

# Retired-Status License FAQs

## What should I do with my license when I retire from the profession?

*A professional in good standing with the Board has two options for their license when they choose to retire from the profession.*

*One option would be to simply let it lapse and not renew with the Board at the time of regular renewal. If you choose this option, your license will be listed as “expired” or “inactive” (if you inactivate your license on the PALS portal).*

*The second option would be to request “retired-status” with the Board. Any currently licensed professional in good standing may request this status change and those with expired licenses may request a retired-status by completing the necessary form and becoming current with their registration dues if their license has lapsed. To become retired-status, you must still renew your license and pay the renewal fees.*

## What is the difference between an active license, a retired-status, and an expired/inactive license?

*An active license allows you to practice your profession without limitation pursuant to the laws and regulations of the Commonwealth. An active license requires you to adhere to all the licensing and renewal requirements, including professional development hours (PDH) requirements.*

*A retired-status with the Board **prohibits professional practice or use of the professional seal by a retired-status licensee**. It does not prohibit practice outside the profession such as teaching, speaking engagements, or any of the specific exemptions from licensure and registration as set forth in Section 5 of the Engineer, Land Surveyor and Geologist Registration Law ([Board Document - Law.pdf \(pa.gov\)](#)). A retired status with the Board will allow you to represent your retired status on all signatures and letterhead by use of the word “retired” or abbreviation “ret.” Following the PE, PLS or PG designation on your signature. A retired-status with the Board exempts you from the PDH requirement of a typical licensee.*

*An expired/inactive license prohibits professional practice or use of the professional seal. It also does not allow the use of your professional designation in any form.*