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## Resident and Non-Resident Neutral Evaluator Registration

TYPE AND CLASS:

**00-57 Neutral Evaluator Registration**

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### Common Use(s) of Registration:

Florida Statute 627.706(2)(c) defines a "neutral evaluator" as an engineer licensed under chapter 471 with experience and expertise in the identification of sinkhole activity as well as other potential causes of structural damage or a professional geologist. The engineer or professional geologist must have completed a course of study in alternative dispute resolution designed or approved by the department for use in the neutral evaluation process, must be determined by the department to be fair and impartial, and must not be otherwise ineligible for certification as provided in s. 627.7074.

Florida Statute 627.706(2)(g) defines a "professional geologist" as a person, as defined in s. 492.102, who has a bachelor's degree or higher in geology or related earth science and experience and expertise in the identification of sinkhole activity as well as other potential geologic causes of structural damage.

All neutral evaluators must [file an application](#) under oath to the department for approval.

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### State Qualifications

- Applicant must have successfully completed a course of study in alternative dispute resolution (ADR) by one of the [approved providers](#), which has been approved by the Department of Financial Services; **and**
- Applicant can **not** be employed by a property insurer, property insurance adjuster, or adjusting firm; **and**
- Must be licensed as an Engineer or Professional Geologist with the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR).