

Engineer

Engineering in New Brunswick

In New Brunswick, engineering is a regulated occupation. To practise as a professional engineer, you must complete the qualification process.¹

You cannot call yourself or advertise yourself as an engineer if you are not licensed. During the licensing process, however, you can work in an engineering field if a licensed professional engineer takes responsibility for your work. Once you have met the academic requirements for licensure, you may also wish to enrol as an engineer-in-training to receive advice and guidance from the Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick (APEGNB) (www.apegnb.com).

How do I get my credentials recognized?

Step One: Submitting required documents

Contact APEGNB. You will be asked to submit at least the following documents:

- Proof of residency in Canada or Canadian citizenship.
- Original diplomas, degrees or full transcripts recording your courses and marks, and the official program syllabuses or course descriptions.
- The names of people willing and able to act as employment and character references.

All documents must be officially translated in English or French.

International qualification recognition is the process of verifying that the knowledge, skills, work experience and education obtained in another country are comparable to the standards established for Canadian professionals.

Step Two: Examinations

APEGNB reviews your university background and compares it to a Canadian engineering degree. An examination program may be assigned to ensure that academic requirements are met.

APEGNB will assign an examination program if you do not have a bachelor's degree in engineering from a recognized university or if it

is uncertain about your academic qualifications. The examinations assigned are based on your discipline. You may also be required to take examinations on non-technical subjects, for example, engineering economics or management. Examination sittings are held twice a year.

Step Three: Work experience

APEGNB evaluates your previous engineering experience. The evaluation is based on the application of engineering theory, practical experience, exposure to project management, communication skills and the recognition of the social implications of engineering.

Four years of acceptable engineering experience is required. Experience obtained outside Canada may be acceptable if sufficient documentation is provided. A minimum of 12 months of acceptable experience must be completed in a Canadian environment to ensure that you are familiar with Canadian codes and standards.

You may enrol as an engineer-in-training once all your academic requirements are met *while* you are gaining your 12 months of Canadian work experience.

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of New Brunswick (APEGNB) was incorporated in 1920 and is governed by the Engineering and Geoscience Professions Act (1999). APEGNB is responsible for regulating the practice of engineering and geoscience and for governing these professions in accordance with the act and the bylaws; establishing and maintaining standards of knowledge and skill among its members; and establishing and maintaining standards of professional ethics among its members.

¹ The qualification process is the same for all applicants, both domestic and foreign trained.

Step Four: Professional practice exam

You must write and pass the professional practice exam – a two hour, closed book examination designed to ensure familiarity with Canadian professional practice and ethics, engineering law and professional liability. (The passing grade is 65 per cent and the cost to write the exam is listed on the APEGNB website.) Normally, you would write it any time after you have completed the assigned examination program.

Once all the requirements for licensure are met, the association will issue you a licence to practise engineering in New Brunswick.

Finding a job in New Brunswick

There is a need for engineers in both big cities and smaller communities across New Brunswick; you can also find jobs in one of the two official languages of the province: English or French. You should take time to research job requirements and develop a plan for finding work. You can ask for help. There are many resources available that you can use before coming to New Brunswick and after you are here. For example, you can register on the APEGNB website, which is a free job service for those seeking engineering jobs.

Also, in New Brunswick, there are immigrant-serving agencies that can help you create your resumé and prepare for interviews. You can contact these organizations before you arrive to find out available services. For a full list, please visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

There are many resources available to help you find employment in New Brunswick, including immigrant-serving agencies and job banks. Visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

Additional resources

New Brunswick Immigration Portal
www.gnb.ca/immigration

Citizenship and Immigration Canada
www.cic.gc.ca

Service Canada
www.servicecanada.gc.ca

Foreign Credentials Referral Office
www.credentials.gc.ca

Service New Brunswick www.snb.ca
NB Jobs www.nbjobs.ca

Working in New Brunswick Tool
www.gnb.ca/immigration

Government of Canada Job Bank
www.jobbank.gc.ca

Before you arrive

While you are waiting to come to New Brunswick, there are many important things you can do to improve your chances of success.

The Foreign Credentials Referral Office (www.credentials.gc.ca) is an organization of the Government of Canada that provides helpful resources. The Government of New Brunswick has specially designed tools to help you make Canada your home. Please visit www.gnb.ca/immigration.

Use these resources to find important information and to develop your job search plan.

Also, while you are preparing to move to New Brunswick, you can contact APEGNB to enquire about the documents that you will be required to complete for the accreditation process and make sure that you have collected all the documentation before moving to Canada.

New Brunswick is a bilingual province. To complete the foreign qualification recognition process successfully and to secure employment, you need to have an intermediate/high level of English and/or French.

You might need to prove – or be tested on – your language skills in English or French. You can find information at www.language.ca. If you need to improve your language skills, start before you come to Canada.