In most Canadian provinces and territories, in order to practice geoscience, geoscientists must be registered by a government approved geoscience practice self-regulating body (regulator) as a professional geoscientist (P.Geo.).

Geoscientists Canada/Géoscientifiques Canada is the national organization of 10 regulatory bodies that govern Professional Geoscientists (P.Geo.) and Geoscientists-in-Training (GIT). Geoscientists Canada was established to coordinate activities and represent the profession at the national and international levels. Through its organization’s work, Geoscientists Canada aims to improve the effectiveness of regulation in Canada, enhance protection of the public, and safeguard public interests as related to geoscience practice.

Who should read this document?

Students in a geoscience/Earth science, environmental geoscience, or geophysics university (or equivalent) program

Graduates of a university (or equivalent) geoscience/Earth science, environmental geoscience, or geophysics program who do not yet meet the experience requirements (competencyassessment.ca) (usually, have less than 48 months of eligible work experience – Check your local regulator’s requirements)

A student or graduate of a post-secondary education program that satisfies the geoscience knowledge requirements for professional registration, and who does not yet meet the experience requirements (competencyassessment.ca) (usually, has less than 48 months of eligible work experience – Check with your local regulator)

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WHAT IS A PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTIST?

If you are reading this guide, you probably have completed or will soon complete the academic requirements for becoming a professional geoscientist.

The Professional Geoscientist

Did you know that in the interest of public and environment protection, in almost all provinces and territories in Canada, in order to practice geoscience you need to be registered with the local geoscience practice regulator?

As a registered Professional Geoscientist (PGeo), you will have met the registration requirements such that:

- You can contribute to society by safeguarding people, property, economic interests, and the natural environment
- You can work as a professional, often in multi-disciplinary teams
- You can communicate clearly and accurately
- You can demonstrate sound judgement, responsibility, and accountability, and
- You can understand the legal, environmental, and ethical implications of your work

Things to consider on the path to becoming a PGeo.

What area of geoscience interests you?
Which work environment best suits you?
Where would you like to work, live, and start your career?

Regardless of your career path, being a Professional Geoscientist (PGeo) will help to ensure that you have the capacity to make decisions that make a difference in your area of expertise.

ACRONYMS

CPD Continuing Professional Development, also known as Professional Development, and Continuing Education
CWEC Canadian Work-environment Experience Competencies (Experience Competencies) (competencyassessment.ca)
GIT Geoscientist-In-Training
GKE Geoscience Knowledge and Experience Requirements (https://geoscientistscanada.ca/publications.php)
P.Eng. Professional Engineer
PGeo Professional Geoscientist
PPE Professional Practice Exam
MIT Member-In-Training
NPPE National Professional Practice Exam
Why become a Geoscientist-In-Training (GIT)?

Becoming a Geoscientist-In-Training with your provincial or territorial regulator can help you while you’re accumulating the required work experience to complete your professional qualifications. As a Geoscientist-In-Training (GIT), current and prospective employers will know that you are academically qualified and working towards becoming a P.Geo. [Note: Some jurisdictions use the term Member-in-Training (MIT) or Geoscience Intern.]

Working under the direction and guidance of your work experience supervisor(s) and/or mentor(s), you will be:
• Applying your education and experience within a professional context
• Developing effective communication, management, and leadership skills
• Demonstrating and documenting your competence on the job
• Acquiring an appreciation for and application of professional geoscience ethics and legal responsibilities

Being a GIT can be the first step towards becoming a P.Geo.

To obtain your professional designation you will need to satisfy the following:
✓ Geoscience knowledge requirements
✓ Verified experience competency requirements (often equivalent to 48 months of geoscience work experience)
✓ Write and pass the geoscience regulator’s Professional Practice Exam (PPE).

