

QBS FAQ's

1. What is QBS?

A process to procure engineering or land surveying services that first determines the qualifications of the engineer or land surveyor prior to entering into fee negotiations.

2. How does it work?

The basics of QBS are: (1) An engineer or land surveyor submits a statement of qualification and performance data; (2) a determination is made as to the individuals or firms that meet the qualifications for the project (3), the Client and first qualified individual or firm enter into fee negotiations, (4) if no agreement can be reached, the Client moves on to the second qualified firm to begin fee negotiations and the first firm is disqualified.

3. Is QBS required for private work?

Yes. QBS is required for both private and public work.

4. Can engineers bid on projects?

No. Simultaneous negotiations or solicitation of fee proposals by the client from two or more engineers constitutes "bidding" and participation by a licensee is prohibited.

5. Do professional land surveyors have to use QBS?

Yes and No.

QBS does not apply to boundary surveys on private land where the survey is not intended for use as a basis for engineering design at the time of preparation.

QBS is required for surveys that are prepared in accordance with the standards specified by the American Land Title Association (ALTA) and the National Society of Professional Surveyors (NSPS).

6. If not selected after the first fee negotiation, can I be reconsidered?

No. You cannot be reconsidered unless the client disqualifies **all** individuals or firms and begins a new QBS process.

7. Is the QBS process required for the Commissioning of Engineering works?

Yes. The Commissioning of Engineering Works is defined as the practice of engineering.