



GLP Notes 16.0 – Practice Evaluation and Knowledge (PEAK) Program Update Issued June 2017

Ensuring the competence and ethical conduct of licence holders are core responsibilities of every self-regulatory body. In Ontario, the public looks to PEO as its primary assurance that engineering licence holders are competent. And it is on the understanding that the association can provide such assurance that the government grants to the profession the privilege of self-regulation.

Maintaining qualifications

PEO has a sophisticated process to ensure that applicants have demonstrated high qualifications at the time of their entry into the profession. Up until recently, however, it did not have a mechanism in place to measure whether practising licence holders have enhanced, or even maintained, their competence. Further, the public, PEO's largest and most important stakeholder, had no way to verify if a practising licence holder's qualifications had been maintained.

Public demand for accountability

PEO's new Practice Evaluation and Knowledge (PEAK) program is designed to provide the association with an accurate and up-to-date regulatory profile of its licence holders that will help meet the public's ever-increasing demand for accountability among regulators of professions.

As of March 31, 2017, renewal notices to all licence holders, including limited licence holders, contain a request encouraging participation in the program.

Practising vs. non-practising

Practising licence holders are asked to complete a practice evaluation questionnaire and an online ethics module prior to their licence renewal date. Upon completion of the questionnaire, they are provided with an individual continuing knowledge target (in hours) to voluntarily complete and report to PEO prior to their next renewal date the following year.

Non-practising licence holders are only asked to declare they are not practising engineering and complete an online ethics module prior to the date of their licence renewal.

Resources

While participation in the PEAK program is not mandatory to renew or maintain a licence, should a licence holder not complete any element of the program in the allotted time, this information will be publicly noted on PEO's online directory of practitioners.

Further information about the PEAK program is available in the March/April 2017 issue of *Engineering Dimensions* and on the program's website, www.peopeak.ca, which includes a video overview of the program and a detailed FAQ section.

Key Points:

- The PEAK program launched on March 31, 2017.
- Licence holders must log in to their account on PEO's member portal (or register for an account) at <https://secure.peo.on.ca/ebusiness/home> and click on the PEAK tab to begin the process.
- Each licence holder is strongly encouraged to complete the program, which includes:
 - an online practice evaluation questionnaire or non-practising status declaration;
 - a continuing knowledge report (for practising licence holders only); and
 - an online ethics module.
- No action is required until the licence holder receives their annual renewal notice and request to complete the program.
- For more information, visit www.peopeak.ca.
- **For GLP info only. No action required.**

