

## A Guide to APEGBC for UBCEOS Students in Geoscience

**NOTE:** UBCEOS cannot officially speak for APEGBC. It is your responsibility to check that you meet the requirements for professional registration. As such it is VITAL that YOU check the most recent information at the APEGBC web site:

[www.apeg.bc.ca](http://www.apeg.bc.ca)

To ask them specific questions go here:

<http://www.apeg.bc.ca/about/contact.html>

### **What is APEGBC and registration as a Professional Geoscientist (P.Geo.)?**

The P.Geo. designation is a professional licence, allowing you to legally practice geoscience in the province or territory where it was granted. Only geoscientists licensed with APEGBC, or those practising under the direct supervision of a P.Geo. licensed with APEGBC, have a legal right to practice geoscience in British Columbia.

To register as a P.Geo. in British Columbia you need the following:

1. Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Resident Status, otherwise please refer to the Non Resident Licence Page at the APEG web site
2. Acceptable academic qualifications.
3. A minimum of four years of satisfactory geoscience experience. During these 4 years, your professional designation is G.I.T. (geoscientist in training) and you keep an official log book of your work.
4. Completion of the Law & Ethics Seminar requirement
5. Successful completion of the Professional Practice Examination (PPE)
6. Evidence of good character

For expanded information on these categories and the APEGBC required course syllabi you are strongly advised to visit the following web site:

<http://www.apeg.bc.ca/reg/pgeo.html>

Course Syllabi and equivalency lists can be found here:

<http://www.apeg.bc.ca/reg/geosyllabi.html>

**NOTE:** you can still be employed by a geoscience company before you have completed these requirements but if you wish to progress through the company you will eventually have to complete all the above. Students usually enter a company (not including summer employment positions) with points 1 and 2 completed.

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## **APEGBC Overview what they say about themselves**

*In a world of rapid technological change and increasing complexity, the marketplace demands that professionals attain and maintain the highest level of excellence, productivity and ethical conduct possible. Now more than ever, professionals need to do all that they can to stay competitive, including seeking professional licensure to demonstrate their ongoing competency. In BC, the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia is the licensing body responsible for licensing the practices of engineering and geoscience as set out in the province's **Engineers and Geoscientists Act**.*

*Under this selfregulating authority, first granted in 1920, APEGBC sets and maintains the high standards of entry and professional practice expected of BC's over 19,000 engineers and geoscientists and ensures that only qualified individuals obtain the right to call themselves Professional Engineers or Professional Geoscientists in British Columbia, and to use the designations P.Eng. and P.Geo. APEGBC's **Strategic Plan** defines the vision, mission, values and goals of the organization.*

*The Association's **Code of Ethics**, to which all members must adhere, ensures that industry, government and the public can rely on BC's Professional Engineers and Geoscientists to act at all times with fairness, courtesy and good faith to their associates, employers, employees and clients, and to uphold the values of truth, honesty and trustworthiness, and to safeguard human life and welfare, and the environment. This is just one of the many ways in which BC's Professional Engineers and Professional Geoscientists maintain their competitive edge in today's global marketplace.*

## **APEGBC some tips**

- You can find a table of P.Geo. requirements (and the streams listed below) and a guide to UBC courses that meet those requirements posted as a PDF file on the APEGBC website at <http://www.apeg.bc.ca/reg/geosyllabi.html>
- Note that in addition to a core list of courses that all geoscientists should have that there are 4 different P.Geo. streams (Geology, Environmental Geoscience, Geochemistry, and Geophysics) with different requirements.
- It is possible courses can be substituted for those in the tables provided they have a similar content BUT these decisions are made by the APEGBC Geoscience Committee when you apply and NOT by UBCEOS. If you have questions about course equivalency you MUST ask APEGBC.
- Courses can only be counted once.
- There is no way of "being certain" that you have the required courses because there is no formal agreement between APEGBC and the Universities so you can only ultimately find out whether you qualify by going through the application process after you graduate. This should not be a problem provided you follow the APEGBC table of course equivalents as a guide.
- **NOTE FOR COMBINED HONOURS (CHN) PROGRAMS:** These programs will often only require about half of the courses necessary for APEGBC. You will require about 1 year of extra upper level courses in order to satisfy requirements for professional registration.
- **NOTE FOR EOSC MAJORS:** Majors is designed to be flexible so you must make sure you follow the APEGBC requirements closely. Be sure you have the prerequisites (or instructor's permission) to get into the EOSC courses required by APEGBC. Also APEGBC has a field school requirement, so make sure you have that covered in a Majors program.
- **NOTE ABOUT EOSC448 DIRECTED STUDIES:** Although directed studies have been used by some students to satisfy APEGBC upper level geoscience credits YOU MUST CHECK WITH APEGBC that they are going to accept your PARTICULAR directed studies topic.