



A P E G S

*Association of Professional Engineers
& Geoscientists of Saskatchewan*

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APEGS' TECHNICAL EXAMINATION PROGRAM FOR GEOSCIENTISTS

Why a technical exam program?

The Academic Review Committee (ARC) must ensure that your academic program is comparable to a Canadian, 4 year bachelor degree in geoscience that meets the academic standard defined by the Canadian Geoscience Standard Council (CGSC).

The CGSC has set out the academic standard for licensure as a geoscientist-in-training in the document "Geoscience Knowledge and Experience Requirements for Professional Registration in Canada" (GKE). The GKE document is available on our website <http://www.apecs.ca/Portal/Pages/International-Geoscience-Graduates>. APEGS will do a detailed comparison of your degree against that standard. You will be required to take a technical exam(s) either to fill a gap(s) in your program relative to the Canadian syllabus (deficiency exams) or to demonstrate that the level of your program is at the same level as a Canadian program (confirmatory exams).

APEGS' Technical exam programs

Confirmatory Exams: Confirmatory exams test that the level of the program you took is comparable to a Canadian 4 year Bachelor degree in geoscience. You must write three exams from Section 1 or Section 2 of GKE.

Deficiencies: If the ARC determined that there are gaps in your education compared to the GKE, then you will be assigned deficiency exam(s). These are specific subject areas that you did not cover adequately in your education. To fulfill the deficiency(s) you may take an approved university course or write the exam. You must get approval from ARC to take a course. To get a course approved you must send the following information to questions-academicreview@apecs.ca: Name of the institution, name and number of the course, and a description of the course content published by the institution. ARC will review your request and let you know if it is acceptable.

Time limit for writing exams

Technical exams are offered twice annually (in May and December). All exam programs must be successfully completed within four years of the date that the applicant was notified of his/her exam program.

Performance standards

The pass mark for all exams is 50%. To get credit for a deficiency a passing mark is required. An applicant will be considered to have successfully completed the confirmatory exam program if the average mark of the three technical exam is at least 55% and a pass mark (at least 50%) is received in each exam.

Good-performance review policy

If an applicant receives a very good mark on their first confirmatory exam, they may be exempt from writing the remaining exams. There is not set mark required for this policy. It depends on each individual's specific academic background and the results of all others who wrote the same exam.

The Academic Review Committee will review the results of each confirmatory exam and determine if there is reason to waive the remaining exams. If an exam is not passed, then the applicant may rewrite it, or they may choose to try and write in another subject. The good performance criteria applies only to confirmatory exams. There is not a good performance criteria for deficiencies. All deficiencies must be fulfilled.

Exam application and fees

Exam applications can be found on the APEGS website: <https://www.apegs.ca/Portal/Pages/technical-exams--geoscience-7>

Exam Fees: PEO \$210/exam;

APEGA \$262.50/exam or \$450 + GST (Fundamentals of Geoscience (FG))

All exam fees are non-refundable.

When and where are exams offered in Canada

Technical exams are held in May and December at several locations in Saskatchewan and across Canada. Exams are usually offered over a five-day period. Applications to write exams are due in February for the May sitting and in August for the December sitting (check the APEGS website for specific due dates). If the technical exam application is not received by the times indicated above, applicants should call APEGS to see if it is possible to write their specific exam. If exams have already been requested by others, then it is possible to register after the deadline. See below for more information on the APEGA FG exam.

Saskatchewan Exam Centres

Exams are offered twice a year in May and December at the following locations in Saskatchewan:

Moose Jaw

North Battleford

Prince Albert

Regina

Saskatoon

Yorkton

The timetable and exact location of exams is posted on the APEGS website as soon as it is available, so check the website often. Applicants living inside Regina must write at the APEGS office. Applicants living outside of Regina must use one of the pre-arranged exam centers unless there are extenuating circumstances. If you wish to request special consideration to write somewhere other than one of the exam centers, please contact the APEGS office. You will be required to find your own invigilator who must be a P.Eng., P.Geo. registered in Canada, or an administrative professional at a post-secondary institution. Any other invigilators must be pre-approved by APEGS.

