



## **Provisional License: FAQ Sheet**

### **What is a Provisional License?**

The Provisional License is a new designation that recently came into effect under the provisions of *The Engineering, Geological and Geophysical Professions Act and Regulations* of Alberta. The Provisional License is available to an internationally educated engineer, geologist or geophysicist who has satisfied all the requirements for registration as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist with APEGGA except the one year equivalent North American engineering, geology or geophysics experience requirement.

### **What does the Provisional License designation signify?**

The Provisional License will be proof to potential employers and the general public that your qualifications have been reviewed and found to be acceptable by APEGGA with the exception of the one year equivalent North American experience requirement. Once you provide APEGGA with evidence of one year of acceptable referenced equivalent North American experience, you will become registered as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist.

### **How does the Provisional Licensee designation help employers?**

It will help employers make hiring decisions because the Provisional License will inform the employer that you have already applied to APEGGA and have had your qualifications reviewed by APEGGA, and that APEGGA has found you meet all the requirements for registration as a professional member except for one year equivalent North American experience. It informs the employer you do not need to write any examinations or satisfy any other conditions and that once you gain that one year experience, you will be eligible for registration as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist with APEGGA.

### **What is meant by one year equivalent North American engineering, geology or geophysics experience and why is it required?**

In most cases, it means one year of Canadian engineering, geology or geophysics level experience. In rare cases, experience outside Canada may satisfy the requirement. The reason for this requirement is to ensure that before an individual becomes licensed to independently practice engineering, geology or geophysics in Alberta, he or she must have sufficient exposure to Canadian codes, standards, climate conditions, ethics, culture, workplace environment and business practices to be able to practice skillfully, competently, professionally, and ethically within the Alberta workplace environment.

### **Do I have to pass the National Professional Practice Examination before I can become a Provisional Licensee?**

Yes.

### **Can a Provisional Licensee practice?**

A Provisional Licensee may practice engineering, geology or geophysics only under the supervision and control of

- (a) a professional engineer, geologist or geophysicist, or
- (b) a registered professional technologist

who has appropriate training and experience in the same area of practice.

### **Is a Provisional Licensee entitled to receive a stamp, seal or certificate?**

No. A Provisional Licensee must practice under the supervision and control of a professional member or a registered professional technologist and as such is not entitled to receive a stamp, seal or certificate. Once you become licensed as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist, you will receive a certificate and will be able to order a stamp or seal.

### **Will Provisional Licensees be included in APEGGA's membership register?**

Yes. A Provisional Licensee will appear on the register of APEGGA members which is accessible to the public. In this way, employers and the general public can check for themselves and verify your enrollment as a Provisional Licensee.

### **How long can an individual be a Provisional Licensee with APEGGA?**

No person may remain in the register of Provisional Licensees for more than 2 years. The Council may, in a particular case, extend the time period to not more than 4 years where the Council considers it appropriate to do so.

### **Can a Provisional Licensee hold a permit to practice with APEGGA?**

No. A Provisional Licensee must practice under the supervision and control of a professional member or a registered professional technologist and as such is not entitled to hold a permit to practice with APEGGA. Once you become licensed as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist you will be entitled to hold a permit to practice with APEGGA.

### **What title can a Provisional Licensee use on business cards, correspondence and related documents?**

Provisional Licensees may use one of the following titles:

- Provisional Licensee (Engineering)/Provisional Licensee(Geology)/Provisional Licensee (Geophysics)
- Provisional Lic.(Eng.)/Provisional Lic.(Geol.)/Provisional Lic.(Geoph.)

**Can a Provisional Licensee vote or hold office with APEGGA?**

No, a Provisional Licensee may not vote in any matter affecting the Association or hold office in the Association.

**Will a Provisional Licensee be required to pay annual dues?**

Yes, a person who is enrolled as a Provisional Licensee shall pay annual dues as prescribed by Council. The current annual dues are \$140.00 and you will be billed upon enrollment.

**Will a Provisional Licensee be sent a membership card?**

Yes, a Provisional Licensee will be sent a membership card upon receipt of payment of the annual dues. This membership card will indicate your status as a Provisional Licensee.

**Can a Provisional Licensee be removed from the register for non-payment of annual dues?**

Yes, a Provisional Licensee may be struck from the register for non-payment of annual dues.

**Does a Provisional Licensee have to comply with the Continuing Professional Development Program?**

No, the CPD program does not apply to Provisional Licensees. The CPD program will apply once you become licensed as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist.

**What other benefits is a Provisional Licensee entitled to?**

Some of the benefits of becoming enrolled as a Provisional Licensee include the right to use the Provisional Licensee designation, job placement assistance, competitive insurance and investment plans sponsored by Engineers Canada, receipt of Association publications, eligibility for the dues deferment programs and attendance at Association meetings.

**How do you apply for Provisional Licensee status?**

There is no separate application form for Provisional Licensee status. You apply to APEGGA using the regular application form for Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist registration. If you meet all the requirements for registration as a Professional Member except the one year equivalent North American experience requirement, you will be contacted by APEGGA and given the option of becoming a Provisional Licensee if you wish. The determination of whether you meet the requirements for enrollment as a Provisional Licensee will be made by the APEGGA Board of Examiners as part of the review of your qualifications for licensure as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist.

### **What is the difference between a Provisional Licensee and a Member in Training?**

The Provisional License is available to an internationally educated graduate who has met all the requirements for registration as a Professional Member including the academics requirement, good character and reputation, English language proficiency, National Professional Practice Exam and experience requirement except one year equivalent North American experience.

A Member in Training is someone who has met the academic requirements and the good character and reputation requirement. A member in training will have to provide evidence of at least four years of acceptable engineering, geology or geophysics experience including one year equivalent North American experience and will also have to satisfy the English language proficiency and the National Professional Practice Examination requirements before being eligible for registration as a Professional Member.

### **How does a Provisional Licensee become a Professional Member?**

As a Provisional Licensee, you must obtain the one year of acceptable referenced equivalent North American engineering, geology or geophysics level experience under the supervision and control of a Professional Member or Registered Professional Technologist who has appropriate training and experience in the same area of practice. Once you have obtained the one year experience, you simply provide APEGGA with updated information for that work experience and also provide APEGGA with the name and contact information of your supervisor. APEGGA will obtain a reference questionnaire from your supervisor. You do not need to apply again or pay any additional application fees. The Board of Examiners will review the updated information and if the experience is acceptable engineering, geology or geophysics level experience, the Board will register you as a Professional Engineer, Geologist or Geophysicist.

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