

193C—10.1(542B,272C) Peer review committee (PRC). The board may appoint a peer review committee for the investigation of a complaint about the acts or omissions of one or more licensees.

10.1(1) PRC membership. A PRC shall generally consist of three or more 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. The board may appoint a two-member PRC or a single peer review consultant to perform the function of a PRC when, in the board's opinion, appointing a committee with three or more members would be impractical, unnecessary or undesirable given the nature of the expertise required, the need for prompt action or the circumstances of the complaint.

An individual shall be ineligible for membership on a PRC in accordance with the standard for disqualification found at 193 IAC 7.14(1). If a PRC member is unable to serve after an investigation has begun, the PRC member must notify the board office.

10.1(2) Authority. The PRC'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 PRC regarding the scope of the investigation. In the course of the investigation, PRC members shall refrain from advising the complainant or respondent on actions that the board might take.

10.1(3) Term of service. The PRC serves at the pleasure of the board. The board may dismiss any or all members of a PRC or add new members at any time.

10.1(4) Compensation. The terms of payment as authorized by the peer review agreement may vary based on the nature and complexity of each assignment and whether the peer reviewer will act as a single peer reviewer or as part of a peer review committee. The peer reviewer shall 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 PRC shall not hire legal counsel, investigators, secretarial help or any other assistance without written authorization from the board.