

2026 Fall North Carolina State of the State

Membership

Membership year runs from July 1 to June 30. We currently have a total of 1,296 members.

Professional Land Surveyor – 968; Associate – 248; Sustaining – 53; Student – 27

Legislation

NCSS continued to actively monitor legislation affecting the surveying profession during the 2025–2026 legislative session, tracking more than 40 bills. Of particular interest was SB 451, the Universal Licensure Recognition Act. NCSS monitored the legislation closely because of its potential impact on professional licensure in North Carolina, including provisions related to recognition of out-of-state licenses and a continuing education exemption for certain experienced licensees age 65 or older. NCSS also participated in discussions with lawmakers and the licensing board about ways to better prepare students to successfully pass the professional licensing exams and enter the surveying profession.

Education

- In addition to its regular education programming, NCSS will partner with chapters to offer 12 additional seminars across the state, expanding access to professional development opportunities closer to where members live and work.
- The FS and PS Exam Reviews were held September 23–24 in Mooresville, offering 7.5 PDHs and focused preparation for those pursuing professional licensure.
- Online education continues to be an important part of NCSS educational programming, with approximately 45 courses providing more than 80 hours of continuing education. Additional courses continue to be developed and added to the online library.
- The Certified Floodplain Surveyor (CFS) program continues to be offered in North Carolina, including the full program and exam online, along with CFS Update courses.
- The 2026 Annual Conference was held February 19–21 in Charlotte under the theme “Keeping the Pace: Evolving with Tools, Tech and Terrain.” Planning is now underway for the February 18–20, 2027 Annual Conference at Harrah’s Cherokee under the theme “Mapping Tomorrow: From Field to Future.”

Public Promotion

- Career Ambassadors continue to promote the surveying profession through visits to schools, career events, and scouting groups across the state.
- The NCSS Education Foundation continues to support students pursuing surveying and geomatics education through its scholarship program. The Foundation also promotes the profession through participation in career fairs and other educational events across North Carolina.
- The specialty surveyor license plate continues to generate \$15 from each sale to help fund scholarships for geomatics students across the state.
- The Young Surveyors Network (YSN) continues to expand its outreach efforts through hands-on events and virtual AMA sessions designed to introduce and engage young people and emerging professionals in surveying. YSN has also launched a statewide photo contest and will host a surveying Treasure Hunt in Shelby in November.
- NCSS chapters continue to support local outreach efforts and promote the profession within their communities.

Other state accomplishments:

- Advocacy efforts continue to increase the number of counties willing and able to e-record plats, with the long-term goal of having all 100 counties accept electronic plat recordings. Currently, 62 counties accept e-recorded plats.
- The MAPS Database continues to grow and now contains more than 30,000 unrecorded plats, providing surveyors with access to valuable historical survey records and research information.
- NCSS actively participated in the NCBELS rulemaking process involving the Resident Professional requirement. NCSS submitted comments on the proposed changes and remained engaged throughout the process. The rule adopted by the Board eliminates the Resident Professional requirement and establishes a Managing Professional as the designated contact for a licensed firm.
- The NCSS UAS Committee continues to work with NCBELS on proposed updates to the rules governing aerial surveying and mapping. The effort is focused on modernizing the rules to reflect current technology and professional standards.

Officers

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