

Experience Review Committee

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To become a registered professional in APEGM, an individual must be academically qualified and have four years of relevant, practical and progressive experience under the supervision or mentorship of qualified professionals. The Experience Review Committee (ERC) reviews the work experience reported by members-in-training (MITs) to ensure that their experience complies with the policies, procedures and requirements established by Council.

MIT reports, which typically cover six month work periods, must be signed off by their supervisors and professional mentors. These reports must demonstrate:

- Application of theory and design to engineering/geoscience problems and their limitations
- exposure to project planning, scheduling, budgeting, supervision, management and risk assessment
- communications skills
- ethical and social considerations
- team work and assumed responsibilities
- continued professional development

Once ERC deems that the work experience requirements have been met, and positive letters of reference have been received from persons familiar with the MITs work and character, ERC recommends the MIT to the Registration Committee.

On June 30, 2008, 795 MITs were enrolled with APEGM. ERC reviews approximately 85 files per month. New procedures and practices implemented over the past few years have significantly reduced committee member time spent on routine matters, allowing more time to discuss complex files and policy issues while reducing meeting times.

A recurring challenge is fair assessment of foreign work experience. Language and political circumstance can make it difficult or impossible for immigrant engineers and geoscientists to obtain supervisor reports for foreign experience. In any case, ERC requires all applicants to have least one year of acceptable work experience in the Canadian context and positive references from Registered Engineers/Geoscientists familiar with their work and character, before passing their file to the APEGM Registration Committee.

On behalf of all APEGM members, I thank APEGM staff members Sharon Sankar, P.Eng. and Lorraine Dupas whose organizational skills ensure that ERC functions efficiently and to the ERC volunteer members for their time, dedication and for enthusiastically sharing their unique perspectives which stimulate deeper thinking, more diverse discussions and hence more reasoned decisions when assessing the often complex MIT work experience files.