• Competent, qualified, accountable geoscience professionals benefit society by providing opinion on and influencing:
  - Global and environmental topics and challenges in the world, such as:
    • Climate Change
    • Critical Minerals
    • Energy Resources
    • Natural Hazards, and
  - Life, health, and welfare of the public and the natural environment on which the world’s population relies
    - Ensuring clean and adequate water supply
    - Local and national economies
    - Environmental policy decisions
• Benefit employers and clients through:
  - Competent, qualified, ethical public reporting
  - Continuing professional development
  - Ethical and sustainable practice

REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL GEOSCIENTISTS MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

BENEFITING SOCIETY, EMPLOYERS, AND CLIENTS.

Keep in mind that geoscience regulators have requirements concerning who can act as a validator or a reference for geoscience experience. Check the registration regulation requirements of your local regulator as you gain your experience.

GIT STORY
Abigail M., BSc Saskatoon

It feels great to be part of a GIT program and take the first steps toward achieving a professional designation.

My name is Abigail M. and I am a prairie girl, born and raised. I started collecting rocks in Saskatoon from a young age and I have always been curious about their origins.

My GIT experience began as a Geological Intern for the Saskatchewan Geological Survey. During my last year of university, I was employed as a Geological Intern at North Rim Exploration. After I graduated with honours in Geological Science, I continue to live and work in the heart of this fascinating and geologically diverse region of western Canada.

Consulting allowed for a constant change in project work and endless learning opportunities. From Precambrian to Phanerozoic strata, Saskatchewan hosts world-class uranium and potash deposits and is one of North America’s leading oil and gas districts. My North Rim work experience included well site potash core recovery in south-central Saskatchewan; uranium exploration drill core logging and assay sampling in northern Saskatchewan; interpreting and integrating geophysical wireline data; compiling potash drill program data; and contributing to potash NI 43-101 technical reports to name a few. I gained valuable GIS and CAD experience, bringing unique data management solutions to clients.

I always encourage geoscience graduates to become a GIT and participate in a regulator GIT program, where it is available, as an essential starting point for any career in geoscience. Although I learned many technical skills throughout my undergraduate studies, the GIT program gave me practical skills for the professional work setting. The program also gave me a solid foundation in professional ethics to guide me through my work projects.

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CHOOSING THE GIT PATH

You need to be registered as a professional geoscientist (P.Geo.) before you can practice independently. Until then, a P.Geo., or in some cases a P.Eng. qualified to conduct geoscience, must supervise and take direct responsibility for all your geoscience-related work.

GIT programs vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. For more information contact your local regulator.

A Geoscientists-In-Training (GIT) Program provides you with support and guidance that helps you transition to your professional practice.

Guidance and feedback for GITs includes how to obtain and demonstrate geoscience work experience, as well as how to present essential information to the professional regulatory body.

All individuals looking to become registered are encouraged to go through a GIT program and take advantage of support offered by the regulator, supervisors, and mentors.

**Participating in a GIT Program will:**

- Introduce you to the geoscience community who can provide meaningful and continuous feedback so that you will be well-prepared for registration
- Help you build important mentoring relationships with other professionals
- Guide you in accumulating work experience with employers and clients that counts towards professional practice work experience and competencies
- Support your understanding of your future professional responsibilities

**To become a GIT member you will need to satisfy the geoscience knowledge requirements and meet the good character requirements.**

1. First, clearly understand what is expected by a regulator to become a GIT, and as you gain your experience and develop your career:
   - Obtain specific information about the regulator’s available GIT program and application process (see Section 7 – Geoscience Practice Regulators in Canada)
   - Read the GKE to understand the knowledge requirements (https://geoscientistscanada.ca/publications.php)
   - Review the 29 experience competencies available at competencyassessment.ca
   - Most regulators have specific mechanisms to document work experience. Check with your regulator’s website for documenting specifics to ensure proper recording of your work experience.
   - Become familiar with the Code of Ethics applicable in your jurisdiction
   - Learn about CPD guidelines and requirements for professional geoscientists

2. Next, apply to your local regulator for a GIT membership and to participate in an available GIT program. Normally, you’ll apply in the province or territory in which you complete your degree or where you intend to work and build your career. To apply, you need to:
   - Complete the regulator’s online application
   - Provide proof of identification and other required information* (For example, if you are a newcomer to Canada and English or French is not your first language, you might be asked to take a language test or submit recent test results)
   - Request your official university transcripts be sent directly to the regulator Registrar
   - Meet good character requirements
   - Pay applicable fees

3. Identify your GIT supervisor(s) to oversee your work experience and/or find a mentor to guide you on your path.
   - If your current work supervisor is a professional geoscientist, that person should also be your GIT supervisor. You may have multiple supervisors if you have multiple employers or move around in a larger company.
   - Ensure that at each place of employment you have an appropriate registered professional supervisor/mentor/colleague who can validate your experience for professional registration purposes.
   - Review your regulator’s guidance to be sure that all the GIT supervising responsibilities are met
   - Your regulator may be able to help match you with a mentor if you are unable to find one.
FROM GIT TO P.GEO.

Your transition from GIT to P.Geo. involves satisfying any outstanding registration requirements which may include:

- Verified geoscience work experience competencies
- Passing the regulator’s Professional Practice (PPE) exam

Complete academic requirements

Obtain required supervised geoscience work experience

Pass the regulator’s professional practice exam

Register as a P.Geo.

Practice as a professional geoscientist

Think of your GIT experience as the means to grow professionally through the combination of geoscience work experience and mentorship from your supervisors and mentors.

By the end of your time as a GIT, you should have all the scientific and professional competencies needed to apply for a professional registration to practice as an independent geoscientist. In addition, you will gain an appreciation for the broader context of your professional geoscience career, know your capabilities and your limitations, and apply professional ethics in your day-to-day work and decisions.

What you need to achieve to move from GIT to PGeo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>a. Work Experience Competencies</th>
<th>b. Professional Practice and Ethics</th>
<th>c. Continuing Professional Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Obtain several years of progressive and cumulative geoscience work experience supervised by appropriate professionals.</td>
<td>• Awareness and understanding of law and ethics as they apply to geoscience professional practice.</td>
<td>• Understand your continuing professional development obligations as a practicing professional.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Identify individuals that can act as work experience validators/referees.</td>
<td>• Practice sound judgement.</td>
<td>• Understand and practice professional and local community volunteer service.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Practice as a professional geoscientist
a. Work Experience Competencies

Supervised Geoscience Work Experience

It could take up to four years or more for you to satisfy the geoscience work experience competencies. You might
work in various places under different supervisors and with different employers. However, at all times you need to:
- Practice within your area(s) of geoscience knowledge (e.g., geophysics, geology, environmental geoscience, etc.)
- Practice under appropriate registered professional supervision, and
- Strive to progressively increase your level of competence and responsibility.

Keep in mind that geoscience work experience/competencies gained while you are a student may count toward
experience/competencies fulfillment. You will need to check with your local regulator for acceptable experience

gained while a student.

1. Practical Experience

- Practice within your area(s) of geoscience knowledge (e.g., geophysics, geology, environmental geoscience, etc.)
- Strive to progressively increase your level of competence and responsibility
- Practice under appropriate registered professional supervision
- Safeguard of human health and the environment
- Work in various places under different supervisors and with different employers.

2. Application of Geoscience Theory

- Knowledge of professionalism and ethics, as well as general understanding of laws that apply
to professional practice, could be assessed in a number of ways – e.g., exam, interviews, reports
from referees, and your diaries or reports of work experience.

3. Geoscience Project Management

- Planning; scheduling; budgeting; supervision; project control; safety and risk assessment; and leadership
- Result integration/synthesis; and testing or implementation
- Data reliability and uncertainty; equipment maintenance; and safety
- Result integration/synthesis; and testing or implementation
- Project function and operation; constraints, project costs, data reliability and uncertainty; equipment maintenance; and safety
- Project function and operation; constraints, project costs, data reliability and uncertainty; equipment maintenance; and safety

b. Professional Practice and Ethics

Understanding professional and ethical conduct is critically important. Professions are regulated by law
at the provincial/territorial level and each regulator has a Code of Ethics.

