

PEPS Fireside Chat Question & Answer Summary

Precertification Updates – May 6, 2022

Q1: Can consultants begin applying for pre-certification in the new categories now?

A1: Yes. Please start applying now so that we can get those precertifications into the system.

Q2: When will the Standard Work Categories Excel file on the PEPS website be updated to reflect the changes?

A2: The list for PEPS use is the same as the one used for external use. It lists all the titles and categories. That has already been updated in both locations. Other tools will be updated when we are ready to begin using the new categories.

Q3: Are there any updates on the progress of the transition of using CCIS to the new software?

A3: That is still an active project. CCIS is an older mainframe system we have used since 1997. We are continuing to work with our IT Division on this. The new software program has not yet been selected.

Q4: Where can I find the PDF version of the application?

A4: Please use the following link to visit the "Become Precertified" page on the txdot.gov website. <https://www.txdot.gov/business/consultants/architectural-engineering-surveying/getting-started/precertification.html>. Here you will find a link to the application.

Q5: Is it possible yet for a firm to create more than one user ID in the CCIS system?

A5: Yes, you can have more than one individual within a firm with a user ID

Q6: Has it been decided which upcoming Wave will start requiring the new work categories?

A6: No, that decision has not been made yet. We are watching the statistics to see where we are with the number of precertifications. We want to make sure we are not in a situation where we only have a few precertified individuals while there are a number of them in the queue to be approved. We will provide a notification when we set that date.

Q7: Will the approved individual in a retired category be transferred to the new equivalent category automatically?

A7: It depends on the category. In some cases, for example - Value Engineering, the requirements were similar enough that an automatic transfer was possible. In other cases, the reason the category was retired is that it was out of date. The new requirements are so different that a new application is necessary to demonstrate the requirements are still met.

Q8: We didn't see any grandfathered precertifications this time. For instance, Group 9 pedestrian and bike was one category we thought could be grandfathered now that they are split.

A8: Because they have split those functions into four separate categories in that

group now, each category requires a different kind of experience, which may require different training. In that case there is no opportunity to transfer from one comprehensive category to another comprehensive category.

Q9: Do you recommend updating the existing projects on file or add new projects for new categories?

A9: Either approach is acceptable. Be sure to tailor the requirements to the new categories. If it requires additional experience, add new projects.

Q10: Are steps being taken to improve CCIS compatibility with modern browsers prior to moving to the new platform? With Internet Explorer reaching End of Life in June, many of us are at the mercy of IT departments that may remove access to IE for network security reasons.

A10: According to our IT Division, CCIS is operating in Chrome and Edge without issues. If an issue is encountered, try shifting to use compatibility mode in Edge.