

RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONALLY- TRAINED PROFESSIONALS



CIVIL ENGINEERING

This document is intended for individuals who have an engineering degree or technology diploma from outside Canada and are looking for more information on working as a Professional Engineer or obtaining certification as a technology professional in Canada.

The regular BCIT Civil Engineering program may not be what you are looking for. If you already have a degree or diploma, the resources described below are where you should consider starting.

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION AND WORKING IN CANADA

The profession of Engineering may be different in Canada than where you studied. [The Engineering Team in Canada](#) is a brochure published by Applied Science Technologists and Technicians of British Columbia ([ASTTBC](#)) to assist you in determining which professional credential you should seek.

Job Function	Education	Regulatory Body
Technician	Technician's Certificate	ASTTBC
Technologist	Diploma of Technology	ASTTBC
Professional Engineer	Engineering Degree	APEGBC

FOR ENGINEERS

To practice professional engineering or use the title Professional Engineer (P.Eng.) in Canada, you must be registered with your provincial regulatory body. Registration is not required if you are working under the supervision of a registered professional. In BC, the provincial regulatory body for Professional Engineers is the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia ([APEGBC](#)).

If you wish to pursue registration as a Professional Engineer, you will find a brief description of the necessary steps on the Engineers Canada website under [Immigrating to Canada](#). The [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page is useful too.

APEGBC has developed a very practical [Online Resource for Internationally Trained Engineers and Geoscientists](#). Even if you are not seeking registration as a Professional Engineer, you will find valuable information on this website including guidelines on building a personalized Career Development and Job-Search Plan.

FOR TECHNOLOGISTS AND TECHNICIANS

ASTTBC is the provincial regulatory body for technology professionals in BC. Although professional registration is not legally required for technologists and technicians, it is recommended, especially for internationally-trained individuals seeking work.

As outlined on the [ASTTBC website](#), applicants for certification and registration as an Applied Science Technologist (AScT) or Certified Technician (CTech) require both academic training and experience. Internationally trained professionals may qualify for [Provisional Membership](#) if their academic credentials and experience are acceptable.

UPGRADING YOUR EDUCATION

You may decide that you need to upgrade your English and communication skills. In fact, if you wish to register with APEGBC, you must first demonstrate [competence in the English language](#). This is a requirement for all applicants, regardless of country of origin. BCIT's School of Computing and Academic Studies can help you with this—[Professional English Language Development](#) courses are intended for internationally-trained professionals. Other public post-secondary institutions (SFU, UBC, VCC, etc.) may also offer suitable business and professional English-as-an-additional-language programs.

If you need to upgrade or refresh the Complementary Studies component of your education, other departments at BCIT offer the following courses through part-time studies: [BUSA 7250 Management Skills and Applications](#), and [FMGT 8295 Engineering Economics](#).

If you wish to refresh or upgrade your technical skills or just learn the Canadian terminology, BCIT offers a number of Civil Engineering courses through [part-time studies](#) and [distance education](#). Other non-BCIT courses are offered by the [Structural Engineers Association of British Columbia](#) (SEABC) and through [APEGBC Professional Development Events](#).

BCIT's full-time nationally-accredited [Civil Engineering](#) program is designed to train new engineers and technologists, rather than renew the credentials of internationally-trained professionals. All applicants must first meet the [entrance requirements](#) and then start at Level 1. If you wish to enter this program, you must [verify your English proficiency](#) and submit an application. Once a formal application is in place, the department can then assess the recency of your previous academic training and work experience for admission. Every case is different, but the standard applied is whether you have taken Math, Physics, and Chemistry (or used them in your workplace) recently enough (within 5 years) to be reasonably sure that you will succeed. If admitted, only then will application for transfer credit be considered.