



S.D. Mator

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March 2017

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MEETING AT A GLANCE

DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017

TIME: 5:15 PM—Registration
6:00 PM—Announcements
6:15 PM—Dinner Service Begins
7:00 PM—Program Begins

IN-HOUSE TALK:

**ETHICS, RELATIONSHIPS, AND POLITICS—
HOW THEY RELATE IN THE CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY TODAY**

David Luhm – Alpha Mechanical

PROGRAM:

**UP IN SMOKE: WHAT MARIJUANA LEGISLATION
MEANS FOR CONSTRUCTION EMPLOYERS**

PRINCIPAL SPEAKER:

Danielle Moore, J.D. - Partner
Fisher & Phillips LLP

DINNER LOCATION:

Riverwalk Golf Club
1150 Fashion Valley Road, San Diego
(Mission Valley on north side of I-8 between
Hotel Circle North and Friars Road)

**COST: Members & Guests – \$40/person
Students (discount) – \$25/person**

*Cancellations must be received by NOON on Monday,
March 20th or no shows will be billed accordingly.*

RSVP:  <http://evite.me/w7pS1pPsyA>

—OR: Paul Chang – Sundt Construction
619.321.4822 aspechapter4@outlook.com

Up in Smoke: What Marijuana Legislation Means for Construction Employers

Last November, the State of California passed the somewhat controversial Proposition 64, Adult Use of Marijuana Act, (56.4% in favor) which calls for the legalization of marijuana. Beginning in January 2018, adults 21 and older will be able to use, possess, or transport up to 1 ounce of flowers or 8 grams of concentrate for non-medical purposes and grow up to six plants on their property. Smoking “pot” will be permitted in private homes or at businesses licensed for onsite consumption; medical marijuana usage was previously legalized in 1996.

Other provisions address regulation, licensing, and taxation of legalized use (15% excise tax), including reducing criminal penalties for specified

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From Our President

by *Michael Moyers, CPE*

At our February Meeting, we welcomed Beth Brummitt with Brummitt Energy Associates. She gave an outstanding presentation titled “How Do We Achieve Net Zero Energy.” It was also a very well attended meeting as we had over 30 in attendance.



Michael Moyers, CPE

As we are holding Elections for the upcoming fiscal year in April, the Election Committee is starting to put together the Ballot Slate. If you are interested in serving the Chapter or have that Burning Desire to be part of the Chapter Board, please contact myself or Frank Young:

Mike: (858) 737-7316 (e-mail – michael.moyers@bestinteriors.net)

Frank: (619) 980-4025 (e-mail – pancho77@cox.net)

Membership Status:

As of the most recent Chapter Roster issued January 2017 by SBO (Society Business Office), our membership stands at 61. Currently we have 24 members who are CPE’s and 2 FCPE’s. As a reminder to all members, if you have changed jobs, are in-between jobs, retired or have had to relocate, please update your status/contact information online at www.aspenational.org. You can also contact your Chapter Membership Chairman for assistance at frednagel@gmail.com.

For those of you who have thought of becoming more involved in our Chapter, we could always use the help. We will be holding Chapter Elections next month, so if you are interested in being a part of the Board, please contact me at (858) 737-7316 (e-mail - michael.moyers@bestinteriors.net).

New Members:

We have no new members at this time.

Upcoming Events:

Please read the rest of this issue and check out the [Calendar of Events page](#) for additional upcoming events and meetings!

