RESOURCES FOR INTERNATIONALLY-TRAINED PROFESSIONALS

BRITISH COLUMBIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF 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	Engineers & Geoscientists BC

ASTTBC has also partnered with Engineers and Geoscientists BC and the BC government to develop an online self-assessment tool to assist internationally-trained engineering and technology professionals to determine if their qualifications are more appropriate to either register as an applied science technologist/technician with certification through ASTTBC or as a registered professional engineer with 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. Engineers & Geoscientists BC is the provincial regulatory body for Professional Engineers in BC.

If you wish to pursue registration as a Professional Engineer, you will find a useful information on the Engineers Canada website under Information for Internationally Trained Engineers. The Frequently Asked Questions page is useful too.

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. In fact, ASTTBC is taking a lead role in supporting and assisting Internationally Trained Technology Professionals (ITTPs) in applied science and engineering technology to secure fair and equitable assessment of credentials, achieve appropriate professional registration, and transition to employment in their chosen field. More information is available on the ITTP-BC website.

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, competence in the English language is a requirement for registration with Engineers and Geoscientists BC as a Professional Engineer (PEng), though not for registration as an Engineer-in-Training (EIT). 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, FMGT 8295 Engineering Economics, and ELEX 8280 Engineering Law.

BCIT also offers distance education engineering economics courses TSYH 4720 - Engineering Economics Part 1: Fundamentals of Financial Calculations and TSYH 4721 - Engineering Economics Part 2: Introduction to 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. All available courses are listed here; note that it is not necessary to be registered in the part-time program to take these courses. Other non-BCIT courses are offered by the Structural Engineers Association of British Columbia (SEABC) and the Professional Development Offerings of Engineers and Geoscientists BC.

BCIT's nationally-accredited full-time 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. Note that the entrance requirements include proficiency in English and recency of your previous academic training. Every case is different, but the standard applied is whether your English language skills are adequate and if you have taken courses in Mathematics, Physics, and Chemistry for academic credit recently enough to be reasonably sure that you will succeed. Request for transfer credit for courses completed at other institutions will only be considered after an applicant has been admitted and begun attending classes.