

Document TC 211 N 902
Questionnaire re questionnaire for PT 19122
Geographic information – Qualifications and certification of personnel
US response, prepared June 13, 2000

Personal

Please identify yourself (as the individual completing the questionnaire)

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Questions

1. Does your country have a set of guidelines for the qualification and certification of personnel in the field of geographic information/geomatics?

No

2. If No, are you planning to initiate this activity in the near future?

Under serious discussion but no national initiative at the moment, most active proponent is the Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (see contact information below).

3. Do you have national legislation for the certification of personnel?

No

4. Do you have legislation for certification at a regional level (e.g. province, state, municipal)?

Yes

a. Subject domain: *Land Surveying/GIS, via state legislation governing the practice of land surveying and its licensure*

Contact (name, organization, e-mail): *Varies by state*

Date of current version:

Varies, most recent adoption by South Carolina. However many states have not yet included reference to use of GIS in the Land Surveyors licensing legislation.

5. Do you have any industry standards (i.e. not by legislation) for qualification and certification of personnel?

Yes

a. Subject domain: *Property Assessment*

- professional designation program: Cadastral Mapping Specialist

Contact (name, organization, e-mail):

International Association of Assessing Officers

<http://www.iaao.org/cms.htm>

Date of current version: *ongoing program*

b. Subject domain: *Surveying and Mapping*

Certification programs:

- *Certified Mapping Scientist -- GIS*
- *Certified Mapping Scientist -- Remote Sensing*
- *Certified Photogrammetrist*

Contact (name, organization, e-mail):

American Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing

<http://www.asprs.org/asprs/membership/certification.html>

Date of current version: *ongoing program*

c. Subject domain: *Landscape Architecture*

Contact (name, organization, e-mail): *Licensing is done state by state, but is coordinated through the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) of which each state is a member*

Date of current version: *varies*

d. Subject domain: *Planning*

Contact (name, organization, e-mail): *professional certification program administered by the American Institute of Certified Planners (www.aicp.org)*

Date of current version: *varies*

6. Is there a national/international group which has defined a model curriculum?

In 1990, the National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis produced the NCGIA Core Curriculum which continues to provide a foundation for studies in the field. A newer version is under ongoing development. As well, a more comprehensive and complete model curriculum is under development by the UCGIS.

Subject domain: *cross disciplinary*

Contact (name, organization, e-mail)

- Core Curriculum – National Center for Geographic Information and Analysis (www.ncgia.org)

- Model Curriculum - University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (www.ucgis.org)

Date of current version: *in progress*

7. Do you have a mechanism for program accreditation in the field of geographic information/geomatics?

While there is no accreditation program for geographic information/geomatics specifically, the Accreditation Board of Engineering and Technology (ABET) handles accreditation for engineering programs that cover GIS. There are plans to add computer science accreditation under ABET. Accredited degree programs

which include some GIS components are also found in Planning and Landscape Architecture.

8. How many higher education institutions teach geographic information/geomatics in your country? (i.e. university, technical institute etc)

There are perhaps 700 colleges and universities in the US with at least one course called GIS or some related title and around 250 programs like certificates or degrees that use some term like GIS, Spatial Sciences, Geomatics, etc.

9. What geographic information/geomatics professional associations exist in your country? Please provide the names.

- *American Congress on Surveying and Mapping (www.acsm.net)*
- *American Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (www.asprs.org)*
- *American Society of Landscape Architects (www.asla.org)*
- *American Planning Association (www.planning.org)*
- *Association of American Geographers (www.aag.org)*
- *Geospatial Information and Technology Association (www.gita.org)*
- *Management Association for Private Photogrammetric Surveyors (www.mapps.org)*
- *National States Geographic Information Council (www.nsgic.org)*
- *Urban and Regional Information Systems Association (www.urisa.org)*

Other organizations with interests in this topic:

- *University Consortium for Geographic Information Science (www.ucgis.org)*
- *Open GIS Consortium (www.opengis.org)*