Code of Ethics

- Ethics principles
- Rules of conduct
- Principles and Values
- Integrity
- Competence
- Truth
- Honesty
- Fairness
- Safeguarding of human health and the environment
- Trustworthiness
- Integrity
- Competence
- Truth
- Honesty
- Fairness
- Safeguarding of human health and the environment
- Trustworthiness

c. Continuing Professional Development

Also known as Professional Development and Continuing Education, Continuing Professional Development,
although not usually required of GITs, is required of all practicing geoscience professionals to help maintain
competency throughout your career, encourage professional development, and encourage service to society
and the profession. Service to the professional geoscience community, as well as to your home community, is
encouraged. Participating as a volunteer will help you to:
- Appreciate the importance of the geoscience profession and your contributions to the profession
- Understand how you can contribute to your community as a professional
- Develop your interpersonal and other non-scientific skills with diverse groups
- Understand your future Professional Development obligations

Examples of professional/scientific services

- Serve on a scientific society or professional regulator committee
- Help organize or participate in scientific conferences, field trips, seminars, workshops, short-courses, science fairs, or career symposiums
- Publish in scientific journals or give a presentation at a meeting or conference
- Mentor a student outside the workplace
- Serve on a scientific society or professional regulator committee
- Help organize or participate in scientific conferences, field trips, seminars, workshops, short-courses, science fairs, or career symposiums
- Publish in scientific journals or give a presentation at a meeting or conference
- Mentor a student outside the workplace

Examples of community service

- Hold a board position or actively participate in the management/operation of a local not-for-profit, charity, community club, cultural group, sports team, or youth group
- Assist with organizing or coordinating a community event or local project
- Teach a workshop related to your interests or tutor someone who needs a little extra help

For resources to help you understand professional law and ethics – check your regulator’s website, nippenam.ca, and the Ethical Considerations document at geoscientistscanada.ca

You will need to prepare for and write your regulator’s professional practice exam.

Volunteering

is a great way
to develop your
career network!
DOCUMENTING YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND PROGRESS

The reporting and feedback process is a significant part of a GIT Program. Your progress may be submitted in the form of online entries, written documents, or diaries - check with your regulator first as each regulatory body will have its own reporting requirements. Regardless of the format, make sure to keep an accurate and detailed record, and start documenting as soon as possible.

Demonstrating your competence allows the regulator to assess the quality of geoscience work experience, by looking not just at what you have done and how, but also at why tasks were undertaken and the results or outcomes.

You need to:

• Obtain access to the Competency Based Assessment online system (competencyassessment.ca) or, where appropriate, download reporting and/or diary forms from your regulator’s website
• Record your work experience and professional development activities on an on-going basis as you gain experience
• Include descriptions of situations where you have applied particular competencies
• Report your activities as required
• For each geoscience work experience position that you hold or have held, document the name(s) of your supervisors/mentors and their business contact information to have on hand when completing your professional geoscientist application in the future

Your geoscience work experience supervisor/mentor should:

• Cooperate by assisting you in obtaining the appropriate range of geoscience experience competencies and opportunities to acquire professional competencies
• Be prepared to validate your geoscience work experience for the purpose of obtaining professional registration
• Be able to provide feedback on written work experience descriptions and formatting

Your regulator may:

• Make you aware of the requirements of their GIT Program
• Assist supervisors and/or mentors in understanding their responsibilities to you as a GIT
• Seek the assistance and support of employers to ensure that you have an appropriate professional supervisor and/or mentor
• Encourage your employers to provide an appropriate range of geoscientist development activities
• Provide feedback and guidance on your progress towards satisfying registration requirements

Your regulator may be able to help if a suitable supervisor is not available to you.

THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF SUPERVISORS AND MENTORS

Professional geoscientists are obligated under their Code of Ethics to provide opportunities for professional development of fellow geoscientists. Having access to their support and guidance is the best value-added component of a GIT program.

Is your supervisor a P.Geo. or other acceptable professional as defined in the regulator’s legislation?

Now that you are a GIT, are you or will you be doing work normally conducted by a P.Geo.?

