

# Certification of Plans

**Design Manual**  
**Chapter 1**  
**General Information**

Originally Issued: 05-02-97  
 Revised: 11-26-19

All official plans are to be certified according to the requirements set forth by the Iowa Engineering and Land Surveying Examining Board. The official plan is the final plan submitted to the Contracts and Specifications Bureau for letting.

A professional engineer or other licensed professional must certify every sheet in a plan. This is done by indicating on the signature block which sheet numbers are covered by the professional's seal.


**Quick Tips:**

- Signature blocks should be placed on the first plan sheet that is covered by the professional's seal.
- Plan information prepared under the direction of separate professionals should not be placed on the same sheet.

## Primary Signature Block

The primary signature block (see Figure 1) is placed on the title sheet and should contain:

- The seal of the engineer who is in overall charge of the project's design. This engineer will normally be the Design Projects Engineer or Assistant for projects designed by the Department, and for projects designed by consultants, an engineer designated by the consulting firm as being in responsible charge of the design.
- The engineer's signature and the date.
- The engineer's name, printed or typed.
- The engineer's license renewal date.
- The sheet numbers that are covered by the engineer's seal.

	<p>I hereby certify that this plan was prepared by me or under my direct personal supervision and that I am a duly licensed Professional Engineer under the laws of the State of Iowa.</p> <p>_____ Signature <span style="float: right;">Date</span></p> <p>_____ Printed or Typed Name</p> <p>My license renewal date is December 31, _____</p> <p>Pages or sheets covered by this seal: <u>A.1, B.1, C.1, X.1-X.5</u></p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
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**Figure 1:** The primary signature block is placed on the title sheet. Sheet numbers listed are those covered by the engineer's seal.

## Other Signature Blocks

Parts of the plan that are designed under the direction of other licensed professionals should have separate signature blocks that relate to their part of the project (see Figure 2). These signature blocks are placed on the first plan sheet that is covered by the licensed professionals' seals. Each signature block should list the sheet numbers that are covered by the licensed professional's seal.



Plan information prepared under the direction of separate licensees should not be placed on the same sheet. In other words, two licensed professionals should not be responsible for the same plan sheet.

A separate signature block should not be used on sheet C.01, even if the quantity estimates were checked primarily by another licensed engineer. The Roadway Design block is used for sheets related to road design that are included in other types of projects (such as bridge projects).

ROADWAY DESIGN	
	I hereby certify that this plan was prepared under my supervision and that engineering decisions with regard to the design were made by me or by other duly licensed Professional Engineers under the laws of the State of Iowa.
Signature _____	Date _____
Printed or Typed Name _____	
My license renewal date is December 31, _____	
Pages or sheets covered by this seal: _____	

HYDRAULIC DESIGN	
	I hereby certify that this plan was prepared under my supervision and that engineering decisions with regard to the design were made by me or by other duly licensed Professional Engineers under the laws of the State of Iowa.
Signature _____	Date _____
Printed or Typed Name _____	
My license renewal date is December 31, _____	
Pages or sheets covered by this seal: _____	

LANDSCAPE DESIGN	
	I hereby certify that this plan was prepared by me or under my direct personal supervision and I am a duly registered Landscape Architect under the laws of the State of Iowa.
Signature _____	Date _____
Printed or Typed Name _____	
My registration renewal date is December 31, _____	
Pages or sheets covered by this seal: _____	

GEOTECHNICAL DESIGN	
	I hereby certify that this plan was prepared under my supervision and that engineering decisions with regard to the design were made by me or by other duly licensed Professional Engineers under the laws of the State of Iowa.
Signature _____	Date _____
Printed or Typed Name _____	
My license renewal date is December 31, _____	
Pages or sheets covered by this seal: _____	

LIGHTING DESIGN	
	I hereby certify that this plan was prepared under my supervision and that engineering decisions with regard to the design were made by me or by other duly licensed Professional Engineers under the laws of the State of Iowa.
Signature _____	Date _____
Printed or Typed Name _____	
My license renewal date is December 31, _____	
Pages or sheets covered by this seal: _____	

**Figure 2:** Separate signature blocks are used for parts of the plan designed under the direction of other licensed professionals.

## Index of Seals

If parts of the plan are being certified by other licensed professionals, the title sheet should also contain an index of seals. This is a tabulation that identifies the sheet number where any other signature blocks are located, as well as the licensee's name and area of design (see Figure 3).

INDEX OF SEALS		
SHEET NO.	NAME	TYPE
A.01	Kent D. Nicholson	Primary Signature Block
A.03		<i>See Revision Sheet</i>
Q.01	Robert L. Stanley	Geotechnical Design
V.01	William D. Tucker	Structural Design

**Figure 3:** The index of seals is included on the title sheet if there are other signature blocks in the plan. If there are revisions, the include the revision sheet number(s) in the index.

## Plan Revisions

See Section [1E-3](#) for information on when plan revisions are required.

When sheets are revised or new sheets are added, place the signature block of the licensed professional in charge of the revision on the first sheet. Signature blocks for revisions should be filled out in the same manner as the other blocks, with the revised sheet numbers listed that are covered by the seal.

If there is more than one plan revision, a different revision sheet should be used each time.

The sheet number of the revision sheet(s) should also be included in the index of seals on the original title sheet (see Figure 3).

# Chronology of Changes to Design Manual Section:

## 001E-001 Certification of Plans

11/26/2019 Revised

Clarified no more than one signature block per plan sheet. Changed Office to Bureau.

8/31/2010 Revised

To eliminate the text requiring handwritten signatures, revise the graphics and have the issue date reflect it has been recently reviewed.