



**State of Vermont
Office of the Secretary of State**

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Guidance on Consideration of a Master's Degree in Engineering as Progressive Engineering Experience

Question

"A master's degree in engineering may be counted as one year of experience" for individuals applying under 26 V.S.A. § 1182a(b)(1), which calls for an ABET bachelor's in engineering & 4 years progressive engineering experience. 26 V.S.A. § 1182a(b)(1)(C).

May an ABET-bachelor's applicant possessing a master's in engineering combine experience-equivalence from the degree with real experience, thereby claiming more than one year of experience in less than one chronological year?

Answer

No. Under 26 V.S.A. § 1182a(b)(1)&(2), a master's degree in engineering may stand as either:

1. one year of progressive engineering experience under 26 V.S.A. § 1182a(b)(1), or
2. the qualifying degree under 26 V.S.A. § 1182a(b)(2).

Applicants for a professional engineering licensure under § 1182a(b)(1) (ABET-bachelor's path) may not concurrently earn experience-equivalent credit and real experience credit. In other words, no person may qualify for a professional engineering license under § 1182a(b)(1) earlier than four chronological years from baccalaureate graduation.

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