

State Surveying Regulations

2015

A list of individual state surveying regulations for use in the determination of whether services being offered are professional Geospatial Mapping Services (PGMS) or Commercial Geospatial Mapping Products (CGMP)

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Alabama

Board website:

<http://www.bels.alabama.gov/Laws.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.bels.alabama.gov/pdf/laws/LawCode-July2014.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

Section 34-11-1. Definitions.

(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 4 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.

Alaska

Board website:

<http://commerce.state.ak.us/dnn/cbpl/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardofArchitectsEngineersandLandSurveyors.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://commerce.state.ak.us/dnn/Portals/5/pub/aelsstatutesregs.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

Sec. 08.48.341. Definitions

(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

Board website:

<https://btr.az.gov/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/32/00101.htm&Title=32&DocType=ARS>

Excerpt from regulation:

Article 32-101 Purpose; definitions

27. "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

Board website:

<http://www.pels.arkansas.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/rcode/Default.asp>

Excerpt from regulation:

Arkansas Code 17-48-101. Definitions

- (2) (A) "Land surveying" means a service comprising the:
- (i) Determination of the location of land boundaries and land boundary corners; and
 - (ii) Preparation of:
 - (a) Plats showing the shape and areas of tracts of land and their subdivision into smaller tracts;
 - (b) Plats showing the location of streets, roads, and rights-of-way of tracts to give access to smaller tracts; and
 - (c) Official plats or maps of land thereof in this state.
- (B) "Land surveying" does not include the measure of acreage of timber, cotton, rice, or other agricultural crops.
- (6) "Surveying measurement certification" means providing the professional service of certification or sealing of maps, documents, digital files, or other data to verify that the maps, documents, digital files, or other data are authoritative professional determinations based on accepted methods and principles of surveying measurement or analysis representing or listing the following types of surveying measurements:
- (A) The configuration or contour of the earth's surface or the position of fixed objects on the earth's surface;
 - (B) The position or elevation of a survey boundary, control monument, or reference point; and
 - (C) The alignment or elevation of a fixed work embraced within the practice of professional engineering.

California

Board website:

<http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/>

Link to regulation:

http://www.bpelsg.ca.gov/laws/pls_act.pdf

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 15, Article 1

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

Board website:

<http://cdn.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DORA-Reg/CBON/DORA/1251632130538>

Link to regulation:

<http://cdn.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/DORA-Reg/CBON/DORA/1251632143556>

Excerpt from regulation:

12-25-202. Definitions.

(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).
- (c) Professional land surveying may include other types of surveying.

38-51-109.3. Geographic information system positions - professional land surveyor.

(1) A professional land surveyor shall be exempt from the requirements of section 38-51-103 when making a GIS land position determination. A GIS land position made by a professional land surveyor shall have the following limitations: (a) It does not meet the requirements of a land survey as defined in section 38-51-102 (11). TITLE 12, ARTICLE 12, PART 2: SURVEYORS AND RELATED STATUTES Effective July 1, 2013 Page 29 of 37 (b) It shall not establish the location of any aliquot or control corner as they are defined in subsections (2) and (6) of section 38-51-102 until complete research and corner evaluation are performed to meet the requirements as provided in this article.

Connecticut

Board website:

<http://www.ct.gov/dcp/cwp/view.asp?Q=276072>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.cga.ct.gov/2011/pub/chap391.htm>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 391, Section 20-299. Definitions

(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

Board website:

<http://www.dpr.delaware.gov/boards/landsurveyors/>

Link to regulation:

<http://delcode.delaware.gov/title24/c027/sc01/index.shtml>

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 24, Chapter 27, § 2702 Definitions

(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

Board website:

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Consumer-Services/Bureaus-and-Sections2/Professional-Surveyors-and-Mappers>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.freshfromflorida.com/content/download/37770/849642/RevCh472.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 472.005 Definitions

(3) "Surveyor and mapper" includes the term "professional surveyor and mapper" and means a person who is registered to engage in the practice of surveying and mapping under ss. 472.001-472.037. For the purposes of this statute, a surveyor and mapper means a person who determines and displays the facts of size, shape, topography, tidal datum planes, legal or geodetic location or relation, and orientation of improved or unimproved real property through direct measurement or from certifiable measurement through accepted photogrammetric procedures.

(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.

(5) The term "surveyor and mapper intern" includes the term "surveyor-mapper-in-training" and means a person who complies with the requirements provided by ss. 472.001-472.037 and who has passed an examination as provided by rules adopted by the board.

(6) The term "responsible charge" means direct control and personal supervision of surveying and mapping work, but does not include experience as a chainperson, rodperson, instrumentperson, ordinary draftsman, digitizer, scribe, photo lab technician, ordinary stereo plotter operator, aerial photo pilot, photo interpreter, and other positions of routine work.

(7) The term "license" means a registration, certificate, or license issued by the department pursuant to this chapter.

(8) "Photogrammetrist" means any person who engages in the practice of surveying and mapping using aerial or terrestrial photography or other sources of images.

