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## SOILS AND FOUNDATIONS TESTING AND INSPECTION

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# IR 17-7

References:

- California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 24
- Part 1: California Administrative Code, Sections 4-333, and 4-335
- Part 2: California Building Code, Chapters 17A, and 18A

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Discipline: Structural

This Interpretation of Regulations (IR) is intended for use by the Division of the State Architect (DSA) staff, and as a resource for design professionals, to promote more uniform statewide criteria for plan review and construction inspection of projects within the jurisdiction of DSA which includes State of California public elementary and secondary schools (grades K-12), community colleges, and state-owned or state-leased essential services buildings. This IR indicates an acceptable method for achieving compliance with applicable codes and regulations, although other methods proposed by design professionals may be considered by DSA.

This IR is reviewed on a regular basis and is subject to revision at any time. Please check the DSA web site for currently effective IRs. Only IRs listed in the document at <http://www.dgs.ca.gov/dsa/Resources/IRManual.aspx> at the time of plan submittal to DSA are considered applicable.

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**Purpose:** The purpose of this Interpretation of Regulations (IR) is to clarify structural test requirements for soil and foundation aspects of projects under DSA jurisdiction. This IR does not apply to the initial soil investigation or project design phase.

- See [IR 17-4](#) for general information on the test and special inspection program and definitions of “tests” vs. “special inspections.”
- See [IR 17-5](#) for further information on test requirements.
- See [IR 17-6](#) for information on special inspection requirements.

**General:** All construction phase laboratory or field soil testing and inspection shall be performed by qualified technicians or inspectors employed by a testing laboratory currently accepted in the DSA Laboratory Evaluation and Acceptance (LEA) program. The tests and or inspections shall be performed under the supervision of a California registered geotechnical engineer (GE) employed by, or subcontracted by the testing laboratory.

**1. GE RESPONSIBILITIES:** The GE is responsible for:

- 1.1** Verifying the qualifications of all technicians and inspection staff, including training, education and experience.
- 1.2** Supervision of all soil related testing and inspection personnel.
- 1.3** Verifying that tests and inspections performed adhere to the applicable codes and reference standards
- 1.4** Verifying that the reporting of all testing and inspection is performed accurately, thoroughly and in a timely manner as required by the California Building Code (CBC).
- 1.5** Submitting verified reports on Form [DSA-293](#) (see Section 3 below).

**2. PROGRESS REPORTS:** Daily reports are required for soil testing and inspection activities that occur at the project site. Daily reports shall be provided to the project inspector each day. Copies of daily reports and reports of tests performed in the laboratory shall be sent to the project inspector, architect, structural engineer, school district, and DSA within 14 days of the date of the test.

**3. VERIFIED REPORTS:** At the conclusion of soils related testing activities, and at other times as specified in Title 24, Part 1, Section 4-336(c), the GE shall submit Form DSA-293 to the school district with copies to the architect, structural engineer, project inspector, and DSA.