

### WHAT PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP ME?

International engineering graduates (IEGs) with a bachelor of engineering or applied science degree may be able to participate in PEO's Financial Credit Program (FCP). Under the program, eligible participants can have the cost of their application fee and first year of enrolment in the Engineering Intern (EIT) program (should they choose to enrol) credited towards payment of their registration and initial P.Eng. licence fees once they have been approved for a licence. IEGs who apply within six months of their landing date in Canada are eligible for the program.

Within this six-month application window, PEO must receive from you:

- acceptable academic documents;
- an acceptable proof of age document;
- Permanent Resident Card or Record of Landing;
- a valid email address for all PEO communications;
- a signed declaration of application as per the online Engineering Intern Financial Credit Program form; and
- a work experience summary, if you have obtained at least five years of engineering experience since graduation.

The EIT program guides engineering graduates as they acquire the required engineering work experience, including annual reviews of experience to ensure they are "on the right track" for licensing. Participating in the program is a great way to become involved in your local PEO chapter, where you can meet and network with engineers. Those who enroll in the program may be able to participate in the association's **Licensure Assistance Program (LAP)**. The LAP links engineering interns with professional engineers licensed by PEO, who guide and support the interns as they progress toward licensure and assimilate into the engineering community. The program is not yet available in every chapter, so please check with your local chapter chair to find out if your chapter is participating.

If you have questions about the programs available to you, contact us first at [newcomers@peo.on.ca](mailto:newcomers@peo.on.ca).

### DID YOU KNOW?

- You can begin the Ontario licensing process from outside Canada, before you finalize your immigration plans, and continue the process when you arrive in the province.
- There is no requirement to be a Canadian citizen or to have the status of a permanent resident of Canada to obtain an Ontario engineering licence.
- PEO is the only organization that can assess your qualifications for the purpose of obtaining a licence.
- A provisional licence can be issued to a P.Eng. applicant who has met all the requirements for licensing as a professional engineer except the required 12 months work experience under a Canadian professional engineer.
- PEO does not assist in finding employment for its licence holders or applicants. The Ontario Society of Professional Engineers does provide career services.
- A licence is not required for engineering employment in Ontario, so long as a PEO licence holder supervises and is responsible for the work.

**Through the *Professional Engineers Act*,  
PEO governs licence and certificate holders  
and regulates professional engineering in  
Ontario to serve and protect the public.**



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**Professional Engineers  
Ontario**

# VALUING NEWCOMERS

**A GUIDE FOR INTERNATIONAL  
ENGINEERING GRADUATES**



# VALUING NEWCOMERS

In Canada, engineering licensure represents that the holder has demonstrated high standards of engineering knowledge, experience and professionalism. It is a legal requirement if you are going to be responsible for engineering work. It also tells employers that you are committed to engineering excellence; have the right skills, education and attitude; and are a responsible professional with proven problem-solving abilities. To become a professional engineer (P.Eng.) in Canada, you must be licensed in the province/territory in which you are practising.

In Ontario, only those who have demonstrated that they possess the necessary qualifications and been granted a full licence to practise engineering by Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) can use the professional engineer title or P.Eng. designation, or any term, title or description that will lead to the belief they are qualified to practise professional engineering. If you have significant expertise and experience in a very specific area of engineering practice, you may be eligible to be granted a limited licence by PEO and use the protected title, limited engineering licensee, and designation LEL.

## WHAT IS PEO?

PEO is the organization that regulates professional engineering in Ontario. It governs its licence and certificate holders and regulates professional engineering in Ontario to serve and protect the public. Under the *Professional Engineers Act*, PEO establishes the educational, experience and other requirements for licensing. PEO also provides leadership to the profession and raises public awareness of its role and of the requirement for licensure. To take responsibility for professional engineering work in Ontario, you must be licensed by PEO.

As a leader among regulators in Canada in assessing the credentials of internationally trained professionals, PEO has been working hard for many years to enable newcomers to better use the skills, education, and experience they bring with them. In fact, applicants from over 1000 institutions world-wide have been granted licences by PEO since 2000.

## CONTACT PEO FIRST

Whether you are arriving soon or are in Ontario already, contact us first to find out what you need to do to become licensed in Ontario. This way, you will receive accurate information on the licensing process and avoid potential misinformation from other sources. For example, did you know PEO is the only organization that can assess your qualifications for the purpose of obtaining a licence? PEO does not consider assessments done by organizations other than the other provincial/territorial engineering regulators when it reviews your qualifications for licensing. If you have any questions about the licensing process in Ontario, contact us first at [newcomers@peo.on.ca](mailto:newcomers@peo.on.ca).

## WHEN CAN I APPLY FOR A LICENCE?

You can apply now! Whether you are in Ontario already, or you plan to arrive soon, you may begin the process at any time. If you start the process before you arrive in Ontario, you can reduce the time it takes to receive your licence. An early start will help you determine if your academic qualifications meet PEO's standards for licensure before you immigrate. It is not necessary to be in Canada or working in engineering to begin the process.

Visit [www.peo.on.ca](http://www.peo.on.ca) (click on Apply for a Licence) to download the application. If you have questions about applying for a licence, contact us first at [newcomers@peo.on.ca](mailto:newcomers@peo.on.ca).

## WHY SHOULD I BECOME LICENSED?

If you are going to be responsible for work in Ontario that is defined as professional engineering according to the *Professional Engineers Act*, you must be licensed by PEO. Becoming licensed also demonstrates that you appreciate the importance of work that is not only technically competent, but is also based on sound professional ethics. Ontario P.Engs, LELs and LETs (a class of limited licence for certified engineering technologists who are members of the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists) are part of a community of professionals committed to enhancing the quality of life, safety and well-being of all Ontarians.

## WHAT ARE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE?

To be granted a full licence to practise professional engineering in Ontario, an applicant must meet PEO's academic, work experience and other requirements. This includes:

- being at least 18 years old;
- being of good character;
- holding an undergraduate engineering degree from an engineering program accredited by the Canadian Engineering Accreditation Board (or possess equivalent qualifications);
- successfully completing PEO's Professional Practice Examination (PPE); and
- demonstrating at least 48 months of verifiable, acceptable engineering experience, at least 12 months\* of which must be acquired in a Canadian jurisdiction under a licensed professional engineer (P.Eng.).

\*This requirement ensures you have sufficient exposure to Canadian engineering codes, legislation, technical standards, regulations and work environment.

To be granted a limited licence, the requirements set out in section 46 of Ontario Regulation 941/90 include:

- a three-year degree or diploma in an engineering, technology or science program (or equivalent qualifications) and a knowledge base corresponding to the scope of professional engineering services to be provided under the limited licence;
- eight years of professional engineering experience, with at least six years corresponding to the scope of services to be provided under the limited licence and at least four of those six years being acquired in a Canadian jurisdiction under the supervision of at least one person authorized to engage in professional engineering practice in a Canadian jurisdiction;
- successful completion of the PPE; and
- good character.

You do not have to be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada to obtain a P.Eng. licence, provisional licence or limited licence in Ontario.

If you have any questions about the requirements for licensure, contact us first at [newcomers@peo.on.ca](mailto:newcomers@peo.on.ca).