Georgia

Board website:

<http://sos.ga.gov/index.php/?section=licensing>

Link to regulation:

http://sos.georgia.gov/acrobat/PLB/laws/09_Professional_Engineers_and_Land_Surveyors.pdf

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 43, Chapter 15, § 43-15-2. Definitions

(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.

Hawaii

Board website:

<http://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/boards/engineer/>

Link to regulation:

http://cca.hawaii.gov/pvl/files/2013/08/hrs_pvl_464.pdf

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 464, §464-1 Definitions

"Land surveying" means any professional service or work which involves the application of specialized knowledge of the principles of mathematics, the physical and applied sciences, and the act of measuring, locating, establishing, or reestablishing lines, angles, elevations, natural and manmade features on the surface and immediate subsurface of the earth, or on the beds or surface of bodies of water, for the purpose of determining, establishing, describing, displaying, or interpreting the size, shape, topography, elevation datum planes, legal or geodetic location or relocation, or orientation of improved or unimproved real property and appurtenances thereto, including acreage. Land surveying includes but is not limited to:

- (1) Evaluating and determining boundary evidence collected through field surveys, boundary studies, or other means;
- (2) Using the principles of land surveying to:
 - (A) Determine the position for any monument or reference point which marks a property line, boundary corner, right-of-way, easement, or alignment of those lines;
 - (B) Set, reset, recover, or replace any such monument or reference point; or
 - (C) Perform topographical surveys;
- (3) Giving an authoritative reference or interpretation as to the location of a property line, boundary, right-of-way, easement, or any related corner position;
- (4) Creating or modifying record plats for cadastral surveys including consolidation, subdivision, resubdivision, rights-of-way, easements, determination of areas, mathematical closures, and elevations of land parcels;
- (5) Creating or modifying land surveying descriptions of property lines and easements, or editing their content for use in legal instruments that convey real property and property rights;
- (6) Rendering a statement or certification regarding the positional accuracy of land surveying maps, record drawings, field surveys, or measured survey data;
- (7) Creating or modifying the content of electronic data, computerized drawings, or any other survey map relative to the practice of land surveying; or
- (8) Setting, resetting, or replacing initial survey control points, including benchmarks to provide horizontal and vertical data on or in the vicinity of a construction or engineering project to enable any components of the project to be built in compliance with plans and specifications with respect to the project location, orientation, elevation, and relationship to property lines, easements, or right of-way boundaries.

Idaho

Board website:

<http://www.ipels.idaho.gov/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.legislature.idaho.gov/idstat/Title54/T54CH12SECT54-1202.htm>

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 54, Chapter 12, 54-1202. DEFINITIONS

(11) (a) "Professional land surveying" and "practice of professional 29 land surveying" mean responsible charge of authoritative land surveying to determine the correct boundary description, to establish or reestablish land boundaries, to plat lands and subdivisions thereof or to certify elevation information services using sciences such as mathematics, geodesy and photogrammetry and involving:

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

(ii) 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, planning, mapping, assembling and interpreting and gathering measurements and information related to any one (1) or more of the following:

1. Determining by measurement the configuration or contour of the earth's surface or the position of any fixed objects;
2. Performing geodetic surveys to determine the size and shape of the earth or the position of any point on the earth;
3. Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing or retracing property lines or boundaries of any tract of land, road, right-of-way, easement or real property lease;
4. Making any survey for a division or subdivision or a consolidation of any tracts of land;
5. Locating or laying out of alignments, positions or elevations in the field for the construction of fixed works;
6. Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any boundary or nonboundary survey monument or reference point or for establishing or replacing any such monument or reference point;
7. Certifying elevation information;
8. Preparing narrative land descriptions; or
9. Creating, preparing or modifying electronic or other data necessary for the performance of activities in subparagraphs 1. through 8. of this paragraph.

(b) "Professional land surveying" and "practice of professional land surveying" shall not mean:

- (i) Mapping or geographic information system work that is for nonauthoritative boundaries and nonauthoritative elevations;
- (ii) Construction survey work that is unrelated to establishing vertical and horizontal project control; or
- (iii) Construction staking of fixed works or the development and use of electronic models for machine-controlled construction that by design are unrelated to determining boundaries described in paragraph (a)(ii)3. of this subsection.

Illinois

Board website:

<http://www.idfpr.com/profs/info/LandSurv.asp>

Link to regulation:

<http://ilga.gov/legislation/ilcs/ilcs3.asp?ActID=1345&ChapAct=225%26nbsp%3BILCS%26nbsp%3B330%2F&ChapterID=24&ChapterName=PROFESSIONS+AND+OCCUPATIONS&ActName=Illinois+Professional+Land+Surveyor+Act+of+1989%2Ee>

Excerpt from regulation:

(225 ILCS 330/5) (from Ch. 111, par. 3255)

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.)

Indiana

Board website:

<http://www.in.gov/pla/surveyor.htm>

Link to regulation:

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

Excerpt from regulation:

IC 25-21.5-1-7

"Practice of surveying" Sec. 7.

- (a) "Practice of surveying" means providing, or offering to provide, professional services involving:
- (1) the making of geometric measurements of, and gathering related information pertaining to, the physical or legal features of the earth, improvements on the earth, the space above the earth, or any part of the earth; and
 - 2) the use and development of the measurements and information gathered under subdivision (1) into survey products, including graphics, digital data, maps, plats, plans, reports, and descriptions and projects.
- (b) Professional services provided under the practice of surveying include consultation, investigation, testimony evaluation, expert technical testimony, planning, mapping, assembling, and interpreting gathered measurements and information related to any 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) Determining the size and shape of the earth, or any point on the earth, by performing geodetic surveys using angular and linear measurements through spatially oriented spherical geometry.
 - (3) Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any nonboundary related survey control monument or reference point, or setting, resetting, or replacing any nonboundary related monument or reference point.
 - (4) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, laying out, retracing, or marking any property or boundary line or corner of any tract of land or of any right-of-way or easement.
 - (5) Making any survey or preparing any plat for the subdivision of any tract of land.
 - (6) Determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any boundary related survey monument or reference point, or setting, resetting, or replacing any monument or reference point.
 - (7) Preparing a description for any parcel or boundary of land, or for any right-of-way or easement, except when prepared by an attorney who is licensed to practice law in Indiana.
 - (8) Determining the amount of acreage contained in any parcel of land, except when determined by an attorney who is licensed to practice law in Indiana.
 - (9) Performing construction staking or layout of the control for any elements of an engineering, building, or construction project, if the position of an element is:
 - (A) dependent on;
 - (B) in specific relation to; or
 - (C) in close proximity to a boundary or property line or corner, including easements and rights-of-way.
 - (10) For and within subdivisions being designed by a professional 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.

(11) All work incidental to cleaning out, reconstructing, or maintaining existing open and tile drains.

(12) Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data relative to the performance of the activities described in this subsection.

(c) Activities included within the practice of surveying that must be accomplished under the responsible charge of a professional surveyor, unless specifically exempted under subsection (d), include the following:

(1) The creation of maps and geo-referenced data bases representing authoritative locations for boundaries, fixed works, or topography, either by terrestrial surveying methods or by photogrammetric or GNSS locations. This includes maps and georeferenced data bases prepared by any person, firm, or government agency if that data is provided to the public as a survey product.

(2) Original data acquisition, or the resolution of conflicts between multiple data sources, when used for the authoritative location of features within the following data themes:

(A) Geodetic control.

(B) Orthoimagery.

(C) Elevation and bathymetry.

(D) Fixed works.

(E) Government boundaries.

(F) Cadastral information.

(3) Certification of positional accuracy of maps or measured survey data.

(4) Measurement, adjustment, and authoritative interpretation of raw survey data.

(5) 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.

(6) Interpretation of maps, deeds, or other land title documents to resolve conflicting data elements within cadastral documents of record.

(7) Acquisition of field data required to authoritatively position fixed works or cadastral data to geodetic control.

(8) Adjustment or transformation of cadastral data to improve the positional accuracy of the parcel layer or layers with respect to the geodetic control layer within a GIS for purposes of affirming positional accuracy.

(d) A distinction is made in this subsection, in the use of electronic systems, between making or documenting original measurements in the creation of survey products and the copying, interpretation, or representation of those measurements in systems. Further, a distinction is made according to the intent, use, or purpose of measurement products in electronic systems, between the determination of authoritative locations and the use of those products as a locational reference for planning, infrastructure management, and general information.

The following items are not included as activities within the definition of the practice of surveying:

(1) The creation of general maps:

(A) prepared by private firms or government agencies for use as guides to motorists, boaters, aviators, or pedestrians;

(B) prepared for publication in a gazetteer or atlas as an educational tool or reference publication;

(C) prepared for or by educational institutions for use in the curriculum of any course of study;

(D) produced by any electronic or print media firm as an illustrative guide to the geographic location of any event; or

(E) prepared by lay persons for conversational or illustrative purposes, including advertising material and users' guides.

(2) The transcription of previously geo-referenced data into a geographic information system by manual or electronic means, and the maintenance thereof, if the data are clearly not intended to indicate the

authoritative location of property boundaries, the precise definition of the shape or contour of the earth, and the precise location of fixed works of humans.

(3) The transcription of public record data, without modification except for graphical purposes, into geographic information systems-based cadastres, including tax maps, zoning maps, and associated records by manual or electronic means, and the maintenance of that cadastre, if the data are clearly not intended to authoritatively represent property boundaries.

(4) The preparation of any document by any agency of the federal government that does not define real property boundaries, including civilian and military versions of quadrangle topographic maps, military maps, satellite imagery, and other similar documents.

(5) The incorporation or use of documents or data bases prepared by any federal agency into a geographic information system, including federal census and demographic data, quadrangle topographic maps, and military maps.

(6) Inventory maps and data bases created by any organization, in either hard copy or electronic form, of physical features, facilities, or infrastructure that are wholly contained within properties to which the organization has rights or for which the organization has management responsibility. The distribution of these maps and data bases outside the organization must contain appropriate metadata describing, at a minimum, the accuracy, method of compilation, data source or sources, and date or dates, and disclaimers of use clearly indicating that the data are not intended to be used as a survey product.

(7) Maps, cross-sections, graphics, and data bases depicting the distribution of natural resources or phenomena prepared by foresters, geologists, soil scientists, geophysicists, biologists, archeologists, historians, or other persons qualified to document and interpret the data in the context of their respective practices.

(8) Maps and geo-referenced data bases depicting physical features and events prepared by any government agency if the access to that data is restricted by statute, including geo-referenced data generated by law enforcement agencies involving crime statistics and criminal activities.

(e) The use of photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology to perform any part of the practice of surveying as defined in this section may be performed only under the direct control and supervision of a professional surveyor or professional photogrammetrists who maintain a current title of "Certified Photogrammetrist" from a national scientific organization having a process for certifying photogrammetrists.

(f) The practice of surveying encompasses a number of disciplines, including geodetic surveying, hydrographic surveying, cadastral surveying, construction staking, route surveying, photogrammetric surveying, and topographic surveying. A professional surveyor may practice only within the surveyor's area of expertise.

Iowa

Board website:

<https://plb.iowa.gov/board/engineers-land-surveyors>

Link to regulation:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ico/chapter/2014/542B.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

CHAPTER 542B, 542B.2 Terms defined.

10.

a. "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.

5. "Engineering surveys" includes all survey activities required to support the sound conception, planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of engineered projects, but excludes the surveying of real property for the establishment of land boundaries, rights-of-way, easements, and the dependent or independent surveys or resurveys of the public land survey system.

Kansas

Board website:

<https://www.ksbtp.ks.gov/professions/surveyors>

Link to regulation:

<https://www.ksbtp.ks.gov/docs/default-source/rules-and-regs/2014-october-law-book.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

Excerpt from regulation:

Article 70, 74-7003. Definitions

(t) (1) "Professional surveying" or "practice of professional surveying" means providing, or offering to provide, professional surveying services including the following: Common technical services, as defined in subsection (g); using such sciences as mathematics, geodesy and photogrammetry; and involving 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 providing, utilizing or developing the same into survey products such as graphics, data, maps, plans, reports, descriptions or projects. Professional surveying services also include 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) locating, relocating, establishing, re-establishing or retracing property lines or boundaries of any tract of land, road, right-of-way or easement;

(D) preparing the original descriptions of real property for the conveyance of or recording thereof and the preparation of graphics, data, maps, plans, reports, land subdivision plats, descriptions and projects that represent these surveys;

(E) determining, by the use of principles of surveying, the position for any survey monument, whether boundary or non-boundary, or reference point and establishing or replacing any such monument or reference point;

(F) making any survey for the division, subdivision or consolidation of any tract of land;

(G) locating or laying out alignments, positions or elevations where such work is part of the construction of engineering or architectural works; and

(H) creating, preparing or modifying electronic, computerized or other data relative to performance of the activities set forth in subparagraphs (A) through (G). (2) The term "professional surveying" or "practice of professional surveying" shall not include those services specifically identified in the definition of "architecture," "landscape architecture," "professional engineering" and "professional geology" except for those services which are included in the term "common technical services," as defined in subsection (g).

Kentucky

Board website:

<http://kyboels.ky.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.lrc.ky.gov/Statutes/statute.aspx?id=31417>

Excerpt from regulation:

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

Board website:

<http://www.lapels.com/>

Link to regulation:

http://www.lapels.com/docs/Laws_and_Rules/WebLaw_2012.pdf

http://www.lapels.com/docs/Laws_and_Rules/Final_Rule_7-20-14-published.pdf

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 37, Chapter 8, §682. Definitions

(13)(a) "Practice of land surveying" shall include the measuring of areas, land surfaces, streams, bodies of water, and swamps for correct determination and description, for the establishment, reestablishment, ascertainment, or description of land boundaries, corners, divisions, distances, and directions, the plotting and monumenting of lands and subdivisions thereof, and mapping and topographical work

Title 46, Part LXI, §105. Definitions

Practice of Land Surveying—defined in R.S. 37:682. The board recognizes that there exists a close relationship between land surveying and some areas of engineering, with some activities common to both professions; however, survey work related to property boundaries must be performed under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor. Presented below are guidelines which shall be used as an aid in determining the types of surveying services which may be rendered by professional land surveyors or professional engineers.