If you want to write somewhere else in Canada, please contact us at questions-academicreview@apegs.ca and use the subject heading "technical exam information".

Writing Exams outside of Canada

It is possible to write exams outside of Canada, but arrangement must be made well in advance. There is an extra charge of \$150 in addition to the exam fee in order to cover extra costs associated with sending the exam out of Canada. The exams must be written at a Canadian or US Embassy or Consulate. If that is not possible, then the British Council may be used.

The exam candidate is responsible to find a suitable invigilator. You must contact the Embassy as soon as possible in order to ascertain whether or not you can write at that location.

Once you have found an embassy to write at, you must email the name, address and email address to us. We will then contact the Embassy directly to arrange for the exam to be sent to them. The Embassy will send the completed exam directly to Professional Engineers of Ontario who set and mark all exams.

If there is a fee charged by the embassy for the invigilation service, the exam candidate is responsible for paying it.

Additional information

Text books and other study materials

PEO and APEGA prepare the technical exams, but APEGS will administer your exams. A list of the exams available for geoscientists from PEO and APEGA is on our website

<https://www.apegs.ca/Portal/Pages/technical-exams---geoscience-7>.

There are two different application forms, one for PEO exams and one for APEGA exams, however you must submit your exam application to APEGS. APEGS will post the list of exam aids on the APEGS website under APPLY/Applications for Geoscientists/ International Geoscience Graduates/Technical Exam Program as soon as it is available.

The PEO website <http://www.peo.on.ca/> has a list of recommended text books for each exam. If you are writing an APEGA exam they will send you a list of the recommended text books.

Some of the books are available in digital format, some only in print. Many of the textbooks are available at local Canadian universities. If you would like to get library privileges at University of Regina or University of Saskatchewan you must send a request to APEGS at questions-academicreview@apegs.ca

You can get textbooks and study aids from the following websites:

www.Amazon.ca

www.chapters.indigo.ca

Direct from the publisher:

Wiley - www.wiley.com

McGraw Hill - www.mheducation.ca

Prentice Hall - www.prenhall.com

Thompson Learning - www.nelsonbrain.com

Marcel Dekker Inc. – www.cplbookshop.com

Wall and Emerson - www.wallbooks.com

ASAE Publication - www.asabe.org

Textbook Rentals:

www.textbookrental.ca

Old Exams:

Previously written exams are available on the EGBC website. The answers to the questions are not included.

<https://www.egbc.ca/Become-a-Member/How-to-Apply/Academic-Examinations-and-Syllabi/Past-Academic-Exams>

Number and Order of exams

You do not have to write all the exams at the same time. We suggest that you write one at a time. You can choose which exam you want to write first. We suggest you choose your best subject.

English Language Skills

You must have good English language skill to successfully complete technical exams. If you need to improve your English you must contact community organizations such as Regina Open Door Society or Saskatoon Open Door Society. They will help you find the right English class.

Exam Results

Exam results are normally mailed within 45 working days following writing of the exam. No results will be given over the telephone or in person at the APEGS offices. Exam papers will not be returned to applicants and answers are not available. Failed exams are automatically re-read. PEO will automatically re-mark all failed exams before the final mark is determined. You may request a formal re-read of your exam. You must pay a non-refundable fee of \$275 (PEO) or \$315 (APEGA) for that request. After you have received the result you have 30 days to submit the re-read request. The re-read mark is final, even if it is lower than the original mark.

Writing the Fundamentals of Geoscience Exam (FG)

You can write the Association of State Boards of Geologists (ASBOG) Fundamentals of Geoscience exam instead of confirmatory exams. This exam is offered through Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA) in March and October. You must submit your application directly to APEGA. A link to their application is available on our website. On the application form you must indicate that you are an APEGS applicant.

You will not be able to submit your application online. You must print it out and email a completed copy to APEGA technical exams@apega.ca.

Working in geoscience before licensure

You may do geoscience work before you get your license, but an APEGS licensed professional engineer or geoscientist must supervise and take responsibility for the work. If you do not have a license from APEGS, it is illegal to use the title “professional geoscientist” or “geoscientist” as part of your job title.

Need more information?

For more information about licensing/registration requirements, please contact:

Academic Review

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