

Background

The Brooks Act contains a broad definition of A/E services which states the general attitude of the design professions and federal clients as to basic A/E services. However, problems have been encountered when the agencies in some cases apply the A/E definition too narrowly; thereby, excluding the use of the Brooks Act for professional services which require A/E expertise outside of just the basic design of facilities. Accordingly, COFPAES has undertaken an effort to have adopted a more specific definition of A/E services.

Position

COFPAES supports and endorses the following definition of A/E design professional services as being in keeping with common industry usage:

The term `architectural and engineering services` means:

- A. professional services of an architectural or engineering nature, as defined by State law, if applicable, which are required to be performed or approved by a person licensed, registered, or certified to provide such services as described in this paragraph;
- B. professional services of an architectural or engineering nature performed by contract that are associated with research, planning, development, design, construction, alteration, or repair of real property; and
- C. such other professional services of an architectural or engineering nature, or incidental services, which members of the architectural and engineering professions (and individuals in their employ) may logically or justifiably perform, including: studies, investigations, surveying, mapping, tests, evaluations, consultations, comprehensive planning, program management, conceptual designs, plans and specifications, value engineering, construction phase services, soils engineering, drawing reviews, preparation of operating and maintenance manuals, and other related services.