

The Philadelphia Engineer

Founding Chapter 1934 – June 2025 issue

SPECIAL SUMMER ISSUE for Graduating Seniors and our Student Members

Congratulations to our recent graduates! Your hard work leading to your degree in Engineering is to be applauded. Your choice to be Student Members of NSPE/PSPE is also to be applauded. Please let us know how we may continue to be valuable to YOU as you enter our common career. Share to MemSec@pspe-philly.org.

NSPE/PSPE provides assistance to recent graduates with help to taking and passing the FE exam, if you do not already have this credential. Current and prospective employers will know you are on your way to be most productive to them. NSPE/PSPE will assist to demand challenging assignments and keep proper record of your path to Professional Engineer.

Along with your Technical Societies, NSPE/PSPE will provide practical career education to top off your mastery of the theory as evidenced by your recent degree. However, NSPE/PSPE will also lead you beyond performance of engineering to the practice of a professional.

PLEASE do stay involved. Come to our meetings. Become a member or Chair of Committee. Please do be a Professional.

Fredric L Plotnick, PhD, Esq, PE, PLS

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The Philadelphia Chapter of the Pennsylvania Society for Professional Engineers extends a very sincere and special congratulations to the Engineering Graduates – Class of 2025!

What a tremendous accomplishment in gaining your degree in a profession that provided unlimited potential for growth and challenge. You now have the credentials to finalize your employment options and/or pursue continued studies towards an advanced degree.

These are very exciting times for Engineers. Technology is driving almost everything we encounter in our daily lives. In addition, the surge of manufacturing investment in the US will put a high demand for Engineering talent in all segments of our economy. A newly minted engineer will have tremendous opportunities and can be extremely selective in their chosen field of endeavor. The good news is the demand for engineering talent will continue to grow over time setting the stage for financial stability and work enrichment / fulfillment.

It's never too early to consider getting a professional engineering (PE) licensure. Have Having the letters "PE" next to your name is a very important and distinguishing factor.... especially as your career progresses. As a PE, you are considered a "professional" and recognized accordingly. The Philadelphia Chapter of Professional Engineers has been in existence since the 1930s. It provides a wonderful forum to share ideas and experiences with peers of all ages and disciplines in a collaborative and respectful manner. As a PE, you have the opportunity to give back to your profession by upholding the code of ethical conduct and setting an example for achieving / exceeding good engineering practices. If you have a strong entrepreneurial spirit, the PE licensure will allow you to start your own consulting business – another career path option.

Feel free to reach out to me, Chris Fell, PE, membership committee chair for the Chapter, felli1@aol.com or 484-431-1499 to learn more.

2025-26 Chapter Program

State PSPE Awards Received by Our Chapter

PSPE Chapter Special Projects Award for 2023-24

PSPE Chapter Outstanding Communications Award for 2022-23

PSPE Chapter Outstanding Program Award for 2021-22

We are now building our 2025-26 Program and look to Members for suggestions and to volunteer to share knowledge with your peers. Please contact our leadership at President@PSPE-Philly.org.

Pennsylvania Society of Professional Engineers Philadelphia Chapter Proposed 2025-2026 Program

Date	Event - Click Event for Details
Sep.4, 2025	Let's plan for a TOUR
Sep 18-20	PSPE State Conference Allentown
Sep 25-27	BootCamp to get up to 24PDH
Oct. 9	Let's plan for a LIVE lecture, sitdown and Zoom
Nov. 6	Let's plan for a LIVE lecture, sitdown and Zoom
Dec. 4	<u>Delaware Valley Region Outstanding Engineering Achievement Program</u>
SE Region	
Jan. 8 2026	Let's plan for a TOUR
Feb. 6	Let's plan for a LIVE lecture, sitdown and Zoom
Feb. TBD	<u>Phila Chapter MathCounts</u>
MathCounts	<u>Live at Temple</u>
Feb. 28	<u>Greater Philadelphia and</u>
NSPE PA/NJ	<u>Delaware Valley Regional</u>
Engr's Week	<u>National Engineers' Week Banquet</u>
Mar. 5	Let's plan for a LIVE lecture, sitdown and Zoom
Apr. 2	Let's plan for a LIVE lecture, sitdown and Zoom
May 7	<u>Annual Meeting & Officers Installed</u>



September 2022 Tour of SEPTA WAWA Line & Station

Save the Dates

BootCamp 2025

YOUR LICENSE RENEWAL IS 9/30/2025

BootCamp is THU FRI SAT

September 25-26-27 2025

LIVE at Temple U and Simulcast via Zoom

8 PDH \$100 16 PDH \$160 24 PDH \$200

We are NOW seeking Lecturers and Presenters

Contact BootCamp@pspe-philly.org

PSPE assists new graduates

at the Chapter and State level. Quickly acquire insights from other professionals to dovetail to those at your new employment. Even while you must now narrow focus upon your assignments, stay abreast with other fields of engineering. You are an **Engineer**, able to do many things, and not simply a “sewer inlet design” technician. Prepare today for tomorrow.

