



GISCEye!

The Official Newsletter of the GIS Certification Institute

First Quarter 2022: Volume 6, Issue 1

In this issue:

- Meet Our Staff
- GISCI Insider Tips
- GISCI Retired Designation Policy (GISP-R) for Retired GISPs
- GISCI Endorsement Designation
- COVID Tips for Recertification

June 2022 GISCI Geospatial Core Technical Knowledge Exam®

Our next testing date is June 4-11, 2022. Visit <https://www.gisci.org/ExamInfo.aspx> for more information and to sign up.

Meet Our New Staff

Brittney Sones—GISCI Program Director



The GISCI welcomed Brittney Sones as the new Program Director in October 2021. Brittney will be taking over exam responsibilities as well as helping with user and

administrative tasks. Brittney comes to the GIS Certification Institute after over 18 years of state service with the Missouri Department of Conservation where she managed office operations at the Central Regional Office and Conservation Research Center in Columbia, MO. Brittney earned a Bachelors degree from Columbia College with emphasis in Business and Education. She is a member of the Mid America GIS Consortium and has taken an active role in their symposium delivery.

"I look forward to assisting GISP candidates on their road to professional certification."

-Brittney Sones

Tony Spicci – GISCI Executive Director



Tony assumed his new position as ED in May 2021. Tony Spicci has been active in the geospatial community for

over 30 years. He recently retired from the Missouri Department of Conservation after building a team of research specialists that conduct and support science within the Department. Tony is an active member of the Missouri GIS Advisory Committee, National States Geographic Information Council, Missouri Geographic Names Board and is a past member of the National Geospatial Advisory Committee. Tony helped lead the effort to create the Coalition of Geospatial Organizations (COGO) where he serves today. In addition to working for the GISCI, Tony is a member of Missouri Task Force 1, a FEMA Urban Search and Rescue Team and a volunteer with the Boone County Fire Protection District.

"During the next three years I would like to increase the value of this GISP designation to the community and our members, increase the expectation of certification from employers and contractors, and finally to grow our community.."

-Tony Spicci



◆ **Keep your user profile current**—We use your profile for many things including your certificate. Login and update your profile as your address or email changes.

◆ **Documentation**—When recertifying you do not need to include any documentation other than your signed ethics statement.

◆ **Start your recertification now!**
- Your recertification portfolio is a living document. Don't wait until the last minute to update your records. Login once a year and update your portfolio so you don't have to try to remember everything over the last three years!

COVID has impacted all of us in different ways. We know that for some of you recertification may be a little more challenging during the next few years. Here are some tips to help you get the recertification points you need:

- Consider attending virtual events – Any virtual event counts the same as an in-person event. There is a wealth of free and low-cost training available online. Take advantage of this!
- Education is a broad category – Your education does not need to be hands on GIS training only. Any education that helps you develop as a geospatial professional count.
- Get involved – The easiest way to earn contribution points is to join a professional society or user group. Get involved with your local coordination council, special interest group or national organization like AAG, NSGIC, UCGIS or URISA.
- Volunteer – This is one of the best ways to earn contribution points. Volunteer for your local community organization, the URISA GIS Corps or host a GIS activity. Giving back to the community is always rewarding.

If you are experiencing difficulties with recertifying, please let us know and we will work with you. COVID will not be a reason you cannot recertify.



Retired Designation Policy (GISP-R) for Retired GISPs

The GIS Certification Institute has created a new designation for Geospatial Professionals to remain a part of the GISP Community into their retirement. The newly created GISP Retired Designation (GISP-R) allows current GISPs to maintain their certification in a limited capacity. Upon retirement from the workforce and a paid position as a GIS Professional, current GISPs can apply for the

GISP-R. This designation would not require adherence to the criteria for standard recertification and allow retired GIS Professionals to continue their involvement in the GIS Profession in a voluntary, un-paid capacity if they desire. This would include volunteer activities in the local community, academics, participation in conferences, participation in professional organizations, committee, or board positions (if un-paid) and articles in professional journals.

The GISP Retired Designation is not automatic, and candidates must apply for consideration. The Executive Director will review all applicants on a case-by-case basis. Candidates for the GISP-R designation must have been an active GISP in good standing for a minimum of three consecutive recertification cycles (9 years) and must continue to abide by the same ethics of a GISP.

For more information please visit the GISP-R page <https://www.gisci.org/Recertification/GISP%E2%80%93R.aspx>

The application is now open to interested GISPs.

GISCI Endorsement Designation

The GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) has created the [GISCI Endorsement Designation Program](#) to help increase the value of GISP Certification for our primary stakeholders, and to help facilitate the growth of the GISP Program within the geospatial community. The GISCI will grant the GISCI Endorsement Designation to organizations that the GISCI deems to be supportive of GIS Professionals and the GISP Certification process by way of internal activities, programs, and policies.

The designation is not only a commitment to GISP Certification for staff, but also to upholding the ideals of the GIS Certification Institute.

The [GISCI Endorsement Designation](#) is available to all organizations (public, private/commercial) with exception of GISCI member organizations. Organizations seeking the GISCI Endorsement Designation must submit a formal application listing the criteria met as verified by the organization's HR representative. A review committee will evaluate each application and if the organization meets the criteria, the committee will forward the application to the GISCI Board of Directors for approval. Each approved GISCI Endorsement will last for three (3) years, provide the organization with permission to display their organization logo on our website and provide permission to display the GISCI Endorsement designation on their website. There is no cost to obtain this designation. More information is available at <https://www.gisci.org/Employers/GISCIEndorsedEmployer.aspx>

About the GISCI

The GIS Certification Institute (GISCI) is a non-profit organization that promotes the advancement of proficient GIS professionals through its international GISP® (Certified GIS Professional) certification program. The Institute fosters rigorous professional and ethical standards, community engagement, and professional mentoring within the GIS industry.

More information about GISCI can be found at www.gisci.org.