Michael Moyers, CPE
President
ASPE San Diego Chapter #4

CONTACT ASPE

ASPE San Diego Chapter
c/o Margy Ashby
127 N. Westwind Drive
El Cajon, CA 92020-2955

Phone: 619.749.1890

Email: info@aspechapter4.org

Chapter Website: <http://www.aspechapter4.org>

National Website: <http://www.aspenational.org>



March Program Notes: Up in Smoke: What Marijuana Legislation Means for Construction Employers

[cont'd from pg 1](#)

marijuana-related offenses for both adults and juveniles, and resentencing/dismissal/sealing prior, eligible marijuana-related convictions. In California, edibles must be low dose (breaking off into sections with 10 milligrams of THC, the psychoactive agent) and need to have childproof packaging. Protocols for determining if a driver becomes impaired by marijuana will be set by the CHP – it is still illegal to do drugs and operate a vehicle, boat, aircraft or similar vessel. In an interview with Katy Steinmetz of TIME, Amanda Reiman, the Drug Policy Alliance's manager of marijuana law and policy, stated, "We encourage people to think about cannabis in a new way as something that is perfectly acceptable for adults to do in a responsible manner."

This month's program will not debate the pros and cons of Proposition 64, but enlighten the audience on its ramifications for the construction industry. National policies and company policies trump an employee's right to personal marijuana use in spite of local state laws. Fortunately, Proposition 64 does not affect "rights and obligations of . . . private employers to maintain a drug and alcohol free workplace or require an employer to permit or accommodate the use, consumption, possession, transfer, display, transportation, sale, or growth of marijuana in the workplace, or affect the ability of employers to have policies prohibiting the use of marijuana by employees or prospective employees, or prevent employers from complying with state or federal law."

Federal law protects employees from discrimination based upon gender, race, age, religion, or disabilities. Marijuana users do not benefit from being regarded as a protected class under the law. Employers can refuse to hire prospective workers who smoke cigarettes or cigars, or consume alcoholic beverages. These individuals can choose to quit their job or comply with their employer's policies related to workplace expectations or conduct. Even employees using marijuana for legitimate medical conditions are not protected from possible termination for failing to comply with such stated policies, and case law in California Supreme Courts supports that decision. Even though marijuana has been legalized in several states, it is still deemed as a Schedule 1 drug under the federal Controlled Substances Act and illegal under federal law. Federal agencies are specifically prohibited from granting or renewing a security clearance to an unlawful user of any controlled substance or a known addict. Executive Order 12564 expressly states that the use of illegal drugs by those in positions with access to sensitive information may pose a serious risk to national security and inconsistent with the trust placed in such employees.

Many individuals may believe that the use of marijuana will not adversely impact their employment. Recent case studies have shown that feigning ignorance of company requirements protects them under the law. Wrong, wrong, wrong, and employees must be cognizant of potential consequences associated with the use of marijuana. Remember that the expanded legalization of marijuana in California does not afford employee protection if that usage violates company rules. However, firms should carefully review their practices regarding drug testing of employees as California law imposes limits on such tests. Mandating an improper test could result in claims for invasion of privacy and wrongful termination.

Adhering to the policies of a drug-free environment and ASPE's Code of Ethics, samples will not be distributed to attendees. Don't miss this opportunity to become further educated about the new law and how it will impact the workplace. Join members and guests to hear Danielle Moore's presentation on Tuesday, March 21st. She is a Partner with the law firm of Fisher & Phillips LLP in San Diego, specializing in employee rights and labor law. Her PowerPoint given to groups from both AGC and NAWIC will cover the following subjects related to the newly passed initiative:

[\(cont'd on pg 4\)](#)

March Program Notes: Up in Smoke: What Marijuana Legislation Means for Construction Employers

[cont'd from pg 3](#)

- Potential Employer Issues
- Status of the Law – States vs. Federal
- Overview of Proposition 64
- Court Opinions
- Drug Testing
- OSHA Provisions
- Federal Requirements and Insurance
- Medical Marijuana and Accommodation
- The Trump Administration
- Recommendations Moving Forward

Our in-house talk will be delivered by David Luhm with Alpha Mechanical, giving his insight on “Ethics, Relationships, and Politics – How They Relate in the Construction Industry Today.”

