

REGISTRATION OF ENGINEERS AND PROVISION OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN KENYA

The Engineers Board of Kenya is established under Section 3 of the Engineers Act No. 43 of 2011. The Board has the overall mandate of developing and regulating engineering practice in Kenya. The Act has further been elaborated by the Engineers Rules 2019 (the Rules) which were gazetted on 5th April, 2019.

The development and regulation of engineering practice is considered a key enabler to the achievement of the Country's Vision 2030 development blueprint and the Big 4 Agenda of the Government of Kenya. The regulation of engineering professional services is meant to provide assurance to the public that the provider of the engineering service has been adequately trained, is knowledgeable in the subject matter, and has been assessed to have capacity and maturity to take full personal responsibility for their acts of commission or omission.

The Engineers Act 2011 requires persons seeking to provide engineering professional services to be duly registered and licensed by the Engineers Board of Kenya. The Act further states that it is an offence to engage persons or entities (firms) to offer engineering professional services if not registered by the Board. This applies to both local and foreign persons and entities.

This notice serves to inform the public of the requirements for registration of engineers and engineering consulting firms, and advice Clients that they should seek or clarify registration status of individuals and Firms from EBK before engagement. EBK is inviting eligible Engineers to seek registration in appropriate categories as part of the implementation of the Rules.

REGISTRATION CATEGORIES

1. Graduate Engineers

A person seeking to be registered as a Graduate Engineer should be a citizen or permanent resident of Kenya holding a degree from a University recognized by the Board. Graduate Engineers offer their services under the guidance of Professional or Consulting Engineers. The mentorship helps nurture the Graduate Engineer and provides an opportunity for the acquisition of relevant skills and development of professional competencies. Typically, the Graduate Engineer will get guidance in engineering design, general management, contract management, supervision of works, operations and maintenance and leadership skills for a proficient and ethical practice.

The Board is encouraging eligible graduates to seek registration as soon as they complete their undergraduate studies. The registration as Graduate Engineers will enable the Board plan appropriately for structured trainings and engagements and will form the basis for acceptable training as provided for under the Rules.

To register as a Graduate Engineer, applicant should create an online account on EBK's Engineer Portal, update their profile and submit their applications by visiting our website (www.ebk.or.ke)

2. Professional Engineers

Professional Engineers are licensed to provide Professional Engineering services and therefore have the legal capacity to submit engineering plans, drawings, schemes, proposals, reports, designs and studies to relevant Authorities in Kenya.

The Professional Engineers are registered upon acquiring at least three (3) years' experience as Graduate Engineers and successfully passing a professional examination conducted by the Board. Professional Engineers are also expected to be Corporate members of the Institution of Engineers of Kenya. (IEK).

The Professional Engineer in Kenya is guided by the Code of Ethics as provided for under Sixth Schedule of the Rules as well as engineering practicing manuals issued by the Board.

The Board is encouraging Graduate Engineers to submit their applications for registration as professional engineers with the following considerations;

- Graduate Engineers who have at least three (3) years' experience are eligible to sit for the examinations. For clarity, those who may have been registered prior to the Gazettement of the Rules in July 2019 and have at least three years' experience (not necessarily as graduate engineers) are allowed to apply to sit for the professional examination;
- Submission of applications and professional interview documents may be done online. Applicants should create an online account on EBK's Engineer Portal, update their profile and submit their applications by visiting our website (www.ebk.or.ke)
- Applicants who are already Corporate members of the Institution of Engineers of Kenya will sit for the professional interview but will be exempted from the written examinations. They are therefore required to submit their applications and their professional interview documents with the Board through their Portals.

3. Consulting Engineers

Consulting Engineers are registered upon attainment of not less than five (5) years as professional engineers and achieving acceptable standards of competence to practice in an area of particular specialization.

Consulting Engineers have the legal capacity to establish Engineering Consulting Firms as sole proprietors or with other engineers and/ or persons as provided under the Rules.

4. Engineering Consulting Firms

The Board is also mandated to register and regulate Engineering Consulting Firms. For a firm to be registered it should be incorporated in Kenya and at least one shareholder should be a Consulting Engineer. This applies to both Local and Foreign Firms. Further details and requirements are as per Section 5 of the Rules and can be obtained from our website. Engineers are reminded that it is illegal to operate Engineering Consulting Firms which are not registered by the Board and may cause their removal from the Register under Section 29 of the Act. Only firms registered by the Board may provide engineering professional services in the Country.

5. Temporary (Foreign) Engineers

Foreign persons seeking to offer specific engineering professional services in Kenya are required to be registered by the Board. Foreign persons are eligible for registration on the following grounds:

- The clients engaging them must demonstrate that the services of the foreign engineer are critical to the specific project and that local citizen engineers are not available to offer the services;
- They must be duly registered as Professional Engineers and validly licensed to offer services in their Country of origin;
- They are only registered for specific works and for defined durations.

Clients intending to engage foreign persons to provide professional engineering services in Kenya are advised to ensure that the proposed foreigners are registered by the Board before coming to Kenya.

6. Accredited Checkers

This category of engineers are peer reviewers and have the capacity to review the works of other professional and consulting engineers with respect to adequacy and safety considerations of the works. The eligible persons must be consulting engineers with at least fifteen (15) years relevant and proven experience in design and construction management specific to the work to be checked.

With the enactment of the Rules the Board is now receiving applications from qualified engineers for registration as Accredited Checkers and is inviting suitably qualified persons to submit their applications.

ANNUAL PRACTICING LICENCE

The Board issues annual Practising Licence to Professional and Consulting Engineers who are in good standing. A person shall not engage in the practice of engineering unless that person has been issued with a licence and has complied with all the requirements. Engineers are reminded that it is an offence to operate without the Practising licence.

CALL FOR ENGINEERS TO SUBMIT DETAILS FOR THE ENGINEERS IDENTIFICATION CARD

To facilitate ease of identification of Professional and Consulting Engineers to the Public, the Board will commence issuance of the Engineers Identification Cards as prescribed under the Rules.

The Board requests the engineers who have not submitted the requested information, including their passport size photos, to do so by **31st May 2020**. This will enable the Board issue the cards to all licensed engineers from the month of June 2020. Submission should be done by visiting our website (www.ebk.or.ke).