Ensure your work complies with the requirements of your geoscience practice regulator for professional practice registration. Does your work comply?

Work with your supervisor(s) to obtain the required competencies and to obtain progressive levels of responsibility over time for professional registration

Work with your supervisor to find a P.Geo. who can take professional responsibility for your geoscience work

Role of a GIT Supervisor

Your supervisor has a crucial role in your professional development as a GIT. Ensure that you make the most of this opportunity with your supervisor.

You can expect your supervisor to:

• Assign geoscience work that matches with your abilities and assists in your development
• Provide scientific and professional guidance through on-the-job training
• Ensure that you complete each of the geoscience experience requirements by assigning cumulative, progressively more complex and responsible work opportunities

If other work is not available, find a P.Geo. mentor.

Your geoscience work experience supervisor/mentor should:

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Your regulator may be able to help if a suitable supervisor is not available to you.
Role of a Mentor

Not every GIT will have a mentor, but if you find or are assigned a mentor, they will be an experienced registered professional geoscientist who is willing to guide your scientific and professional development.

Your Mentor:
- Motivates, teaches, inspires, and empowers you
- Has experience in mentoring techniques
- Is aware of the responsibilities of mentoring
- Can provide references attesting to their own professional conduct

Your mentor plays a complementary function that counsels and acts as a role model for you. In some cases, your mentor may also be your validator for your work experience.

- The goal of having a mentor is for you to grow and develop specific abilities
- The mentoring process should be a positive one for both you and your mentor
- Your discussions with a mentor are confidential, unless you agree otherwise

If your work supervisor is not a P.Geo., they need to make sure that a P.Geo. will take responsibility for your geoscience work.

Usually, your mentor is not the same person you report to or work with directly at your job.

The value of mentoring

You can expect your mentor to:
- Assist with the transition from the university setting to professional practice, such as:
  - Helping you to understand typical Canadian business culture and practices
  - Guiding you in finding resolutions to challenging situations
  - Helping you to understand the societal impact of practicing the profession
- Support scientific skills development and other essential skill areas, such as:
  - Communication and interpersonal skills
  - Management skills
- Discuss the profession and purpose of the regulator, and encourage you to participate in scientific, industry, and professional societies
- Regularly meet with you to discuss progress on your career goals and objectives.
COMMON QUESTIONS

How long will it take to be accepted into a program?

Once you are academically qualified (i.e., you have completed all the required courses (see the GKE and visit geosciencecanada.ca to use the self-assessment tool)) and have submitted your complete GIT program application, it can take anywhere between 1 week to 4 months to process an application, depending on the volume of applications and completeness of your application.

How much does it cost to be a GIT?

There are two fees: an application fee and an annual membership fee. These fees vary by regulator. If you apply within 6-12 months of graduating from university, your application fee may be waived depending on where you apply. Check the regulator website for the fees in your jurisdiction.

Do I need to be working before I apply?

No, you do not need to be working to apply to a GIT program.

How do I find a mentor?

Mentors are usually found through your geoscience network—people you know from work, as well as through professional development and regulator events. The best mentor is someone who knows you well. However, if you would like a mentor and cannot find one, contact your regulator. Most regulators have mentor matching services to assist both GITs and professional registrants who are seeking a mentorship connection.

Can my supervisor be my mentor too?

Ideally, your geoscience work supervisor is not your mentor. In the workplace, you usually can’t choose your work supervisor. You can choose your mentor, and they accept you through mutual agreement. Although your supervisor can advise you much like a mentor would, your mentor is an additional resource person who you feel can provide sound advice for career and professional growth.

What if I get work outside the province/territory where I am a GIT?

Supervised work experience obtained outside the province or territory where you are registered as a GIT is normally accepted. Supervised geoscience work experience obtained outside Canada is also generally acceptable if the work is conducted to Canadian standards of practice.

Will my experience still count if I worked somewhere else before becoming a GIT?

Any supervised geoscience work experience you have gained, that can be accurately documented and validated/referred should count. Keep in mind though that there are limits on the amount of work that is acceptable while you have gained, that can be accurately documented and validated.