Dinner Meeting Schedule: Registration – 5:15 PM
 Announcements – 6:00 PM
 Dinner Service – 6:15 PM
 Choice of Tri-Tip Beef, Salmon, Vegetarian Dish
 Program – 7:00 PM

Venue: Riverwalk Golf Club
 1150 Fashion Valley Road, San Diego
 (Mission Valley, north of I-8 between Hotel Circle North and Friars Road)

Dinner Meeting Sponsor: To Be Determined

Dinner Meeting Cost: \$40.00 per person; Students discounted rate of \$25.00 per person

[Click here](#) to make your reservation through  ... or go to <http://evite.me/w7pS1pPsyA>

Or contact Paul Chang at Sundt Construction to make your reservations today!

Telephone: 619.321.4822

Email: aspechapter4@outlook.com

Frank E. Young FCPE
ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Programs Committee



It's Time for That Annual Rite of Spring Identified as CHAPTER ELECTIONS

The Society Business Office instructs Chapters to hold their elections in April of each year in order to allow sufficient time to advise the Board of Trustees and the membership of the new leadership positions on the local level.

The Nominations Committee consisting of President Mike Moyers, 1st Vice President Dan Luckhardt, and Past President Frank Young will be meeting in the coming weeks to prepare the slate of Officers and Directors for your consideration and electronic voting in late April to comply with National's deadline. We will be contacting current Board members as well as prospective additions to the Board in an effort to breathe some new life into our governance body and programs.

It is imperative that we find a suitable replacement for President to relieve that burden from the shoulders of Mike Moyers. Chapter Bylaws limit the office of President to two consecutive terms, and Robert's Rules of Order mandates that Mike must continue to occupy that post until a replacement can be found to assume those duties and responsibilities (he is currently in his third term).

We encourage members who are interested in serving to seek out the Nominations Committee about giving back to ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 and the construction industry which has blessed us over the years. Please carefully consider this appeal.

Open Board positions include:

President

1st Vice President

2nd Vice President, and

4 Directors

Fred Nagel CPE and Frank Young FCPE have graciously agreed to serve another term as Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Nominations Committee



ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee Announcement by Daniel Luckhardt CPE

Submission
deadline:
Friday, May 19th

On behalf of The American Society of Professional Estimators Scholarship Committee, I am pleased to announce the acceptance period for the '2016 Scholarship Application.' Our mission statement is as follows:

Mission Statement: *"The American Society of Professional Estimators serves construction estimators, by providing education, fellowship and opportunity for professional development."*

Our Vision: *"In its educational pursuits, ASPE strives to be the recognized leader in providing quality programs to benefit the cost estimating profession and the construction industry."*

San Diego Chapter #4's Scholarship Awards are designed to promote student involvement in chapter affairs, and to reward deserving students who exhibit a sincere interest in education and the construction industry, as demonstrated by their work experience and personal statements.

As ASPE members and individuals affiliated with our profession, it is my hope we raise the bar this year and simply get the word out to qualified candidates. Please take the time to reach out to professionals in our industry. These individuals may be working professionals or full-time students currently enrolled within an educational institution with aspirations of working within the construction industry. Please refer to the Scholarship 'Eligibility' requirements within the Scholarship Application, and/or feel free to contact Dan Luckhardt, Scholarship Committee Chairman, by e-mail or phone.

Recommendations to applicants:

- ✓ **Submission deadline: Friday, May 19, 2017.** Please refer to the application instructions.
- ✓ Eligibility requirements: Please review the requirements and feel free to ask questions early in the application preparation process.
- ✓ Application: Please allow time in your schedule to solicit letters of recommendations.

As part of our monthly newsletter, you will find the 'Eligibility, Requirements, and the Application' [attached](#) in PDF format. Again, on behalf of the Scholarship Committee, we look forward to receiving and reviewing applications for Scholarship Award considerations. Good Luck!