You are just starting, but PSPE State is already working to jumpstart and protect your career:

Excerpt from a recent State PSPE board meeting about young engineers.

The discussion was that young PEs often have questions about their new responsibilities:

- How do you seal drawings?
- What are my responsibilities with my employer?
- Do I need separate insurance or will my company cover me?

Students may not be thinking of the changes in their career but here are some points:

- Gaining your PE can provide employment security
- Graduate engineers will likely not work for a company for 30 years, and may have many employment changes over the years. Thus obtaining your PE is a valuable life long advantage in your career for employment.
- Your FE and/or PE can give you an edge over another job or project applicant who doesn't have the FE/PE.
- Obtaining your FE/PE can give you a boost in responsibility and increased pay with job changes or within the firm you are working for.
- Obtaining your PE can lead to employment independence (self-employment) and financial independence.

For your peers in PSPE this is a constant challenge: to help you protect the public, and also to assure our legislature and courts will protect you. Do you know the difference between a [Statute of Limitations](#) and [Statute of Repose](#)? Both are designed to protect a professional by requiring a claimant to file a lawsuit while records are available to review. One says that a claimant must file within a specified time after discovery of a claimed error. But the other says that once a longer period has passed, parties may safely discard old records and be free of the worry of liability.

So imagine a few days after you get your PE license you review and sign a letter “PE” to skip what you (and others of the firm) deem a redundant beam to create a more usable space. Now FORTY YEARS LATER, someone decides to sue saying that decision was wrong. You have long ago changed employer. Your old firm has closed and old owners moved out-of-state. Do you have a personal copy of all records and supporting calculations? Not likely. Your house is now on the line but for the Statute of Repose.

YOUR PSPE is currently filing amicus (friend of court) briefs as our PA Supreme Court considers a challenge to this Statute that protects us. **THAT is what we of PSPE** are doing to protect you and our profession.

How can PSPE help you today?

How can PSPE help you tomorrow?

Become involved - start today!

• Attend a Chapter Meeting or Tour.

Begin career friendships as you network, and habit of lifelong learning. PSPE Chapter courses are for your use of knowledge, not just to check the box for license renewals. The people you meet may be a future client, employer, or **personal mentor**. Lifelong friends.

• Attend our PSPE State Conference

to be held at Radisson Allentown **SEP 17-18-19**

Meet our PSPE State Legislation Lobbyist, State Officers, Directors from across Pennsylvania, Courses, Tours, More

• Attend our #NSPECon25 National Conference

to be held in Kansas City MO **AUG 6-8**

Celebrating PE Day August 6th with six keynote speakers, forging connections with multi-disciplinary professionals, expanding expertise with new skills, and fostering a diverse network through sponsor and exhibitor interactions

• Take a course from our online library

learning skills beyond that found in a YouTube video. Check our PSPE Philadelphia learning library found at <http://pspe-philly.org/MCECourses/BuyNow-1.htm>.

• Become a mentor of a MathCounts Team

Once a month or once a week, meet with the brightest of 6th 7th 8th grade students of your community to practice math skills and perhaps inspire a career in engineering. Contact Chair Abe El at AEI@Pennoni.com

• Don't be worried - Check the NSPE Ethics Line

Joining the real world beyond academia can bring questions of ethics: www.nspe.org/career-growth/ethics

• Join our Summer Board Meetings to plan our

2025-26 Chapter Year. Contact our Secretary Chris Fell at <mailto:fell1@aol.com> or 484-431-1499 to learn more.



Save the Dates

PSPE State Conference 2025

September 17-18-19 2025

Renaissance Allentown

Classes, Tours, Officer Installations, Awards

Classes and Tours PDH accredited for Renewal of Licenses

Join your PSPE colleagues from across the State

visit PSPE.org for more information