

GENERAL INFORMATION
LICENSED STATE LAND SURVEYORS EXAMINATION

1. An Applicant for a license as a Licensed State Land Surveyor may expect to be questioned about any or all of the following subjects on the written examination. However, the examination will not necessarily be limited to the items covered here.
2. Every applicant for license as a Licensed State Land Surveyor is furnished with The Professional Land Surveying Practices Act, Article 5282c, V.A.C.S. You should review current land laws found in Volume 15A Vernon's Annotated Civil Statutes and the 2 volume set of the Texas Natural Resources Code. Your attention is specifically directed to the Articles repealed and those expressly saved from repeal in Volume 15A and to the recodified statutes as found in the Natural Resources Code. You should also review the purpose of the Professional Land Surveying Practices Act and the authority, duties, obligations, etc. of a Licensed State Land Surveyor.
3. It is imperative that you know the history, functions and contents of the General Land Office and their importance to a surveyor. With your application you will be required to submit a working sketch, prepared by you, of an area of your choice, preferably in your own county, embracing several surveys and including the work of at least three original locating surveyors. This sketch must show the complete results of all of the record investigation you make, not only at the General Land Office but at other sources also. The sketch must be accompanied by a preliminary report of your findings. The sketch and report (and supporting papers if necessary) must show the source of all of the information you would assemble prior to going to the field to make a survey for vacancy or excess. **YOUR SKETCH WILL NOT CONSTITUTE A PART OF YOUR EXAMINATION BUT MUST BE COMPLETED TO THE BOARD'S SATISFACTION PRIOR TO YOUR BEING ADMITTED TO THE EXAM.**
4. The following is a suggested short list of land boundary suits you should read. There are many, many others (some attorneys will tell you where the "Reporters" can be found in your community). Their cases deal with the relative dignity of field note call and other surveying matters.

30 Texas Reporter, Page 257
51 Texas Reporter, Page 331
57 Texas Reporter, Page 621
62 Texas Reporter, Page 582

70 Texas Reporter, Page 704
79 Texas Reporter, Page 279
80 Texas Reporter, Page 627
99 S.W. Reporter, Page 1040

Turner v. Smith 61 S.W. (2d) 792
State v. Post 169 S.W. 401
State v. Sullivan 92 S.W. (2d) 228

Standefer v. Vaughn 219 S.W. 484
Miller v. Yates 61 S.W. (2) 767
Holmes v. Yates 61 S.W. (2) 771

Additional recommended study material includes the 4 volume set of Lange on Texas Land Titles and the first 3 bound volumes of the Texas Surveyors Association Short Course reports with special emphasis on papers presented by GLO officials and land title attorneys.

5. You should make an appointment with the Director of Surveying of the General Land Office for a study session at that office prior to commencing your working sketch. At least one member of the LSLS Committee will be present. These sessions are designed to orient the examinee with the history, function and contents of the General Land Office and to answer questions regarding the duties and functions of a Licensed State Land Surveyor.
6. The examination will also cover the theory of surveying, practical surveying, theory and use of surveyor's instruments, necessary calculation (including state plane coordinates) preparation of field notes, and the precedents set up by the courts for surveyors to follow in retracing or re-establishing the lines of surveys.
7. The morning part of the exam is closed book, the afternoon part of the exam is open book. You should bring pencils, paper, a calculator and at least two small triangles.
8. The examination is given semiannually.