- a. Surveying and mapping functions which require the establishment of relationships to property ownership boundaries are unique to land surveying and must be performed by or under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor. These functions include:
 - i. boundary surveys;
 - ii. subdivision surveys and plats;
 - iii. public land surveys.
- b. Surveying and mapping functions not unique to land surveying must be performed by or under the responsible charge of a professional land surveyor whenever they require the establishment of the relationship of property ownership boundaries. Those functions include:
 - i. surveys of servitudes (easements) and rights of way;
 - ii. surveys of leases;
 - iii. topographical surveys;
 - iv. surveys for record;
 - v. layout surveys for construction;
 - vi. hydrographic surveys;
 - vii. mine surveys;
 - viii. mapping.
- c. Surveying and mapping functions which do not require the establishment of the relationship of property ownership boundaries must 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;
- xi. horizontal and vertical control surveys;
- xii. quantity and measurement surveys;
- xiii. profiles and cross-sections;
- xiv. site grading plans

Maine

Board website:

<http://maine.gov/pfr/professionallicensing/professions/surveyors/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.mainelegislature.org/legis/statutes/32/title32sec18201.html>

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 32, Chapter 141, §18201. Definitions

4. Land surveying. "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 and 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 is 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.

Maryland

Board website:

<http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/lis/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.dllr.state.md.us/license/law/lslaw.shtml>

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 15, Subchapter 1, Code Ann. § 15-101. Definitions

(k) Practice land surveying. --

(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; and

(vi) in conjunction with the site development or subdivision of land, the preparation and design of plans for the following projects, provided that such preparation and design are in accordance with design manuals, details, and standards accepted by the State or local authority:

1. road and street grades;
2. sediment and erosion control measures;
3. nonpressurized closed storm drainage and stormwater management systems; and
4. open conduit storm drainage and stormwater management systems.

(2) "Practice land surveying" does not include the design, preparation, or specifications for:

(i) community water or wastewater treatment collection or distribution systems;

(ii) community pumping or lift stations; or

(iii) geotechnical or structural design components of sediment control or stormwater management ponds or basins.

Massachusetts

Board website:

<http://www.mass.gov/ocabr/licensee/dpl-boards/en/>

Link to regulation:

<https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleXVI/Chapter112/Section81D>

Excerpt from regulation:

M.G.L. c. 112, § 81D: Definitions.

“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

Board website:

<https://www.michigan.gov/surveyors>

Link to regulation:

[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(5a401ix1uidq02hnm0ewzmdt\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-339-2001](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(5a401ix1uidq02hnm0ewzmdt))/mileg.aspx?page=getObject&objectName=mcl-339-2001)

Excerpt from regulation:

Occupational Code Act 299 of 1980, 339.2001 Definitions.

(f) "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 that 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 that 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 making maps, including topographic and hydrographic mapping.

Minnesota

Board website:

<http://mn.gov/aelslag/>

Link to regulation:

<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/?id=326.02>

Excerpt from regulation:

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

Board website:

<http://www.pepls.state.ms.us/pepls/web.nsf>

Link to regulation:

[http://www.pepls.state.ms.us/pepls/web.nsf/webpageedit/Licensure_Law_PAGE_LL_PAGE_LL/\\$FILE/Law2013Final.doc?OpenElement](http://www.pepls.state.ms.us/pepls/web.nsf/webpageedit/Licensure_Law_PAGE_LL_PAGE_LL/$FILE/Law2013Final.doc?OpenElement)

Excerpt from regulation:

Code of 1972, Title 73, Chapter 13, §73-13-71. Definitions.

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

Board website:

<http://pr.mo.gov/apelsla.asp>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.moga.mo.gov/mostatutes/stathtml/32700002721.html>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 327, Section 327.272.1

327.272. 1. A professional land surveyor shall include any person who practices in Missouri as a professional land surveyor who uses the title of "surveyor" alone or in combination with any other word or words including, but not limited to "registered", "professional" or "land" indicating or implying that the person is or holds himself or herself out to be a professional land surveyor who by word or words, letters, figures, degrees, titles or other descriptions indicates or implies that the person is a professional land surveyor or is willing or able to practice professional land surveying or who renders or offers to render, or holds himself or herself out as willing or able to render, or perform any service or work, the adequate performance of which involves the special knowledge and application of the principles of land surveying, mathematics, the related physical and applied sciences, and the relevant requirements of law, all of which are acquired by education, training, experience and examination, that affect real property rights on, under or above the land and which service or work involves:

- (1) The determination, location, relocation, establishment, reestablishment, layout, or retracing of land boundaries and positions of the United States Public Land Survey System;
- (2) The monumentation of land boundaries, land boundary corners and corners of the United States Public Land Survey System;
- (3) The subdivision of land into smaller tracts and preparation of property descriptions;
- (4) The survey and location of rights-of-way and easements;
- (5) Creating, preparing, or modifying electronic or computerized data relative to the performance of the activities in subdivisions (1) to (3) of this subsection;
- (6) Consultation, investigation, design surveys, evaluation, planning, design and execution of surveys;
- (7) The preparation of any drawings showing the shape, location, dimensions or area of tracts of land;
- (8) Monumentation of geodetic control and the determination of their horizontal and vertical positions;
- (9) Establishment of state plane coordinates;
- (10) Topographic surveys and the determination of the horizontal and vertical location of any physical features on, under or above the land;
- (11) The preparation of plats, maps or other drawings showing elevations and the locations of improvements and the measurement and preparation of drawings showing existing improvements after construction;
- (12) Layout of proposed improvements;
- (13) The determination of azimuths by astronomic observations.

