Overview

The University has been given a Federal mandate that requires us to inform all current and future students how their degree fulfills educational requirements for licensure here in Florida and in other states. Licensure is predominately for jobs, but the need for licensure varies across engineering disciplines. If you are a Civil or Environmental Engineering student, it is much more common for you to sit for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam, the first step to becoming a licensed Professional Engineer (PE), because working in these fields after graduation typically expect you to progress toward a PE license. In contrast, most Bioengineering and Software Engineering students will not sit for the FE exam or pursue a PE license because it is not expected for the majority of jobs in those disciplines. Below is additional information based on each major in the U.A. Whitaker College of Engineering.

Civil Engineering

The Civil Engineering (CE) program here at FGCU is accredited by ABET. Earning this degree meets the education requirements to sit for the FE exam, the first step to becoming a licensed Professional Engineer (PE). The FE is a national exam that is typically taken during your senior year. Passing the FE and earning your CE degree will allow you to apply for an Engineering Intern (EI) license in any state in the US. Your EI license, professional experience, and sitting for the PE exam are required to become a licensed PE (typically 4 years or more after graduation). We encourage students to sit for the FE exam during their senior year, as it can help you obtain a civil engineering position after graduation. You’ll find that we discuss the FE exam, as well as licensure, in several classes in the curriculum to help you prepare for the exam. If you have additional questions, please contact the department chair for Civil Engineering, Dr. Tanya Kunberger at tkunberg@fgcu.edu.

Environmental Engineering

The Environmental Engineering (EnvE) program here at FGCU is accredited by ABET. Earning an EnvE degree meets the education requirements to sit for the FE exam, the first step to becoming a licensed Professional Engineer (PE). The FE is a national exam that is typically taken during your senior year. Passing the FE and earning your EnvE degree will allow you to apply for an EI license in any state in the US. Your Engineering Intern (EI) license, professional experience, and sitting for the PE exam are required to become a licensed PE (typically 4 years or more after graduation). We encourage students to sit for the FE exam during their senior year, as it can help you obtain an environmental engineering position after graduation. You’ll find that we discuss the FE exam, as well as licensure, in several classes in the curriculum to help you prepare for the exam. If you have additional questions, please contact the program director for Environmental Engineering, Dr. Sim Komisar at skomisar@fgcu.edu.
Bioengineering

The B.S. Bioengineering program at FGCU is accredited by ABET and meets the education requirements to sit for the nationwide FE exam, which is the first step toward becoming a licensed Professional Engineer (PE). The email you received is referring to professional engineering licensure, which some Bioengineering students will seek, but is not required for a vast majority of positions in our field. If you plan to seek employment or apply to graduate schools outside of Florida, the topical coverage of our program is consistent with national standards and trends within the Bioengineering field. While admission to a specific graduate program or the requirements for a specific job may differ from the topics we cover in our curriculum, companies and universities both inside and outside the state of Florida will fully recognize our B.S. Bioengineering degree. If you have additional questions, please contact the department chair for Bioengineering, Dr. Chris Geiger at cgeiger@fgcu.edu.

Software Engineering

Licensure is not required for software engineering positions in the field. If one desires to become a licensed Professional Engineer (PE), the first step is the FE exam. The Software Engineering program is accredited by ABET and meets the education requirements to take this exam. If you have additional questions, please contact the chair for Software Engineering, Dr. Huzefa Kagdi, at hkagdi@fgcu.edu.