



GeoscienceInCanada.ca

Geoscience in Canada – Fact Sheet

Geoscience is a regulated profession in Canada. Geoscience comprises all types of earth science, including geology, geophysics and environmental geoscience (such as geochemistry, hydrogeology and geohazards). This means by law, you must have a license in order to practice. In Canada, provincial and territorial regulatory bodies (“regulators”) have the responsibility for licensing geoscientists.

You must apply for your professional geoscientist (P.Geo) licence with the regulator in the province or territory where you want to work. You should contact that regulator to answer your questions about its admission policies and its application process. ([Regulator Map](#)).

Geoscientists Canada publishes a booklet, [Geoscience Knowledge and Experience Requirements for Professional Registration in Canada](#), available in English and French, which outlines P.Geo admission requirements.

To apply, regulators will require you to demonstrate that you have university-level education in science and geoscience and that you have relevant work experience. ([Getting Your License](#)).

Typical requirements for becoming a P.Geo in Canada are:

- B.Sc degree in an area of geoscience
- 48 months of supervised geoscience work experience
- Good character, reputation and conduct
- Proficiency in the language of business in the province or territory of practice
- Knowledge of professional practice issues, including law and ethics

Usual documentation you will need to provide to be considered for admission are:

- A completed application
- Your academic transcripts (sent directly to the regulator, or to a regulator approved third party credential equivalency assessor, by your university)
- A completed record detailing your geoscience work experience
- Three professional references, in the regulator’s prescribed format (sent directly by your referees to the regulator)

Regulators will also require that you pass the Professional Practice and Ethics Exam before becoming licensed. This is an exam about professional practice in Canada focused on law, ethics, and professionalism; it is not a technical exam about geoscience. Typically the exam takes about 3 hours to complete. It is a written exam with multiple-choice questions and may have a short essay section.

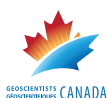
It is important to note that assessment process to obtain a P.Geo license can be lengthy and expensive. Some individuals may spend months or even years trying, and not everyone succeeds. Therefore, it is good to be prepared and to have interim (or alternate) career options in mind, as necessary.

The website (www.geoscienceincanada.ca) is specifically set up to provide you with all the basic information you need to know about working in Canada as a geoscientist. The site includes a tool ([Self-Assessment tool](#)) where you can undertake a self-assessment of your education and work experience against the typical licensing requirements. There is also a calculator ([Cost Calculator](#)) that provides helpful information on approximate licensing costs.



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