

Practical Experience FAQ

For Board consideration/approval – following content could be published on in a communique / on BOSSI website / additional page on practical experience form

Candidate Surveyor - Practical Experience

The following commonly asked questions and answers are provided to assist candidate surveyors understand the BOSSI Determination on Board Examinations:

https://www.bossi.nsw.gov.au/publications/determinations_policies

Can I submit practical experience obtained prior to being registered as a NSW candidate surveyor?

Answer: “At the time of application to become a candidate, a candidate can supply evidence of practical experience for the preceding 12-month period.” “Recognised practical experience for the purposes of Board examination eligibility is practical experience in surveying obtained under the supervision of a NSW (or ACT) registered surveyor...”

Example: Hannah’s effective date of registration as a candidate surveyor is 10/11/2020, which is shown on the letter she received from the Board confirming her registration. Hannah can submit practical experience obtained under the supervision of a NSW registered surveyor in the period 10/11/2019 to 10/11/2020. Hannah cannot submit practical experience prior to 10/11/2019. Hannah cannot submit practical experience obtained under the supervision of a surveyor who is not a NSW registered surveyor.

Can I submit practical experience if I have not paid my annual license fee? Can I backdate payment of annual fees so I can claim practical experience over the back-dated period?

Answer: To claim practical experience, a candidate surveyor must first be financial. In addition, “Practical experience will only be recognised by the Board for a period in which the candidate is financial”.

Example: Liang paid his 2019/2020 annual license fee of \$101, however he forgot to pay his 2020/2021 annual license fee of \$103. Liang submits practical experience for 06/01/2020 – 05/09/2020.

To have practical experience recognised by the Board, Liang will first need to become financial by paying the candidate license renewal fee of \$103. If Liang pays \$103 on 12/09/2020 he can then:

- submit practical experience for 06/01/2020 to 30/06/2020. He cannot claim the period 01/07/2020 to 05/09/2020 because the Board does not back-date recognition of late fees.
- start working towards his next Practical Experience Obtained submission which will have a starting date of 12/09/2020.

Candidates who pay annual license renewal fees by the due date will avoid Liang’s situation of being ineligible to submit practical experience for the period of time they are unfinancial.

How long is practical experience valid?

Answer: Practical experience expires after five years. Section 5 of the Surveying and Spatial Information Regulation 2017 (<https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/si-2017-0486#sec.5>) defines *recognised practical experience* in relation to an applicant for registration as experience *during the 5-year period immediately preceding the application*. The Board’s long standing practice has been to apply the same definition to candidate surveyors seeking to undertake examinations.

Example: Carlo’s most recent practical experience submission to BOSSI was 28 weeks for the period ended 15/01/2016. As the practical experience expired on 15/01/2021, Carlo will not be able to count the 28 weeks in meeting examination enrolment requirements.