2. None of the specific duties listed in subdivisions (5) to (13) of subsection 1 of this section are exclusive to professional land surveyors unless they affect real property rights. For the purposes of this section, the term "real property rights" means a recordable interest in real estate as it affects the location of land boundary lines.

Montana

Board website:

http://bsd.dli.mt.gov/license/bsd_boards/pel_board/board_page.asp

Link to regulation:

<http://www.mtrules.org/gateway/RuleNo.asp?RN=24%2E183%2E1110>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 24, 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

Board website:

<http://www.sso.nebraska.gov/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.nbels.nebraska.gov/statutes.html>

Excerpt from regulation:

81-8,109. LAND SURVEYING; DEFINITIONS.

4. 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:
5. 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

Board website:

<http://www.nvboe.org/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.leg.state.nv.us/NRS/NRS-625.html#NRS625Sec040>

Excerpt from regulation:

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

Board website:

<http://www.nh.gov/jtboard/lis.htm>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.nh.gov/jtboard/lislaw.htm>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 310-A, Land Surveyors

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

Board website:

<http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/pels/Pages/default.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.njconsumeraffairs.gov/Statutes/professionalengineerslandsurveyorslaw.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

45:8-28. Definitions

(e) The term "practice of land surveying" within the meaning and intent of this chapter shall mean 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, 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 the 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 represent these surveys. The practice of land surveying shall include the establishment and maintenance of the base mapping and related control for land information systems that are developed from the above referenced definition of the practice of land surveying. For purposes of this subsection, "land information systems" means any computer coded spatial database designed for multi-purpose public use developed from or based on property boundaries.

New Mexico

Board website:

<http://www.sblpes.state.nm.us/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.sblpes.state.nm.us/docs/2012%20NM%20Engineering%20and%20Surveying%20Practice%20Act.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

61-23-3. DEFINITIONS

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

Board website:

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

Link to regulation:

<http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/pels/article145.htm>

Excerpt from regulation:

Article 145, §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

Board website:

<http://www.ncbels.org/>

Link to regulation:

<http://law.onecle.com/north-carolina/89c-engineering-and-land-surveying/89c-3.html>

Excerpt from regulation:

North Carolina General Statutes § 89C-3 Definitions

(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

Board website:

<http://www.ndpelsboard.org/>

Link to regulation:

<http://ndpelsboard.org/data/upfiles/media/2012%20Digest%20of%20Laws.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 43-19.1, 43-19.1-02. Definitions.

"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

Board website:

<http://www.peps.ohio.gov/Home.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.peps.ohio.gov/4733/473301.aspx>

Excerpt from regulation:

Ohio R.C. section 4733.01

(G) "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

Board website:

<http://www.ok.gov/pels/>

Link to regulation:

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

Excerpt from regulation:

Section 475.2. Definitions:

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

Board website:

<http://www.oregon.gov/OSBEELS/Pages/index.aspx>

Link to regulation:

https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/lawsstatutes/2013ors672.html

Excerpt from regulation:

672.002 Definitions for ORS 672.002 to 672.325.

(4) "Geodetic survey" means a determination of the size and shape of the earth or the position of any point on the earth.

(7) "Photogrammetric mapping" means an evaluating and measuring of land that is limited to the determination of the topography, area, contours and location of planimetric features, by using photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology, including but not limited to using existing ground control points incidental to the photogrammetric or remote sensing mapping process.

672.005 Additional definitions.

(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.

672.060 Exceptions to application of ORS 672.002 to 672.325.

(ORS 672.002 to 672.325 do not apply to the following)

(13) A person transcribing existing georeferenced data into a Geographic Information System or Land Information System format by manual or electronic means, and the maintenance of that data, if the data are clearly not intended to indicate the authoritative location of property boundaries, the precise shape or contour of the earth or the precise location of fixed works of humans.

(14) A person carrying out activities under ORS 306.125 or 308.245. This exemption applies to the transcription of tax maps, zoning maps and other public data records into Geographic Information System or Land Information System formatted cadastre and the maintenance of those cadastre, if:

(a) The data are not modified for other than graphical purposes; and

(b) The data are clearly not intended to authoritatively represent property boundaries.

(15) A person preparing maps or compiling databases depicting the distribution of natural or cultural resources, features or phenomena, if the maps or data are not intended to indicate the authoritative location of property boundaries, the precise shape or contour of the earth or the precise location of fixed works by humans.

(16) A federal agency or its contractors, in the preparation of military maps, quadrangle topographic maps, satellite imagery or other maps or images that do not define real property boundaries.