Daniel Luckhardt, CPE

O'Connor Construction Management, Incorporated
Scholarship Award Committee Chairman
858.342.8017 | dluckhardt@ocmi.com

Become an ASPE Newsletter Sponsor or Advertiser

\$350 CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP, includes:

- Sponsor Recognition in each of the 12 Monthly Newsletters
- Includes a Hot Link to Either Your Website or Email
- A Full-Page Sponsor Profile in 1 Issue

MONTHLY ADVERTISEMENT:

12 Mo. Issues – 1/4-Page Ad for **\$450**
OR

12 Mo. Issues – Business Card for **\$200**

EMPLOYMENT AD:

\$50 per month (FREE to ASPE Members)

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact **FRANK YOUNG, FCPE**
619.980.4025 (cell) or
pancho77@cox.net



ASPE MISSION STATEMENT

The American Society of Professional Estimators
is dedicated to the promotion of
the profession of estimating and to
the benefit of the construction industry.

[Click here](#) for ASPE's CODE OF ETHICS.

ASPE Membership

An accurate cost estimate is the first of many key components of a successful construction project. Plan interpretation, labor and material costs, scheduling costs, and level of difficulty recognition are a fraction of the skills necessary to become a successful estimator.

Why join the American Society of Professional Estimators? ASPE is the most recognized and credentialed group of construction cost professionals in our nation's construction industry. ASPE provides education, industry information, and fellowship to all levels of our members. It is made up of professionals of several different classifications.

- A- **Estimator**—shall have at least five years' experience as an estimator in one or more of the construction estimating disciplines.
- B- **Constructor**—shall be an active construction professional experienced in one or more of the construction disciplines with at least 5 years' experience.
- C- **Associate Member**—is a Member with less than 5 years of experience as an estimator or an active construction professional. When the Member achieves 5 years of experience, the Member shall be given one of the Member classifications listed above.

One of the ultimate goals of a member in ASPE is to achieve status as a "Certified Professional Estimator," otherwise known as "CPE." CPE status is recognized by Builders, Government Agencies, Developers, and many other Corporate entities as the highest level of qualification as an estimator. Educational training is available to become part of this elite group of professionals.

ASPE San Diego Chapter 4 is perennially recognized as one of the top chapters of the nation's 50 chapters. The local chapter meets on the third Tuesday of each month. This general membership meeting offers education and insight into our industry. Each membership meeting is highlighted by presentations and guest speakers, with information pertinent to our ever-changing industry.

If you would like to become part of this exciting group of professionals, please contact Fred Nagel CPE at 619.647.1304 (cell) or:

frednagel@gmail.com

San Diego Chapter #4 Calendar of Events



- ◆ **Tuesday, March 7, 2017 (5:30-7:30 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Board of Directors' Meeting
Location: Kaiser Permanente Construction Office
- ◆ **Friday, March 10, 2017 (8:00 AM – 4:30 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Education Seminar
Presented by the SDC Institute
Program: "Pricing and Negotiating Change Orders Like a Pro"
CANCELED DUE TO LACK OF PARTICIPATION
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 21, 2017 (5:15 PM Registration)**
ASPE San Diego Monthly Dinner Meeting
Program: Ethics Program:
"Up in Smoke—What Marijuana Legalization Means for Construction Employers"
Speaker: Daniel Moore, Partner
Fisher Phillips
In-House Speaker: David Luhm—Alpha Mechanical
"Ethics, Relationships, and Politics—How They Relate in the Construction Industry Today"
Location: Riverwalk Golf Club
1150 Fashion Valley Rd, San Diego
- ◆ **Tuesday, March 28, 2017 (5:30-7:30 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Board of Directors' Meeting
Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Friday, April 7, 2017 and Saturday, April 8, 2017 (5:30-7:30 PM)**
ASPE Northwest/Southwest Regional Meeting
Location: Doubletree Hotel—Salt Lake City, Utah
- ◆ **Tuesday, April 18, 2017 (5:15 PM Registration)**
ASPE San Diego Monthly Site Tour & Dinner Meeting
Tentative Program: I3 Campus in University Towne Center in La Jolla
Tour Hosts & Meeting Presenters: Representatives from McCarthy Building Companies
Dinner Venue: To be determined
Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Tuesday, April 25, 2017 (5:30-7:30 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Board of Directors' Meeting
Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Tuesday, May 9, 2017 (5:00 PM Registration)**
Joint ASPE San Diego/NAWIC San Diego Monthly Dinner Meeting
Program: "Design and Construction Issues with Occupied Shopping Centers"
Speaker: Beth Campbell, Senior V-P of Design Westfield Shopping Centers
Location: Riverwalk Golf Club
1150 Fashion Valley Rd, San Diego
- ◆ **Friday, May 19, 2017 (12:00 PM—5:00 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Education Seminar—TENTATIVE
Program: Bid Day Simulation
Facilitator: Paul Martin
Herrero Construction, San Francisco
Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Tuesday, May 30, 2017 (5:30-7:30 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Board of Directors' Meeting
Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Tuesday, June 21, 2017 (5:15 PM Registration)**
ASPE San Diego Monthly Site Tour & Dinner Meeting
Program: To be determined
Dinner Venue & Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Tuesday, June 28, 2017 (5:30-7:30 PM)**
ASPE San Diego Board of Directors' Meeting
Location: To be determined
- ◆ **Thursday, July 13, 2017 to Saturday, July 15, 2017**
ASPE Annual Meeting and Estimating Summit
Location: Embassy Suites—Denver, Colorado
- ◆ **Tuesday, July 25, 2017 (5:15 PM Registration)**
ASPE San Diego Monthly Dinner Meeting
Program: Annual Chapter Awards and Installation of Officers/Directors, Presentation of Scholarships
Keynote Speaker: Marvin Malecha, FAIA—President NewSchool of Architecture + Design

Directory of San Diego Chapter #4 Officers and Directors



TECHNICAL COMMITTEES:

Certification:

John Balistreri, CPE
Stephen Fisher, CPE

Education:

VACANT

Standards:

VACANT

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Chapter Awards

Frank Young, FCPE

National Awards

VACANT

Nominations:

VACANT

Communications—

Website:

John Balistreri, CPE
Michael Moyers, CPE

Communications—

Newsletter:

John Balistreri, CPE

Finance:

Frank Young, FCPE

Ways & Means:

David Luhm, E

Public Relations/

Calendar:

Steve Schraibman, CPE

Membership:

Michael Moyers, CPE

Programs:

Dan Luckhardt, CPE
Frank Young, FCPE

OTHER COMMITTEES:

Ethics:

Dan Luckhardt, CPE
Frank Young, FCPE

Mentoring:

Frank Young, FCPE

Scholarships:

Dan Luckhardt, CPE

Telephone:

Paul Chang, E

2016-2017 Chapter Officers

Office	Officer	Phone	Fax	Email
President	Michael Moyers, CPE Best Interiors, Inc.	858.737.7316 619.843.6962-C	858.737.7317	michael.moyers@bestinteriors.net
1st Vice-President	Dan Luckhardt, CPE O'Connor Construction Management, Inc.	619.291.4600 858.342.8017-C		dluckhardt@ocmi.com
2nd Vice-President	Steve Schraibman, CPE Arcor-Inc.	858.481.4494 619.252.4941-C	858.481.4146	steve@arcor-inc.com
3rd Vice-President	VACANT			
Secretary	Fred Nagel, CPE Nagel Construction	619.647.1304-C		frednagel@gmail.com
Treasurer	Frank E. Young, FCPE CSOS Consulting	619.440.5517 619.980.4025-C	619.401.7545	pancho77@cox.net
Immediate Past President	Frank E. Young, FCPE CSOS Consulting	619.440.5517 619.980.4025-C	619.401.7545	pancho77@cox.net
Executive Administrator	Margy Ashby	619.749.1890 619.593.9988 619.302.3257-C	619.839.3817	info@aspechapter4.org asped4@gasvcs.net

2016-2017 Chapter Board of Directors

Director	Phone	Fax	Email
John Balistreri, CPE Kaiser Permanente	619.589.3080 619.861.1131-C	619.589.3192	john.t.balistreri@kp.org
David Luhm, E Alpha Mechanical	858.278.3500 x519 760.238.3355-C	858.278.3510	dluhm@alphamechanical.com

GET INVOLVED IN ASPE !!!



