

PROMOTING THE PROFESSION

## Our Mission

Our Mission is to encourage more individuals to take and pass the Fundamentals of Engineering and the Professional Engineering examinations each year. To accomplish that mission, the VSPE Educational Fund will offer a certain number of scholarships to members of VSPE who have successfully passed the exams and submit an application for reimbursement of their examination fees.



## Why Get Licensed?

*Simply put, P.E. licensure is the mark of a Professional.*

Just as a CPA defines the accountant, and the bar license defines the lawyer, the Professional Engineer (P.E.) credential tells the public that you have mastered the critical elements of your profession. It demonstrates your commitment to the highest standards of engineering practice. It's also proof of your ability to offer engineering services directly to the public— something **ONLY** a licensed P.E. can do.

If you're a student or recent college graduate, starting on the path to licensure is one of the most important decisions you'll ever make. The P.E. after your name is an advantage that will open doors for the rest of your career.

The VSPE Educational Fund was developed by the Board of Directors of the VSPE in 1984 to meet their growing concerns over mathematical literacy and the future of engineering in the Commonwealth.

The Fund helps promote these goals through this scholarship program.

To help accomplish this objective, the Fund will be issuing "**EIT and PE Professional Accomplishment Scholarships**" to individuals who successfully pass the VA Fundamentals of Engineering Exam (FE), the exam to become an Engineer-in-Training (EIT) and the first step on the road to becoming a Professional Engineer (PE), or the Professional Engineering Exam (PE). Multiple awards will be provided to eligible members in the form of a scholarship to reimburse them for their examination fees.

The Fund strives to achieve one of its goals by administering the EIT and PE Professional Accomplishment Scholarships. It enables the VSPE Educational Fund to target funds to members who are serious about pursuing a career in engineering and need the additional financial assistance to accomplish their goal of being a Professional Engineer.

## Think About The Future—Are You Prepared?



*Obtaining your P.E. license could be the key to your future.*

***Only one “insurance policy” will prepare you for this new and ever-changing workplace – your engineering license.***

Your status as a licensed Professional Engineer will provide you with a maximum level of professional flexibility.

By demonstrating the required education and experience and successfully completing the required examinations and becoming licensed, you will be able to perform the broad scope of engineering services within your competence as defined under Virginia state law.

***As an engineer, you must adapt to a rapidly changing workplace.***

Just consider: You could be faced with restructuring, downsizing, outsourcing, privatization, and reengineering.

### ***Are you prepared to confront these challenges and turn them into opportunities?***

Numerous studies have shown that the “employment for life” era is a thing of the past. Most people have as many as a dozen jobs of varying duration. Professionals such as engineers will need to position themselves to adapt if they are to prosper in this ever-changing environment.

## Did You Know That:

It is unlawful for anyone to practice or offer to practice civil, electrical or mechanical engineering or to represent himself or herself as or use the title of “Civil”, “Electrical”, or “Mechanical” engineer without being licensed. It is also unlawful for anyone other than a Professional Engineer registered by the Board of Architects, Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, Certified Interior Designers and Landscape Architects

(APELSCIDLA) to use the titles of “Professional Engineer”, “Registered Engineer,” or “Consulting Engineer”. Only a Professional Engineer (P.E.) can offer engineering services directly to the public. By obtaining your professional engineer’s license, you will become more promotable and enjoy higher wages, earn a higher level of respect and credibility as well as the opportunity for a more diverse career.

## 5 Great Reasons to Get Licensed

- 1 Career Development:** Employers are impressed with engineers who have their P.E. Licensure not only enhances your stature, it shows commitment to the profession and demonstrates heightened leadership and management skills. Licensure is also a necessity for rising to increased levels of authority and responsibility.
- 2 Money:** Studies have shown that most P.E.’s earn higher pay throughout their business careers. Having your P.E. allows expanded opportunities beyond a company structure—as an independent consultant for example.
- 3 Prestige:** P.E.’s are respected by the public and are seen in the same light as licensed professionals in other fields. P.E.’s are also held in high esteem by their peers within the engineering community who’s the P.E. as part of an elite group.
- 4 Authority:** Only P.E.’s can sign and seal engineering drawings, only P.E.’s can be in responsible charge of a firm in private practice, and, in general, to serve as a fully qualified expert witness. Also, many government agencies and educational institutions are emphasizing licensure among their engineers as well.
- 5 Flexibility:** Having a P.E. opens up your career options. You can become a specialist, or establish your own business. It also protects you during industry downsizing or outsourcing. The P.E. license allows you to go as far as your initiative and talent will take you.

## Your Future

Do you really know what tomorrow will bring?

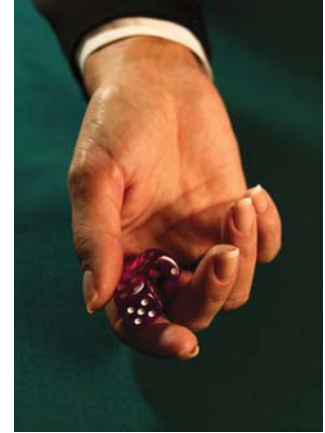
Are you willing to gamble?

The stakes – your career – are extremely high, and are getting higher.

Maybe your forecast looks bright today.  
Will it always be?  
You can't predict. No one can.

**But you can prepare.**

***You can reduce your risks.***



## Procedure/Policy for Scholarships

The VSPE Educational Fund will collect applications for each Virginia EIT and PE examination through the end of the month immediately preceding the exam (see deadlines below). At that time, the VSPE Scholarship Committee will make a determination of the number of scholarships for that upcoming examination. The VSPE Educational Fund will then distribute the scholarships to members of the Virginia Society of Professional Engineers (VSPE), based on the date the application was received. Not a member? Join online at [www.nspe.org](http://www.nspe.org) or download an application from [www.vspe.org](http://www.vspe.org), Membership Tab.

EIT Deadlines: Dec 31 for Jan/Feb exam; Mar 31 for Apr/May exam; Jun 30 for Jul/Aug exam; Sep 30 for Oct/Nov exam

PE Deadlines: Mar 31 for Apr exam; Sep 30 for Oct exam

Please submit your scholarship applications to: VSPE Educational Fund, 5301 Creek Heights Dr, Midlothian, VA 23112 or via email to [Info@VSPE.org](mailto:Info@VSPE.org).

Questions? Contact Leigh Dicks, VSPE Executive Director, 804-364-0505.

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***“Only a Professional Engineer  
can offer engineering services  
directly to the public.”***

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### **VSPE Educational Fund, Inc.**

5301 Creek Heights Drive, Midlothian, VA 23112-6224

Phone: 804-364-0505

Fax: 804-364-0606

Email: [Info@vspe.org](mailto:Info@vspe.org)

## APPLICATION—EIT / PE Professional Accomplishment Scholarship

I am taking the FE Exam  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I am taking the PE Exam    Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a VSPE member                      Membership Number: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

EMPLOYER (If a P.E.): \_\_\_\_\_

UNIVERSITY (If an EIT): \_\_\_\_\_

DEGREE TYPE: \_\_\_\_\_

DEGREE PROGRAM: \_\_\_\_\_

GRADUATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Male / Female              Ethnicity: \_\_\_\_\_

Who paid for your fee to take the exam? \_\_\_\_\_

If chosen to receive a scholarship, a cancelled check or a copy of the paid receipt will be required in order to reimburse the correct person and/or company employer. A copy of your notification stating that you passed the examination will also be required.

YOUR REASONS FOR TAKING THE EIT/PE EXAM:

**Mail/email this application and the notification to:**

VSPE Educational Fund, 5301 Creek Heights Dr, Midlothian, VA 23112-6224; info@vspe.org

Questions: Leigh Dicks, CAE, VSPE Executive Director at 804-364-0505.