

Fair Registration Practices Report

Geoscientists (2016)

The answers seen below were submitted to the OFC by the regulated professions.

This Fair Registration Practices Report was produced as required by:

- the Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act (FARPACTA) s. 20 and 23(1), for regulated professions named in Schedule 1 of FARPACTA
- the Health Professions Procedural Code set out in Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) s. 22.7 (1) and 22.9(1), for health colleges.

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1. Qualitative Information

a) Requirements for registration, including acceptable alternatives

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

In November 2016 our regulations were updated. The update delivered few significant changes, however the changes in the verbiage were made to promote an improved the comprehension of the legislation. As in prior years the steps for registration and the requirements are clearly indicated on the APGO website www.apgo.net. The most significant changes in the new regulation are surrounding Limited Members and the fee payment schedule.

In addition to the regulation change, the APGO has also introduced the following changes;

- Streamlined the process for writing the Professional Practise and Ethics (PPE) exam, by allowing eligible applicants to apply directly with the facilitator when booking the exam;
- Prorated billing for Certificate of Authorization (CoA) Members.
- Increased the number of professional development webinars hosted by the APGO. The webinars have increased both in frequency and audience size.

As well as on-going regular review of the website itself.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

Limited Members:

The new regulation has lifted that restriction on Limited Members which required their work to be signed by another P.Geo. The new regulation allows Limited Members working within the scope of their limitation to sign their reports independently.

Professional Practise and Ethics (PPE):

New process for the Professional Practise and Ethics exam allowing members to register directly with APEGA has brought a new level of efficient to the examinees and simplified the exam process. Eliminating the need for members to apply to the APGO first, allows members more time to apply for the exam. Number of exams have increased from four to five per year and flexibility of three days instead of one.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

Limited Members:

Lifting the restrictions on the Limited Members was received well by the membership. This raised the profile of the APGO tremendously.

Professional Practise and Ethics (PPE):

Streamlining the process eliminated some administrative duties for the APGO and created others. The benefit to the examinees however far exceeds any additional administrative challenges faced by the APGO.

b) Assessment of qualifications

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

Verbiage in the new regulation has updated to provide readers with greater transparency to help them better understand what qualification we require for membership.

Section 23.1 of the new new regulation ON324/16 is a more stringent educational requirement for limited members than in previous years

23. (1) An applicant for registration as a limited member must meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant must hold at a minimum,

i. a bachelor of science degree designed to be completed in three years, awarded by a Canadian university, or

ii. a foreign credential that is equivalent in terms of academic requirements to a degree mentioned in subparagraph i.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

International applicants where english is a second language should benefit most from this update in understanding how there expereince/education may translate in the Canadian system.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

Requirements for Limited membership are well defined.

c) Provision of timely decisions, responses, and reasons

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

d) Fees

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

There has been no change to the membership annual dues. A \$30 administration fee for late payments has been removed completely. As per the new regulation unpaid memberships now have a 15 day grace period to pay their annual dues. As of the 16th day members will be suspended for nonpayment. Between the 16th day and the 75th day unpaid members can pay a reinstatement fee and have their suspension removed immediately. After 75 days accounts remaining in arrears will be revoked. Members wishing to practise after this would have to reapply as new members.

The APGO has introduced prorated billing for Certificate of Authorization (CoA) payments in the first year.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

Payment/Suspension:

The new regulation has provided a level of professionalism to the practice. Moving the suspension date from March 31st to January 16th was a surprise to some of the members had the following impact

- Increased awareness of the APGO
 - Produced an opportunity to communicate with members about their membership and the benefits to being a member
 - Signalled to the membership this was membership that you should protect and take pride in
- In addition prorated billing by month was enacted for Certificate of Authorization (CoA) Members. All CoA memberships will now expire on Dec 31st this will be the same time as individual memberships which will be easier for membership to remember.

Certificate of Authorization (CoA)

All CoA memberships will expire on Dec 31 to coincide with the individual membership's expiry date. This will make it easier for members to when their dues are payable

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

Payment/Suspension:

Moving the suspension date for unpaid accounts to Jan 16th from March 31st allows the APGO is also better able to serve its fee paying members throughout the year with a reduced time and effort on individuals who are no longer interested in remaining members.