How will I know if my work experience is relevant?

To find out what kind of work experience is required to become a professional geoscientist, please read the GKE and visit geosciencecanada.ca to use the self-assessment tool. If after that you still have questions, visit your regulator’s website.

What does Canadian or equivalent or Canadian Work-environment Experience Competency (CWECs) mean?

When you apply for professional registration you will need to demonstrate through your work experience your understanding of geoscience practice in relation to Canadian laws and standards. This includes such ethical and legal concepts as respect and equitable treatment of workers and communities, gender neutrality, religious freedoms, consultation protocols with First Nations and other concepts. The Canadian work environment can be substantially different from working in other parts of the world. The CWECs can also be fulfilled through work outside of Canada. Review your regulator’s website or the Guide to Geoscience Canadian Work-environment Experience Competencies at competencyassessment.ca for further information.

I have or will soon have a degree in geoscience, but I don’t have all the courses to become a GIT. Do I need to wait until I get all my credits?

It is recommended that you complete all the necessary course requirements before you apply to become a GIT. In most cases, regulators will not register you as a GIT until you have met the education requirements as outlined in the GKE. Check out the Self-Assessment Tool at geosciencecanada.ca. Also, you can review your regulator’s website for further information.

What if I decide to go back to school?

You can become a GIT as a graduate student as long as the necessary course requirements to be accepted into a GIT program have been met. If you are already a GIT, there is no issue with returning to school. Some regulators may provide fees relief during your studies if cost is a concern.

What if I decide to move to another province?

You may be able to transfer your GIT membership. Contact the appropriate regulator for more information.

I’m already a student member. Do I need to apply again to get a GIT membership?

Yes. You will need to apply for a GIT membership.

Do I have to be a Canadian citizen to be in the program?

No, you do not need to be a Canadian citizen, but check with the regulator where you wish to apply. You may need to be a permanent resident of Canada.

I received my geoscience knowledge training outside of Canada. Can I apply to be a GIT?

Yes. Check the website of the regulator to which you are applying for more information on this topic. Further information may also be found at geosciencecanada.ca.

I don’t understand some of these requirements. Can I get more information?

Yes, absolutely! Visit the regulator website (see Geoscience Practice Regulators in Canada Table on page 20). If, after reviewing the regulator’s website information you need further help, contact the regulator using the contact information provided on the website or in the table.
**GEOSCIENCE PRACTICE REGULATORS IN CANADA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regulator Name</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Engineers and Geoscientists of British Columbia</td>
<td>egbc.ca</td>
<td>604.430.8035 or 888.430.8035 <a href="mailto:info@egbc.ca">info@egbc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northwest Territories and Nunavut Association of Professional Geoscientists</td>
<td>ntpg.nrw.ca/contact</td>
<td>867.920.4055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta</td>
<td>apega.ca</td>
<td>780.426.3990 or 800.661.7020 <a href="mailto:email@apega.ca">email@apega.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Saskatchewan</td>
<td>apegs.ca</td>
<td>306.525.9547 or 800.500.9547 <a href="mailto:apegs@apegs.ca">apegs@apegs.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineers Geoscientists Manitoba</td>
<td>apegm.mb.ca</td>
<td>204.474.2736 or 866.227.9600 <a href="mailto:info@EngGeoMB.ca">info@EngGeoMB.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Geoscientists Ontario</td>
<td>pgo.ca</td>
<td><a href="mailto:info@pgo.ca">info@pgo.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ordre des Géologues du Québec</td>
<td>ogq.qc.ca</td>
<td>514.278.6220 <a href="mailto:info@ogq.qc.ca">info@ogq.qc.ca</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick</td>
<td>apegnb.com</td>
<td>506.458.8083 or 888.458.8083 <a href="mailto:info@apegnb.com">info@apegnb.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geoscientists Nova Scotia</td>
<td>geoscientistsns.ca</td>
<td>902.420.9928 <a href="mailto:info@geoscientistsns.ca">info@geoscientistsns.ca</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Newfoundland and Labrador</td>
<td>pegnl.ca</td>
<td>709.753.7714 <a href="mailto:pegnl@pegnl.ca">pegnl@pegnl.ca</a></td>
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**TERMS EXPLAINED**

**Geoscience:** The advancement of knowledge of the Earth and earth-forming processes through scientific investigation and interpretation.