(17) A federal agency or its contractors, in the preparation or transcription of documents or databases into a Geographical Information System or Land Information System format, including but not limited to the preparation or transcription of federal census and other demographic data.

Pennsylvania

Board website:

<http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/EngineersLandSurveyorsandGeologists/Pages/default.aspx#.VWXows9VhBc>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.dos.pa.gov/ProfessionalLicensing/BoardsCommissions/EngineersLandSurveyorsandGeologists/Documents/Board%20Documents/Board%20Document%20-%20Law.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

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.

(j) "Engineering Land Surveys" means surveys for:

- (i) the development of any tract of land including the incidental design of related improvements, such as line and grade extension of roads, sewers and grading but not requiring independent engineering judgment: Provided, however, That tract perimeter surveys shall be the function of the Professional Land Surveyor;
- (ii) the determination of the configuration or contour of the earth's surface, or the position of fixed objects thereon or related thereto by means of measuring lines and angles and applying the principles of mathematics, photogrammetry or other measurement methods;
- (iii) geodetic survey, underground survey and hydrographic survey;
- (iv) storm water management surveys and sedimentation and erosion control surveys;
- (v) the determination of the quantities of materials;
- (vi) tests for water percolation in soils; and
- (vii) the preparation of plans and specifications and estimates of proposed work and attendant costs as described in this subsection.

Rhode Island

Board website:

<http://www.bdp.state.ri.us/surveyors/>

Link to regulation:

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

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 8-8-1, § 5-8.1-2 Definitions.

(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

Board website:

<http://www.llr.state.sc.us/pol/engineers/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/t40c022.php>

Excerpt from regulation:

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

Board website:

https://dlr.sd.gov/bdcomm/btp/land_surveyors.aspx

Link to regulation:

<http://legis.sd.gov/statutes/DisplayStatute.aspx?Statute=36-18A-4&Type=Statute>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 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

Board website:

<http://www.tn.gov/regboards/surveyors/index.shtml>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.lexisnexis.com/hottopics/tncode/>

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 62, Chapter 18, Part 1, 62-18-102. Chapter definitions.

(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 monumenting 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

Board website:

<http://txls.texas.gov/>

Link to regulation:

http://txls.state.tx.us/04_act_rules/2009_act.pdf

Excerpt from regulation:

OCCUPATIONS CODE CHAPTER 1071, Sec. 1071.002. DEFINITIONS.

(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

Board website:

http://www.dopl.utah.gov/licensing/engineer_land_surveying.html

Link to regulation:

<http://www.dopl.utah.gov/laws/58-22.pdf>

Excerpt from regulation:

58-22-102. Definitions.

(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

Board website:

<https://www.sec.state.vt.us/professional-regulation/profession/land-surveyors.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<https://www.sec.state.vt.us/media/372065/Adopted-Rules-Effective-January-7-2013.htm>

Excerpt from regulation:

Title 26, Chapter 45, , Subchapter 001: General Provisions, § 2502. Definitions

(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

Board website:

<http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/Boards/APELS/>

Link to regulation:

http://www.dpor.virginia.gov/uploadedFiles/MainSite/Content/Boards/APELS/04REGS_APELS_07_01_11.pdf

Excerpt from regulation:

18VAC10-20-390. Geodetic surveys.

All geodetic surveys, including the determination and publication of horizontal and vertical values utilizing Global Positioning Systems (GPS), which relate to the practice of land surveying as defined in § 54.1-400 of the Code of Virginia, as amended, shall be performed under the direct control and personal supervision of a licensed land surveyor as defined in Part I of these regulations.

18VAC10-20-392. Photogrammetric surveys.

The use of photogrammetric methods or similar remote sensing technology to perform any part of the practice of land surveying as defined in Chapter 4 (§ 54.1-400 et seq.) of Title 54.1 of the Code of Virginia, shall be performed under the direct control and supervision of a licensed land surveyor or a licensed surveyor photogrammetrist.

Title 54.1 - PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS.

§ 54.1-400. Definitions.

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.

54.1-402. Further exemptions from license requirements for architects, professional engineers, and land surveyors.

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."

§ 54.1-408. Practice of land surveying; subdivisions.

In addition to the work defined in § 54.1-400, a land surveyor may, for subdivisions, site plans and plans of development only, prepare plats, plans and profiles for roads, storm drainage systems, sanitary sewer extensions, and water line extensions, and may perform other engineering incidental to such work, but excluding the design of pressure hydraulic, structural, mechanical, and electrical systems. The work included in this section shall involve the use and application of standards prescribed by local or state authorities. The land surveyor shall pass an examination given by the Board in addition to that required for the licensing of land surveyors as defined in § 54.1-400. Any land surveyor previously licensed pursuant to subdivision (3) (b) of former § 54-17.1 may continue to do the work herein described without further examination. Except as provided, nothing contained herein or in the definition of "practice of land surveying" in § 54.1-400 shall be construed to include engineering design and the preparation of plans and specifications for construction.

Washington

Board website:

<http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/engineerslandsurveyors/>

Link to regulation:

<http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=18.43>

Excerpt from regulation:

Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Title 18, Businesses and Professions Section 18, 18.43.020 Definitions.

(9) "Practice of land surveying" means 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.

Board website:

<http://www.pearsonvue.com/dc/engineers/>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.asisvcs.com/publications/pdf/660927.pdf>

<http://www.dcregs.dc.gov/Gateway/RuleHome.aspx?RuleNumber=17-1599>

Excerpt from regulation:

District of Columbia Municipal Regulations, 1599 Definitions

(c) 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.
6. Making any survey for the subdivision of any tract of land.
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

Board website:

<http://www.wvbps.wv.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

Link to regulation:

<http://www.legis.state.wv.us/WVCODe/ChapterEntire.cfm?chap=30&art=13A>

Excerpt from regulation:

ARTICLE 13A. LAND SURVEYORS.

§30-13A-3. Definitions.

(c) "Boundary survey" means a survey, in which property lines and corners of a parcel of land have been established by a survey and a description of survey has been written and a plat has been prepared for the property.

(n) "Hydrographic survey" means a survey that measures and determines the topographic features of water bodies and the adjacent land areas, including the width, depth and course of water bodies and other relative features.

(p) "Land information system (LIS)" means a system of hardware, software and procedures designed to support the capture and management of spatially referenced information.

(x) "Photogrammetry" means the use of aerial photography, other imagery and surveying principles to prepare scaled maps or other survey products reflecting the contours, features and fixed works of the earth's surface.

(y) "Practice of surveying" means providing professional surveying services, including consulting, investigating, expert testimony, evaluating, planning, mapping and surveying.

(ee) "Survey" or "land survey" means to measure a parcel of land and ascertain its boundaries, corners and contents or make any other authoritative measurements.

(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 non boundary 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

Board website:

<http://dsps.wi.gov/LicensesPermitsRegistrations/Credentialing-Division-Home-Page/Business-Professions/Architects-Engineers-Home/Professional-Land-Surveyor/>

Link to regulation:

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/443>

Excerpt from regulation:

Chapter 443, 443.01 Definitions.

(3b) "Geodetic surveying" means surveying to determine the size and shape of the earth or the precise positions of points on the surface of the earth.

(6s) "Practice of professional land surveying" means any of the following:

(a) Any service comprising the establishment or reestablishment of the boundaries of one or more tracts of land or the boundaries of any of the following interests in real property:

1. The rights-of-way of roads or streets.
2. Air or subsurface property rights.
3. Public or private easements.

(b) Designing or coordinating designs for the purpose of platting or subdividing land into smaller tracts.

(c) Placing, replacing, restoring, or perpetuating monuments in or on the ground to evidence the location of a point that is necessary to establish boundaries of one or more tracts of land or the subdivision or consolidation of one or more tracts of land or to describe the boundaries of any interest in real property identified in par. (a).

(d) Preparing maps that depict any interest in real property identified in par. (a) for the purpose of establishing the boundaries of any such interest in real property.

(e) Preparing any of the following:

1. An official map established or amended under s. 62.23 (6), established or amended under the authority of s. 61.35, or adopted under s. 60.61.
 2. An assessor's plat under s. 70.27.
 3. A map or plat of cemetery lands under s. 157.07.
 4. A subdivision plat, certified survey map, or correction instrument under ch. 236.
 5. A condominium plat or correction instrument under ch. 703.
 6. A project and time-share property plat under s. 707.215.
- (f) Performing construction surveying or geodetic surveying in connection with any of the practices specified in pars. (a) to (e).

Wyoming

Board website:

<http://engineersandsurveyors.wyo.gov/home>

Link to regulation:

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/statutes/statutes.aspx?file=titles/Title33/T33CH29.htm>

Excerpt from regulation:

SURVEYORS AND ENGINEERS, Title 33, Chapter 29, 33-29-201. Definitions.

(viii) "Practice of professional land surveying" means performing for others or offering to perform for others "professional services" which involve the application of special knowledge or principles of mathematics and methods of measurement for the determination and preservation of land boundaries and for the determination of land features and forms. An individual performs a "professional service" in the practice of professional land surveying if he:

- (A) As a professional land surveyor, makes geometric measurements and gathers related information pertaining to the physical or legal features of the earth, improvements on the earth and the space above, on or below the earth;
- (B) Teaches, as a professional land surveyor, upper division university level land surveying design subjects;
- (C) Performs professional land surveying research as a professional land surveyor;
- (D) As a professional land surveyor, creates work product relating to land surveying such as graphics, data, maps, plans, reports and descriptions;
- (E) Represents himself to be a professional land surveyor by sign, advertisement, letterhead, card, verbal claim or any other way;
- (F) Testifies as an expert in professional land surveying; or
- (G) Holds himself out as able to perform or does perform, as a professional land surveyor, any similar service defined by board rule as professional land surveying.