Introducing prorated billing for CoA's has not had an impact at this time.

e) Timelines

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

APGO turn around time has improved significantly.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

f) Policies, procedures and/or processes, including by-laws

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

After the new regulation in effect we are reviewing our policies and procedures.

APGO is striving towards paper less application system for 2018.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

g) Resources for applicants

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

Increase in staff level to improve the service to our applicants and members.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

h) Review or appeal processes

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

i) Access to applicant records

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

j) Training and resources for registration staff, Council, and committee members

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

k) Mutual recognition agreements

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

l) Other (include as many items as applicable)

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

Describe any registration-related improvements/changes to your enabling legislation and/or regulations in the last year

No changes this year

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2. Quantitative Information

a) Languages

Indicate the languages in which application information materials were available in the reporting year.

Language	Yes/No
English	Yes
French	No

Other (please specify)

Additional comments:

b) Gender of applicants

Indicate the number of applicants in each category as applicable.

Gender	Number of Applicants
Male	164
Female	90
None of the above	0

Additional comments:

c) Gender of members

Indicate the number of members in each category as applicable. Select the option that best corresponds to the terminology used by your organization.

Gender	Number of Members
Male	1974
Female	609
None of the above	0

Additional comments:

d) Jurisdiction where applicants obtained their initial education

Indicate the number of applicants by the jurisdiction where they obtained their initial education¹ in the profession or trade.

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
182	27	4	Algeria 1 Australia 3 China 1 U.K. 2 India 5 Iran 4 Italy 1 Jamaica 1 Morocco 1 Nepal 1 Nigeria 1 Pakistan 2 Peru 2 Philippines 1 Romania 1 S. Africa 3 Total 30	11	254

¹ Recognizing that applicants may receive their education in multiple jurisdictions, for the purpose of this question, include only the jurisdiction in which an entry-level degree, diploma or other certification required to practice the profession or trade was obtained.

Additional comments:

e) Jurisdiction where applicants who became registered members obtained their initial education

Indicate the number of applicants who became registered members in the reporting year by the jurisdiction where they obtained their initial education¹ in the profession or trade.

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
124	17	3	China 1 India 2 Iran 2 Nepal 1 Nigeria 1 Pakistan 1 Peru 1 Philippines 1 S. Africa 3 U.K. 2 Total 15	6	165

¹ Recognizing that applicants may receive their education in multiple jurisdictions, for the purpose of this question,

include only the jurisdiction in which an entry-level degree, diploma or other certification required to practice the profession or trade was obtained.

Additional comments:

f) Jurisdiction where members were initially trained

Indicate the total number of registered members by jurisdiction where they obtained their initial education¹ in the profession or trade.

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
			Albania 9		
			Algeria 3		
			Argentina 3		
			Australia 18		
			Austria 2		
			Bangladesh 8		
			Brazil 14		
			Bulgaria 2		
			Burkina Faso 2		
			Cameroon 1		
			Chile 4		
			China 39		
			Colombia 6		
			Costa Rica 2		
			Cuba 4		
			Ecuador 1		
			Eritrea 1		
1532	413	63	Ethiopia 3	22	2475
			Finland 3		
			France 13		
			Germany 16		
			Ghana 3		
			Greece 1		
			Hungary 2		
			India 32		
			Iran 30		
			Israel 1		
			Jamaica 5		
			Kazakhstan 1		
			Jordan 1		
			Mexico 3		
			Myanmar 2		
			Nepal 3		
			New Zealand 3		
			Nigeria 4		

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
			Poland 5		
			Pakistan 17		
			Peru 4		
			Philippines 10		
			Romania 9		
			Russia 16		
			Scotland 7		
			Serbia 5		
			S. Africa 19		
			Spain 2		
			Switzerland 2		
			Ukraine 4		
			Trinidad 1		
			Turkey 3		
			U.K. 62		
			Venezuela 4		
			Zambia 1		
			Zimbabwe 2		
			Iraq 3		
			Armenia 1		
			Czech Republic 1		
			Ireland 7		
			Italy 1		
			Kuwait 1		
			Lebanon 3		
			Netherlands 2		
			S Arabia 1		
			Slovakia 2		
			Somalia 1		
			Sri Lanka 3		
			Sudan 1		
			Total 445		

¹ Recognizing that applicants may receive their education in multiple jurisdictions, for the purpose of this question, include only the jurisdiction in which an entry-level degree, diploma or other certification required to practice the profession or trade was obtained.

