



**A P E G S**

*Association of Professional Engineers  
& Geoscientists of Saskatchewan*

## **APEGS' Technical Exam Program for Geoscience**

### **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 Board (CGSB).

The CGSB has set out the academic standard for licensure as a geoscientist-in-training in the document "Geoscience knowledge and experience requirements for professional licensure in Canada" (GKE). The GKE document is available on our website <http://www.apegs.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 [academicreview@apegs.ca](mailto:academicreview@apegs.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**

You can write technical exams twice a year. If you choose to write exams set by Professional Engineers of Ontario (PEO), the exams are in May and December. If you choose to write exams set by Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta (APEGA), the exams are in April and October. You must complete the exams within 4 years from the date APEGS notified you of your exams.

### **Performance standards**



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The pass mark for all exams is 50%. *Deficiencies:* to get credit for a deficiency you must pass the exam or course. *Confirmatories:* You must pass all three confirmatory exams and get an average of at least 55% on all three exams combined. If you do not pass an exam you may write the exam again or you may write a different exam. If you fail more than once the ARC may determine that you are not qualified to become a member-in-training.

### **Good-performance review policy**

If you receive a very good mark on your first confirmatory exam, you may be exempt from writing the remaining exams. There is no set mark required for this policy. It depends on your specific academic background and the results of all others who wrote the same exam. The ARC will review the results of each confirmatory exam and determine if there is reason to waive the remaining exams. The good performance criteria applies only to confirmatory exams. You must complete all your deficiencies.

### **Text books and other study materials**

PEO and APEGA prepare the technical exams, but APEGGS will administer your exams. A list of the exams available for geoscientists from PEO and APEGA is on our website <http://www.apegs.ca/Portal/Pages/International-Geoscience-Graduates>. There are two different application forms, one for PEO exams and one for APEGA exams, however you must submit your exam application to APEGGS. APEGGS will post the list of exam aids on the APEGGS 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.

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

[www.Amazon.ca](http://www.Amazon.ca)

[www.chapters.indigo.ca](http://www.chapters.indigo.ca)

*Direct from the publisher:*

Wiley - [www.wiley.com](http://www.wiley.com)

McGraw Hill - [www.mheducation.ca](http://www.mheducation.ca)

Prentice Hall - [www.prenhall.com](http://www.prenhall.com)

Thompson Learning - [www.nelsonbrain.com](http://www.nelsonbrain.com)

Marcel Dekker Inc – [www.cplbookshop.com](http://www.cplbookshop.com)

Wall and Emerson - [www.wallbooks.com](http://www.wallbooks.com)



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ASAE Publication - [www.asabe.org](http://www.asabe.org)

*Textbook Rentals:*

[www.textbookrental.ca](http://www.textbookrental.ca)

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 APEGGS at [academicreview@apegs.ca](mailto:academicreview@apegs.ca).

*Old Exams:*

The APEGBC website has examples of some previously written exams. There is a link to the APEGGSBC website on APEGGS' website. Answers to the questions are not included.

### **Exam fees**

Exam Fee: PEO \$175/exam; APEGA \$190 or \$400

All Exam Fees are non-refundable.

### **When and where are exams offered in Saskatchewan?**

You can write technical exams twice a year. If you choose to write exams set by PEO, the exams are in May and December. If you choose to write exams set by Association of APEGA, the exams are in April and October (check the APEGGS website for specific due dates). If you do not submit your exam application by the deadline, you may still be able to write the exam, as long as someone has requested it. Email APEGGS at [academicreview@apegs.ca](mailto:academicreview@apegs.ca) to find out if you can still apply for the exam.

You can write exams in the following Saskatchewan cities:

Moose Jaw

North Battleford

Prince Albert

Regina

Saskatoon

Yorkton

APEGGS will post the exam timetable on the website as soon as it is available, so you must check the website often. It is generally 2 to 3 weeks prior to the exam dates. If you live in Regina you must write your exam(s) at the APEGGS office. If you live outside of Regina you must write your exam at a one of the exam centers, unless there are extenuating circumstances. If you wish to request special consideration to write



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somewhere other than one of the exam centers, please contact the APEGGS office. You will be required to find your own invigilator who must be a P.Eng, or P.Geo registered in Canada, or an administrative professional at a post-secondary institution. Any other invigilators must be pre-approved by APEGGS.

### **Writing Exams Overseas**

You may write exams outside of Canada. You must write your exam at a Canadian Embassy or Consulate the same day as everyone else writes the exam in Canada. You must make the arrangements with someone at the Embassy/Consulate to invigilate your exam. Please contact the APEGGS office at [academicreview@apegs.ca](mailto:academicreview@apegs.ca) for more information.

### **Additional information**

#### *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.

#### *Cheating*

If APEGGS determines that you cheated on your exam then APEGGS will cancel your application.

#### *Exam Results*

APEGGS will send you a letter that tells you the result of your exam(s). You will receive the letter about two months after you write the exam. APEGGS will not tell you the exam result by email, over the phone or in person at the APEGGS office. APEGGS will not return the exam to you. Exam answers are not available. 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 (APEGGA) for that request. After you have received the result you have 30 days to



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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**

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). 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 APEGGS applicant. You will not be able to submit your application online. You must print it out and email a completed copy to APEGA [technicalexams@apega.ca](mailto:technicalexams@apega.ca)

### **Doing Geoscience work before you get your license**

You may do geoscience work before you get your license, but an APEGGS licensed professional engineer or geoscientist must supervise and take responsibility for the work. If you do not have a license from APEGGS, 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

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan

Suite 300, 4581 Parliament Avenue

Regina, SK

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Phone: (306)525-9547

Toll Free: 1-800-500-9547

[AcademicReview@apegs.ca](mailto:AcademicReview@apegs.ca)