**American Society of Professional Estimators
San Diego Chapter #4**

**2017
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Eligibility, Requirements, Awards
and Application**

Submission Deadline:

Applications and Reference Letters must be mailed to:
The ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee
and postmarked on or before **Friday, May 19, 2017**.

Mail to:

ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee
c/o Dan Luckhardt CPE
O'Connor Construction Management
2150 West Washington Street, Suite 203
San Diego, California 92110

If you have questions, please contact:

ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee
Daniel Luckhardt
dluckhardt@ocmi.com or (858) 342.8017



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATORS

Mission Statement: “The American Society of Professional Estimators serves construction estimators, by providing education, fellowship and opportunity for professional development.”

Our Vision: “In its educational pursuits, ASPE strives to be the recognized leader in providing quality programs to benefit the cost estimating profession and the construction industry.”

San Diego Chapter #4’s Scholarship Awards are designed to promote student involvement in chapter affairs, and to reward deserving students who exhibit a sincere interest in education and the construction industry, as demonstrated by their work experience and personal statements.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant may be currently taking undergraduate accredited courses.
2. Applicant must be employed in the construction industry, preferably working for an ASPE Member-Firm.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Applications must be submitted in hardcopy/original format.
2. Applicant is responsible for ensuring that all items listed below are included in the submittal package and postmarked on or before **May 19, 2017**.
 - a) Completed and signed application.
 - b) Personal statement.
 - c) Letters of recommendation.
3. Applicant must be able to attend ASPE San Diego Chapter #4’s Awards Dinner on Tuesday, July 18, 2017 between the hours of 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. at a location to be determined in general San Diego area.

AWARDS

1. A scholarship in the amount of \$500.00* will be awarded.
2. Applications will be reviewed by the ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee. Attention and consideration will be given to work experience; applicant’s expressed interest in furthering his/her education, goals in the construction industry, and references.
3. Designees will be notified by June 2, 2017.
4. Award will be made and check distributed during the Awards Dinner.

Non Discrimination Clause:

The American Society of Professional Estimators is an Equal Opportunity Organization and encourages applications from all individuals.

*The amount of the scholarship is subject to change.



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ESTIMATORS

2017 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please limit application form to 3 pages and restrict your personal statement to 2 pages.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name

Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone _____ E-Mail _____

- I would like to be contacted about internship opportunities with ASPE Member-Firms.

SCHOLASTIC INFORMATION

List of ASPE Online Courses already taken by applicant:

Previous College or University education:

City, State, Zip: _____

Area of concentration: _____

Degree anticipated: _____



ASPE San Diego Chapter #4

2017 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Professional or School Affiliations (List participation in any school, professional or community activities including offices held and awards received):

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Work Experience (List full-time, part-time, co-op and summer employment. Briefly describe duties and responsibilities.):

RECOMMENDATION

Letters of recommendation from ASPE member or job supervisor with personal knowledge of the applicant must accompany the application (maximum 2 letters).

PERSONAL STATEMENT

A statement about your career goals and why you think you should receive the scholarship award. Include information about:

- your career objectives
- how you and the construction industry can benefit each other
- your most important extracurricular activity

Statement should not exceed 500 words or (2) pages. Please attach to the application form.

I agree that the application and all attachments may be used for the purposes of evaluation and selection by the ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

APPLICANT: You have the responsibility to ensure that the application, all forms, letters are postmarked on or before **May 19, 2017** and received by the ASPE San Diego Chapter #4 Scholarship Committee.

