

481—1054.1(542B,272C) Peer review. The board may appoint a peer reviewer, or multiple peer reviewers, for the investigation of a complaint about the acts or omissions of one or more licensees.

1054.1(1) *Peer review.* Peer reviewers are generally licensed engineers or licensed land surveyors or both, as determined by the board, who are selected for their knowledge and experience in the type of engineering or land surveying involved in the complaint.

An individual is ineligible as a peer reviewer in accordance with the standard for disqualification found at 481—subrule 506.10(1). If a peer reviewer is unable to serve after an investigation has begun, the peer reviewer will notify the board office.

1054.1(2) *Authority.* The peer reviewer's investigation may include activities such as interviewing the complainant, the respondent, individuals with knowledge of the alleged violation, and individuals with knowledge of the respondent's practice in the community; gathering documents; conducting site visits; and performing independent analyses as deemed necessary. Although the board does not become involved in a complaint investigation, the board may give specific instructions to the peer reviewer regarding the scope of the investigation. In the course of the investigation, the peer reviewer will refrain from advising the complainant or respondent on actions that the board might take.

1054.1(3) *Term of service.* The peer reviewer serves at the pleasure of the board. The board may dismiss any peer reviewer or add new peer reviewers at any time.

1054.1(4) *Compensation.* The terms of payment as authorized by the peer review agreement may vary based on the nature and complexity of each assignment. The peer reviewer will be additionally entitled to reimbursement of expenses directly related to the peer review process, deposition or hearing preparation, or deposition or hearing testimony, such as mileage, meals, or out-of-pocket charges for securing copies of documents. Expenses will be reimbursed as allowed under the manuals and guidelines published by the Iowa department of administrative services, state accounting enterprise. The peer reviewer cannot hire legal counsel, investigators, secretarial help or any other assistance without written authorization from the board.

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