Additional comments:

g) Applications processed

Indicate the number of applications your organization processed in the reporting year:

Jurisdiction where applicants were initially trained in the profession (before they were granted use of the protected title or professional designation in Ontario)

from January 1 st to December 31 st of the reporting year	Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
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New applications received	170	41	8	31	4	254
Applicants actively pursuing licensing (applicants who had some contact with your organization in the reporting year)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inactive applicants (applicants who had no contact with your organization in the reporting year)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Applicants who met all requirements and were authorized to become members but did not become members	0	0	0	0	0	0
Applicants who became FULLY registered members	65	26	4	20	4	119
Applicants who were authorized to receive an alternative class of licence³ but were not issued a licence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Applicants who were issued an alternative class of licence³	97	12	1	11	0	121

¹ An alternative class of licence enables its holder to practice with limitations, but additional requirements must be met in order for the member to be fully licensed.

Additional comments:

Fully licenced members include Practising Member and Temporary members

Alternative licence includes: Geoscientist-in-Training and Limited members as they all have additional requirements to become a P.Geo

h) Classes of certificate/license

Indicate and provide a description of the classes of certificate/license offered by your organization.

You must specify and describe at least one class of certificate/license (on line a) in order for this step to be complete.

#	Certification	Description
a)	Practising (P.Geo)	Description (a)
		Full practising registration

b)	Temporary	Description (b)
		Temporary registration for up to 12 months; may or many not require work to be carried out in conjunction with an Ontario practising member
c)	Limited	Description (c)
		Limited to practise in the area defined on the certificate of registration
d)	Non - Practising	Description (d)
		Member must hold or have held a certificate of registration as a practising, temporary, or limited member; non-practising member may not practise professional geoscience in Ontario.
e)	Geoscientist-in-Training	Description (e)
		Academic requirements satisfied; Work experience to be gained (48 months; or 12 months for those applicants requiring only the Canadian or equivalent experience)
f)	Student	Description (f)
		Available to students enrolled in a geoscience bachelor's degree program.
g)	Retired/Lifetime Member	Description (g)
		A retired member, that must hold or have held a certificate of registration as a practising, temporary, or limited member; non-practising member may not practise professional geoscience in Ontario.

Additional comments:

i) Reviews and appeals processed

State the number of reviews and appeals your organization processed in the reporting year (use only whole numbers; do not enter commas or decimals).

Jurisdiction where applicants were initially trained in the profession (before they were granted use of the protected title or professional designation in Ontario)

from January 1 st to December 31 st of the reporting year	Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
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Applications that were subject to an internal review or that were referred to a statutory committee of your governing council, such as a Registration Committee

0

0

0

0

0

0

Applicants who initiated an appeal of a registration decision

0

0

0

0

0

0

Appeals heard

0

0

0

0

0

0

Registration decisions changed following an appeal

0

0

0

0

0

0

Additional comments:

Zero Registration Committee appeals in the period Jan 1 2016 - Dec 31 2016

j) Paid staff

In the table below, enter the number of paid staff employed by your organization in the categories shown, on December 31 of the reporting year.

When providing information for each of the categories in this section, you may want to use decimals if you count your staff using half units. For example, one full-time employee and one part-time employee might be equivalent to 1.5 employees.

You can enter decimals to the tenths position only. For example, you can enter 1.5 or 7.5 but not 1.55 or 7.52.

Category	Staff
Total staff employed by the regulatory body	8
Staff involved in appeals process	0
Staff involved in registration process	4

Additional comments:

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3. Submission

I hereby certify that:

Name of individual with authority to sign on behalf of the organization:

Aftab Khan

Title:

Registrar

Date:

