QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER — OCTOBER 2026

SRPL BOARD BULLETIN

KEEPING LSRPs INFORMED — WWW.NJ.GOV/LSRPBOARD/

Artificial Intelligence Is Everywhere!

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is everywhere you look – in the news, on your computer, in your phone. As an LSRP you may be wondering, is AI something that I can use to help with my practice?

The SRPL Board has issued guidance making it clear: Yes, you can use AI for data analysis, predictive modeling, document prep, and more. But you, the LSRP, remain in charge and accountable.

When using AI, always keep in mind:

1. Exercise independent professional judgment – do not defer to AI, ever.
2. Trust, but verify - AI is only as good as its training data, so double-check everything.
3. Your name, your responsibility - If you certify it, you own it.

LSRP responsibilities when using AI:

1. Disclose when you've used AI.
2. Watch out for AI "hallucinations" (AI can, and does, make stuff up!).
3. Keep client data secure.
4. Remember AI is a tool - not a colleague, not an expert.

The Board's full guidance document on the use of AI is available on the Board website AI Guidance

SRPL Board Budget & Fee Report 2027

Good news: We're still in the black (barely!) AND your fees aren't going up!

FY 2027 Board Budget (July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027)

The Money Coming In: $749,736

Our revenue streams are pretty straightforward (LSRP Numbers are projections):

- Annual License Fees: $701,910 (our bread and butter—thanks, 709 LSRPs!)
- New Pro-rated Licenses: $6,270 (welcome, 38 newbies!)
- Application Fees: $24,156 (66 hopefuls knocking on our door)
- License Renewals: $17,400 (116 LSRPs hitting their 3-year mark)

The Money Going Out: $881,801

- Personnel Costs (76% of budget): $668,446
- Operating Expenses (24% of budget): $213,355
    - Testing Consultant: $180,000
    - Deputy Attorney General: $25,000
    - Everything else: $8,355

The Bottom Line:

FY27 Projected Deficit: -$132,065

Fortunately, we have savings:

- FY26 Carry-Forward: $341,149
- FY27 Projected Carry-Forward: $209,084

We're spending more than we earn this year, but our reserves keep us comfortable. For now…

Fee Type	Current Fee	Calculated Fee	Actual CY2027 Fee
Application	$366	$297	$366
3-Year Renewal	$150	$183	$150
Annual License	$990	$1,178	$990

CY 2027 Annual Fee Calculation Report

Fees were calculated as required by the Board Rules using data from FY2025 and FY2026.

The Good News: FEES AREN'T CHANGING!

Even though the Board *could* charge more for renewals and annual licenses, we're keeping everything the same thanks to our healthy carry-forward balance.

How We Calculated:

Application Fee ($297 calculated):

- Takes 2.79 hours on average to review an application
- Board staff hourly cost (salary + overhead): $106.56
- Math: 2.79 hours × $106.56 = $297.30
- Keeping at $366 (but FYI, no exam in 2027 anyway!)

Renewal Fee ($183 calculated):

- Takes 1.76 hours on average to process a renewal
- Board staff hourly cost (salary + overhead): $103.99
- Math: 1.76 hours × $103.99 = $183.02
- Keeping at $150

Annual License Fee ($1,178 calculated):

- Total budget: $881,801
- Minus application/renewal collections: $46,800
- Divided by 709 LSRPs = $1,177.72
- Keeping at $990

Why We Can Keep Fees Flat: Our Carry-Forward cushion lets us absorb the difference and account for unpredictable costs like:

- Legal support
- Potential litigation
- Exam administration

Your 2027 Fees at a Glance:

- Application Fee: $366
- 3-Year Renewal Fee: $150
- Annual License Fee: $990
- No surprises. No increases.

Full reports are available on the Board Website at Board Budget and Board Annual Fee Report

Board Member Spotlight: Kathleen F. Stetser

Ms. Stetser, a Vice President in the industrial remediation practice at GEI Consultants, has 33 years of consulting experience and specializes in environmental program management, litigation

& enforcement support and New Jersey site remediation services for clients primarily within the chemical, pharmaceutical, and manufacturing business sectors. Kathi is a NJ regulatory specialist and is expert in matters relating to the Industrial Site Recovery Act (ISRA) and other NJ Remediation Rules and Guidance. A licensed professional geologist (PA and FL) and a New Jersey LSRP, Kathi received both bachelor's and master's degrees in Geology from the University of Delaware. Click here to read Kathleen F. Stetser's full biography.

Kathi has been involved with the LSRP program since its inception, participating on committees with NJDEP and outside stakeholders including assisting in the formation of the Licensed Site Remediation Professional Association (LSRPA). She continues to serve on technical and regulatory committees with both NJDEP and LSRPA and is active in teaching continuing education classes. She has served on the Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board since July 2015.



Kathi also serves on the Board of Trustees of the Friends School Mullica Hill. In her free time, Kathi, her husband Brian and daughter Carina enjoy traveling. Meeting new people, learning their culture, eating the delicious food, exploring landscapes and maybe collecting a few rocks are favorite activities for the family. This summer, Kathi has been chasing her favorite band, Rush, around the country - seeing them 8 times, including in their home city of Toronto and front row in Philadelphia! Kathi and Brian are rescuers of cats and currently share their home with 8 formerly feral friends. Kathi is happy to report that Carina graduated from Drexel this year with a BS in interior design!

Kathi's Tip for LSRPs is to always clearly document your decisions and be sure PRCRs understand their timeframes!

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS KEY POINTS FOR LICENSE RENEWAL

Lawra Dodge, Continuing Education Committee Chairperson

Every LSRP is required to participate in continuing education, and completing continuing education requirements is mandatory for license renewal. Do you know what the requirements are?

- To meet the continuing education requirement for license renewal, LSRPs must earn a minimum of 36 continuing education credits (“CECs”) within the 3-year license renewal period.

- Only programs approved by the SRPL Board for continuing education credit will count towards the 36 CECs required for license renewal. Not sure if the program you are attending has been approved?

  Click here to check the list of approved programs on the SRPL Board Website in the Continuing Education section,

- Of the 36 CECs required for license renewal each LSRP must earn a minimum of 3 Ethics CECs, 10 Regulatory CECs, and 14 Technical CECs. The remaining 9 CECs may be distributed amongst any of these 3 categories and the category of Individual Professional Development (this is not a required category).

- Up to 18 of the 36 CECs may be attended in “Alternative Verifiable Learning Format (AVLF)".

- An AVLF continuing education program is defined as a continuing education program that does not allow interaction with an instructor or other participants in the course in real time; for example, a pre-recorded webinar, videotaped presentation, or slide show.

- “Live” programs, whether offered in person or online, allow participants to ask questions of the instructors and receive a response through a live chat function or direct interaction in real time.

- Certain programs may be offered in both AVLF and Live format. Attendees should check the program certificate provided to them to be sure that the format in which they attended the program is correctly noted.

- Continuing education programs must be listed on the license renewal application in the order of their course numbers 2024-001, 2025-006, etc., and copies of course certificates should also be provided in that order. The complete application, including certificates, must be submitted to the Board as one PDF.

- What if you are nearing your application period and you have not completed your continuing education requirements? Notify the Board that your application will be late. Complete your requirements as soon as you can and submit your application once you have received all certificates. Note that the Board cannot guarantee that your application will be renewed before your expiration date if it is submitted after your application period (120-90 days prior to the license expiration date).

Pro Tip: To avoid submitting your application late, try to complete your continuing education requirements as early as you can in your 3-year license renewal period.



Attention LSRPs: Do you have tips for fellow LSRPs, ideas for future newsletter topics, or photos from the field you'd like to share? Please contact the Board and we will be happy to include your ideas!

Click Here to Submit Your Reply to the Q4-SRPL Board Bulletin Newsletter (October 2026)

Have a wonderful autumn and a productive winter season.

Have a question about the NJ SRPL Board?

Click Here to Email the NJ SRPL Board



Picture: Adorable Harbor Seal popping his head out of the water

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