



Civil Engineering Certification

Rule #6

Diplomate Categories

Approved by the CEC Board of Direction: 01 August 2022

Rule applicability: Post-licensure Diplomate Certifications

The CEC Academies administer specialty board certification in their respective specialty areas. These credentials are merit-based according to the achievement of objective requirements specified in CEC rules and Academy operating procedures and apply to practicing professionals. Recertification requirements apply to all Diplomate credentials.

Honorary and Distinguished

As of the approval date of this rule, the Academies designate “Honorary” and “Distinguished” Diplomates inconsistently between Academies and do not necessarily satisfy the basic requirements as a Diplomate. To achieve consistency in messaging regarding the significance of the Diplomate credential, the categories of Honorary and Distinguished will no longer be designated as a distinct category of Diplomate. (Existing Honorary and Distinguished Diplomates will be unaffected by this Rule.)

The Academies may, however, create a set of awards that honors contributions to CEC, the Academies, and/or the profession. However, all Diplomates must meet the minimum requirements set forth by CEC and the relevant Academy and must meet all recertification requirements.

Retired Diplomates

“Retired Diplomate” is not a category of Diplomate. Diplomates who no longer wish to maintain their Diplomate board certification may request retired status. Retired Diplomates will be listed as “Diplomates (ret.)” and can use the designation D.XY (ret.), where “XY” represents the applicable specialty. However, they cannot represent that they are board certified as they no longer fulfill the recertification requirements (see Rule 2). Similarly, if one no longer satisfies the requirements of their PE license, they can no longer represent themselves as a PE. PE and board certified status does not relate to employment status; it relates to being current with licensure and board certification requirements, respectively.

Retired Diplomates can serve on CEC and Academy Boards and Committees and continue to receive information about CEC and the Academies.

A Retired Diplomate may apply for reinstatement by completing the current requirements for recertification.