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# Washington

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**Registration Status:** Practice Act

Effective Date: July 1, 2001

Exemptions: Geologic work performed by subordinates of a geologist; federal employees; exploration of energy and mineral resources; geological research; teaching; the practice of engineering or other licensed profession; general scientific work; the giving of testimony or preparation and preservation of exhibits or documents for judicial purposes.

ASBOG® Membership: Member Board

Update: Regulation of geologists took effect July 1, 2001. An application form for licensure can be downloaded from the Washington State Geologist Web site at <http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/>.

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## State Contact:

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	P. O. Box 9012	Web site:	<a href="http://www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/">www.dol.wa.gov/business/geologist/</a>
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**Board Composition:** Seven members: One public, five geologists, one *ex-officio* (State Geologist)

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## Requirements:

Education: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a degree in geology, engineering geology, hydrogeology or one of the related geological sciences, or educational equivalents, AND successful completion of a minimum of 24 semester/36 quarter hours or their equivalent of course work in geological science. This includes 14 semester/21 quarter hours of unduplicated credits from the board's core content list, which is comprised of courses covering physical geology, historical geology, structural geology, mineralogy/petrology, and sedimentary geology/stratigraphy.

Experience: Five years of documented and verifiable professional geological practice or, if applying for a speciality, five (5) years of speciality practice satisfactory to the Board, after receipt of a Bachelors degree. The experience must include: (a) at least three (3) years of geological experience under the supervision of state-licensed geologists or specialty geologists or others who, in the opinion of the Board, are qualified to have responsible charge; (b) up to two years' credit for full-time graduate study in geology, engineering geology, hydrogeology or one of the related geological sciences approved by the board; and (c) if applying for two (2) specialities, at least five (5) years or 8,000 hours of experience in each speciality, for a total of ten (10) years or 16,000 hours experience.

Examination: ASBOG® for geologists. Title of "Geologist-in-Training" after successful completion of the Fundamentals of Geology Examination. State-specific specialty examinations for engineering geologist and hydrogeologist.

First ASBOG® Exam: October 2002

Continuing Education: N/A

Grandfathering: Phase 1: Began July 1, 2001, ended June 30, 2002.  
Phase 2: Began May 14, 2003, ended June 30, 2003.

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**Cooperative Licensure - (Comity/Reciprocity):** Must meet Washington requirements.

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**Registrant Count:** Licensed Geologists – 2,264 (active)  
Licensed Hydrogeologists - 809 (active)  
Licensed Engineering Geologists - 502 (active)

**Information Updated:** October 10, 2016

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