

**Regulations Governing the Use of Digital Signatures
on Architectural and Engineering Documents
in the U.S. and Canada**

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The information provided here is for convenience only and does not constitute legal advice. LineType Software, Inc. will not be responsible for errors or omissions in this information. Each jurisdiction has its own regulations regarding the use of the seal and signature on architectural and engineering drawings. Professionals are strongly encouraged to review the law and rules of their licensing board and if necessary to contact the board prior to affixing digital signatures to drawings. Legal concerns should be discussed with an attorney.

The chart below summarizes available information for each U.S. state and Canadian province. Note that in some jurisdictions, there is one licensing board (and one rule) for all professions (architects, engineers, surveyors, and landscape architects). In other jurisdictions, one or more of these professions may be regulated by a separate licensing board. As a result, what is legal for one profession in a given jurisdiction may not be legal for a different profession.

The information in this chart is incomplete, as some jurisdictions have not responded to requests for information, or their responses have not been definitive. Professionals are encouraged to contact LineType Software, Inc. with additions or corrections to this list.

Several of the regulatory boards listed below as not allowing digital signatures may be in the process of revising their regulations, or they may be open to suggestions from professionals in their jurisdiction to consider such revisions. Please contact LineType Software, Inc. if you require general educational information on the use of digital signatures to present to a licensing board.

Note that licensing board regulations generally apply only to drawings and specifications that are signed and sealed, not to contracts, applications for payment, change orders, or other project documents that do not receive a seal. Even if digital signatures are not allowed on drawings in a certain jurisdiction, they often are allowed on other documents in accordance with national legislation (such as the US E-SIGN Act or the Canadian Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act).

Contact information for licensing boards

Architects

- U.S.A. <http://www.ncarb.org/stateboards/index.html>
- Canada http://cacb.ca/index.cfm?Repertoire_No=660386109&Voir=liens

Engineers

- U.S.A. http://www.ncees.org/licensure/licensing_boards/
- Canada http://www.engineerscanada.ca/e/co_cms.cfm

Surveyors

- U.S.A. http://www.ncees.org/licensure/licensing_boards/
- Canada <http://www.ccls-ccag.ca/links.htm>

Landscape Architects

- U.S.A. <http://www.asla.org/Members/publicaffairs/stlialicbds.htm>
- Canada <http://www.csla.ca/eng/index.html>

Model laws regarding digital signatures

The National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) publishes model guidelines for state engineering licensing boards. These guidelines include a section on digital signatures that has been used by several licensing boards in their own rule and laws. The Banjo plug-in complies with the requirements of these guidelines. The NCEES guidelines are available on line at: http://www.ncees.org/introduction/about_ncees/model_rules_2008.pdf

Legend

-  Digital signatures are allowed
-  Digital signatures are not currently allowed
-  Not currently allowed, but policy is under consideration for change
-  Seal and signature not required
-  Information not available

State	Architects	Engineers	Surveyors	Landscape Architects
Alabama	Green	Green	Green	Green
Alaska	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Arizona	Green	Green	Green	Green
Arkansas	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green
California	Green	Green	Green	Green
Colorado	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Connecticut	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Delaware	Orange	Green	Orange	Green
Dist of Columbia	Orange	Green	Orange	Green
Florida	Yellow	Green	Green	Orange
Georgia	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Hawaii	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Idaho	Orange	Green	Green	Orange
Illinois	Orange	Structural Eng. only	Green	Green
Indiana	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Iowa	Green	Green	Green	Green
Kansas	Green	Green	Green	Green
Kentucky	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Louisiana	Green	Green	Green	Green
Maine	Green	Green	Green	Green
Maryland	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange
Massachusetts	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
Michigan	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green
Minnesota	Green	Green	Green	Green
Mississippi	Green	Green	Green	Orange
Missouri	Green	Green	Green	Orange
Montana	Green	Green	Green	Green
Nebraska	Green	Green	Green	Orange
Nevada	Green	Orange	Orange	Orange
New Hampshire	Green	Green	Green	Grey
New Jersey	Orange	Orange	Orange	Orange
New Mexico	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
New York	Green	Green	Green	Green
North Carolina	Green	Green	Green	Green
North Dakota	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green
Ohio	Green	Green	Green	Green
Oklahoma	Green	Green	Green	Orange
Oregon	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Pennsylvania	Green	Green	Green	Green
Rhode Island	Orange	Orange	Orange	Green
South Carolina	Green	Green	Green	Green
South Dakota	Green	Green	Green	Green
Tennessee	Green	Green	Green	Green
Texas	Green	Green	Green	Green
Utah	Green	Green	Green	Green
Vermont	Green	Orange	Orange	Grey
Virginia	Green	Green	Green	Green
Washington	Yellow	Green	Green	Orange
West Virginia	Orange	Green	Green	Green
Wisconsin	Green	Green	Green	Green
Wyoming	Green	Orange	Orange	Green

Province	Architects	Engineers	Surveyors	Landscape Architects
Alberta	Yellow	Green	Green	Grey
British Columbia	Green	Yellow	Green	Yellow
Labrador	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Manitoba	Orange	Green	Green	Green
New Brunswick	Green	Green	Yellow	Grey
Newfoundland	Green	Green	Yellow	Green
Nova Scotia	Green	Green	Green	Grey
NW Territories	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Grey
Ontario	Green	Green	Orange	Yellow
Prince Edward Is.	Green	Green	Green	Grey
Quebec	Green	Green	Green	Green
Saskatchewan	Orange	Orange	Green	Grey
Yukon	Green	Orange	Green	Grey