**Geoscientist:** A person who, through specialized education, training, and experience advances knowledge of the Earth processes through scientific investigation and interpretation.

**Practice of Geoscience:** When a person, through specialized education, training, and experience, applies the principles of the geological sciences.

**Professional Geoscientist:** A person who is legally allowed to practice geoscience in a jurisdiction through registration as a Professional Geoscientist with a regulator authorized to regulate the Practice of Geoscience.

**Professional Practice Examination:** A regulator approved exam to verify an individual’s knowledge of professional practice issues, including law and ethics, which must be passed before they are permitted to practice independently.

**Referee/Reference:** An appropriate professional or other individual, depending on the topic on which comment is required, who can speak knowledgeably about an applicant’s character and/or work experience/competency. See Validator.

**Regulator:** A senior administrative executive of the regulator with the authority under the geoscience professions Act to register an individual to practice the profession of geoscience.

**Registration:** Formal recognition of an individual to practice in a particular jurisdiction, by the placement of that person’s name on the register and issuance of a license to practice.

**Registrar:** Also referred as a professional practice regulator/regulatory body, or a self-regulating professional association, a regulator is set up under a regulator/regulatory body, or a self-regulating professional association.

**Referee/Reference:** A publication of Geoscientists Canada summarizing requirements as set by the provincial/territorial regulatory bodies. The GKE can be viewed and downloaded at geoscientistscanada.ca.

**Good Character:** A Good Character requirement for registration is intended to protect the public and help maintain high ethical standards in the profession of geoscience by helping to ensure that those who are registered as professional geoscientists show respect for the law and conduct themselves with honesty, integrity, and candour.

**Independent Practice:** To practice in a competent manner, without supervision or direction, and within a reasonable timeframe. An independent practitioner also has the ability to recognize their own limitations and recognize unusual, difficult-to-resolve, and complex situations that may require external advice or consultation, reviewing research literature, and/or referring to other more experienced and qualified professionals.

**Mentor:** A mentor is an additional resource person who may provide a GIT or professional with sound advice for career and professional growth.

**Self-regulating Professional Association:** See Regulator.

**Stream:** Grouping of science and geoscience educational components designed to cover specific requirements for each of the broad areas of geoscience – Geology/Earth Science, Environmental Geoscience and Geophysics.
**Supervisor:** The individual at your place of employment who oversees your work. If you are conducting work normally undertaken by a geoscientist, the supervisor must be an individual who is legally able to take professional responsibility for your work—such as a professional geoscientist or, in some cases, a professional engineer qualified to conduct geoscience. Usually, your supervisor will also be your work experience validator.

**Validator:** An appropriate professional or other individual, depending on the topic on which comment is required, who can speak knowledgeably about an applicant’s character and/or work experience/competency. See Reference/Reference.

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**APPLYING FOR GEOLOGIST IN TRAINING (GIT) MEMBERSHIP CHECKLIST**

- Complete the regulator application form
- Pay the application fee (as required)
- Submit Photo ID
- Supply all transcripts for relevant courses directly from the educational institution(s) to the regulator (See regulator guidance for international transcripts)
- Reference (Character reference)

See regulator website for details.

**APPLYING FOR PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGIST (P.GEO.) REGISTRATION CHECKLIST**

- Complete online application form
- Submit application fee/change of designation fee
- Submit redacted Photo ID
- All transcripts/relevant courses taken requested from educational institutions (For internationally trained, request course by course evaluation by WES)
- Validator/Reference 1 (P.Geo.)
- Validator/Reference 2 (P.Eng. or P.Geo.)
- Validator/Reference 3 and, where required 4 (Any work reference)
- Complete competency-based assessment for experience
- Write and pass Professional Practice and Ethics exam

See regulator website for details.