land after they have been established, the
survey of land areas for the purpose of determining the topography thereof, the making of topographical
delineations and the preparing of maps and accurate records thereof, when the proper performance of
such services requires technical knowledge and skill.

Washington D.C.

or

(b) Practice of Surveying or Land Surveying - Providing professional services such as consultation,
investigation, testimony evaluation, expert technical testimony, planning, mapping, assembling, and
interpreting reliable scientific measurements and information relative to the location, size, shape, or
physical features of the earth, existing or proposed improvements on the earth, the space above the
earth, or any part of the earth, and utilization and development of these facts and interpretation into an
orderly survey map, plan, report, description, or project. The practice of surveying or land surveying includes, but is not limited to, any one or more of the following:

1. Determining the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects thereon by measuring lines and angles and applying the principles of mathematics or photogrammetry.
2. Performing geodetic surveying which includes surveying for determination of the size and shape of the earth utilizing angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry.
3. Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any survey control (non-boundary) monument or reference point; or setting, resetting, or replacing any such monument or reference point.
4. Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data, including land information systems, and geographic information systems, relative to the performance of the activities in the above described items (1) through (3).
5. Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, laying out, or retracing any property line or boundary of any tract of land or any road, right of way, easement, alignment, or elevation of any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of engineering.
7. Determining, by the use of principles of land surveying, the position for any survey monument or reference point; or setting, resetting, or replacing any such monument or reference point.
8. Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data, including land information systems, and geographic information systems, relative to the performance of the activities in the above described items (5) through (7).

West Virginia

http://www.wvbps.wv.gov/law/Pages/default.aspx

(ff) “Surveying” or “land surveying” means providing, or offering to provide, professional services using such sciences as mathematics, geodesy, and photogrammetry, and involving both:

(1) The making of geometric measurements and gathering related information pertaining to the physical or legal features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above, on or below the earth; and

(2) Providing, utilizing or developing the same into survey products such as graphics, data, maps, plans, reports, descriptions or projects. Professional services include acts of consultation, investigation, testimony evaluation, expert technical testimony, planning, mapping, assembling and interpreting gathered measurements and information related to any one or more of the following:

(A) Determining by measurement the configuration or contour of the earth’s surface or the position of fixed objects thereon.
(B) Determining by performing geodetic surveys the size and shape of the earth or the position of any point on the earth.
(C) Determining the position for any survey control monument or reference point.
(D) Creating, preparing or modifying electronic, computerized or other data relative to the performance of the activities in the above-described paragraphs (A) through (C), inclusive, of this subdivision.

(E) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing or retracing property lines or boundaries of any tract of land, road, right-of-way or easement.

(F) Making any survey for the division, subdivision, or consolidation of any tract or tracts of land.

(G) Locating or laying out alignments, positions or elevations for the construction of fixed works.

(H) Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any boundary or nonboundary survey monument or reference point, or establishing or replacing any such monument or reference point.

(I) Creating, preparing or modifying electronic or computerized or other data relative to the performance of the activities in the above-described paragraphs (E) through (H), inclusive, of this subdivision.

**Wisconsin**

http://165.189.60.145/profession.asp?profid=102&locid=0

“Land surveying” means any service comprising the determination of the location of land boundaries and land boundary corners; the preparation of maps showing the shape and area of tracts of land and their subdivisions into smaller tracts; the preparation of maps showing the layout of roads, streets and rights−of−way of same to give access to smaller tracts; and the preparation of official plats, or maps, of land in this state.

No person may practice land surveying in this state unless the person has been duly registered as a land surveyor. Details on the criteria for registration are available in Chapter 443 of the Wisconsin Statutes and A-E 6 of the Wisconsin Administrative Code.

**Wyoming**

http://engineersandsurveyors.wy.gov/index_files/Page801.htm

SURVEYORS AND ENGINEERS

Title 33, Chapter 29

Wyoming Statutes 1987

(vii) "Land surveying practice" means the performance of one (1) or more of the following:

(A) Measurement of land to determine the position of any monument or reference point which marks a property line, boundary or corner for the purpose of determining the area or description of the land;

(B) Location, relocation, establishment, reestablishment, setting, resetting or replacing of corner monuments or reference points which identify land boundaries, rights-of-way or easements;
(C) Platting or plotting of lands for the purpose of subdividing;
(D) Measurement by angles, distances and elevations of natural or man-made features in the air, in the surface and immediate subsurface of the earth, within underground workings and on the surface or within bodies of water for the purpose of determining or establishing their size, shape, topography, grades, contours or water surface and depths, and the preparation and perpetuation of field note records and maps depicting these features;
(E) Setting, resetting or replacing of points to guide the location of new construction;
(F) A person shall be deemed to be practicing or offering to practice land surveying if he by verbal claim, sign, advertisement, letterhead, card or any other manner represents himself to be a professional land surveyor, or quotes fees for professional land surveying services or executes contracts or agreements for professional land surveying services, or holds himself out as able to perform or does perform any land surveying service recognized by the board as land surveying.