ASPE Certification



CESB
Accredited
Program



American Society of Professional Estimators

Top 10 Reasons to Become ASPE Certified

Everybody knows that MD following an individual's name means Medical Doctor. And most people know that CPA signifies Certified Public Accountant. Associations and professions use certification to recognize qualified and competent individuals. The certification process is one of the single most important steps in career development. Here are the top ten reasons an estimating professional should consider becoming ASPE-Certified.

- 1. Certification grants you professional credentials.**
- 2. Certification demonstrates your commitment to the industry and estimating profession.**
- 3. Certification enhances the profession's image.**
- 4. Certification reflects personal achievement.**
- 5. Certification builds self-esteem.**
- 6. Certification can improve career opportunities and advancement.**
- 7. Certification may provide for greater earning potential.**
- 8. Certification improves skills and knowledge.**
- 9. Certification prepares you for greater on-the-job responsibilities.**
- 10. Certification offers greater recognition from peers.**



ASPE Certification

The Certification of Professional Estimators is an acknowledgment that you have met, and continue to meet, the criteria established for this designation as determined by the American Society of Professional Estimators (ASPE). Attaining this recognition requires continuing commitments to ethics, education, and employment. It is a commitment by the individual to the construction industry and to ASPE.

ASPE certification is the highest form of professional recognition an estimator can receive. Through its certification program, ASPE recognizes the estimating proficiency and ethical awareness of the Certified Professional Estimator (CPE).

CPE recognition is being sought and attained by an ever growing number of construction estimators each year. It is the only program of its kind to attest that a construction estimator has met the necessary educational and experience requirements and has the capabilities required of our profession.

With such diversity of backgrounds among estimators, the development of programs for both education and certification of professional construction estimators has been a demanding and rewarding process. For all the varied disciplines and levels of detail, the fundamental principles of construction cost estimating remain universally applicable. Beyond these fundamentals, however, the realms of varied disciplines make construction estimating one of the most unique challenging, and fulfilling professions an individual may pursue.

ASPE recognizes the fundamental estimating principles inherent to all types of construction estimating. Whether for general, mechanical, electrical, or specialty disciplines, or for an owner, designer or contracting firm, the estimator requires knowledge that is applicable in virtually all circumstances.

Each candidate seeking certification must meet five basic requirements.

- Experience—Minimum of Five Years
- Completion of Orientation Workshop
- Technical Writing Abilities
- Communication Skills
- Successful completion of Certification Examinations.

The Certification Committee then evaluates each of the criteria for conformance to the program.

ASPE has established that a CPE candidate must possess a minimum of five years of estimating experience in a specific discipline to be accepted into the certification program.

All candidates seeking certification must complete an orientation workshop. This workshop provides the candidate with an overview of the requirements and guidelines of the certification process.

Communication Skills and knowledge of estimating must be demonstrated to the Certification Board. This is done through the writing of a technical paper on a subject approved by the Board.

The certification exam is designed to evaluate the CPE candidate's overall knowledge of estimating. It includes quantities, contract terms and conditions, cost reporting, ethics, and other fundamentals of estimating. The exams consist of a General Estimating Knowledge Exam (GEK) and a Discipline Specific Test (DST). The DST concentrates on specific practices such as General Contracting, Mechanical, Electrical, Excavation, and Concrete estimating. Preparation for the exam is recommended. A candidate will not be notified of CPE status until all requirements of the certification process have been passed.

Once recognized as a CPE, the estimator will be expected to keep abreast of current trends and improved practices in the construction industry. Conformance is measured under the provisions of the Certification Renewal Program. This program requires renewal of certification every three years. See the Renewal Program Guidelines for further details.

Professional evaluation through certification is one of many ways the American Society of Professional Estimators endeavors to promote the profession and benefit the construction industry.