

## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for Applicants

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## General Questions

### 1. Which registrant category should I apply for?

General information is available on the College's [Registration Application Overview webpage](#), and specific information for each category is in the College's [Credentialing Standard](#). You may also complete the College's free online [Applicant Self-Assessment Tool \(ASAT\)](#).

### 2. My institution/program is not on the accredited list—can I still apply to be a registrant?

Yes. If your institution/program is not on the [accredited list](#), you can still apply through the non-accredited stream for the registrant category of interest to you. All registrant categories have different application streams. The College's [Credentialing Standard](#) provides specific information regarding the streams for each category that you may apply for.

### 3. How do I find out about the registrant categories, various streams and their associated requirements?

The registrant categories, streams of entry, their requirement details and checklists are found in the [Credentialing Standard](#), on the College's [Registration Application Overview webpage](#) and the free online [Applicant Self-Assessment Tool \(ASAT\)](#). The ASAT allows prospective applicants to do a self-evaluation of their credentials (education/training, work experience, etc.) against the College's requirements for all the categories and provides information on requirements.

### 4. Where can I find information on course requirements and what courses meet the requirements?

The [Credentialing Standard](#) provides detailed course requirements for each registrant category, and Appendix B provides descriptions of each course requirement for all registrant categories. You can also do a self-assessment of all your requirements for the category you wish to apply for in the College's free online [Applicant Self-Assessment Tool \(ASAT\)](#).

### 5. Can the College provide an assessment of my courses and other requirements prior to me submitting my application?

No. The College does not do pre-application reviews or assessments of an individual's credentials (e.g., courses, work experience, professional work products, etc.) in advance of an application. This provides a fair and transparent process for all applicants and protects the public interest.

### 6. Is an applicant's academic performance (e.g., grades) considered when evaluating the education (e.g., transcripts, certificate) or training portion of their application?

The College only reviews grades to confirm that all courses required by the College have been completed and passed.

**7. Can I apply before completing the required education?**

No. To apply for all registrant categories an applicant must have completed the required education and have proof of education completed (e.g., degree, diploma has been conferred and is stated on official transcripts) before applying. Some streams of entry for the RBTech and ABT designations do not require a diploma, certificate or course work. These are detailed in the [Credentialing Standard](#).

**8. Do I need to live and/or be working in British Columbia at the time of application or once I am a registrant?**

An applicant does not have to be living or working in British Columbia or Canada at the time of their application or when registered with the College.

**9. What is the application and registration process and associated timelines?**

Detailed information on the application and registration process is found [here](#). Application processing times are updated on the College's website.

**10. Can an applicant make changes to their application after it has been submitted?**

Yes; however, once your application has been submitted, you must contact the College Registrar's Office at [registrar\\_office@cab-bc.org](mailto:registrar_office@cab-bc.org) to make changes or add any documents to your application.

## Experience

**11. Can experience be substituted for any portion of the educational requirements?**

The College allows limited flexibility options for applicants who may be missing some course requirements but have additional experience (see [Credentialing Standard](#) for more information). Beyond these options, experience cannot be substituted for any portion(s) of the educational requirements. The [Credentialing Standard](#) sets out the requirements for each registrant category. The College's free online [Self-Assessment Tool \(ASAT\)](#) provides information on requirements and allows prospective applicants to do a self-evaluation of their credentials (education/training, work experience, etc.) against the College's requirements. Applicant checklists are also available on the College [website](#) to assist applicants in evaluating their credentials against the requirements for each registrant category.

**12. Can work experience, such as summer jobs or co-op internships, while still at university or college count towards the experience requirement?**

Yes. Up to one year of experience, including volunteer experience, from prior to graduation from your Bachelor's degree for all RPBio applicants, and pre-diploma for RBTech Streams 1 and 2 applicants, may count as professional experience.

## Professional Work Products (PWP) for RBTech, RPBio and Applied Biologist – Limited Licensee (AB-LL) applicants

### **13. What kind of professional work products (PWPs) are accepted for the RPBio, RBTech or AB-LL application?**

The College accepts a variety of PWPs. Details and examples of accepted PWPs are found in the College's [Credentialing Standard](#). It is important that your PWP meets the requirements in the Credentialing Standard and demonstrates the regulated definition of practice of applied biology stated in the [Applied Biologists Regulation](#).

***Note:** there is no requirement that a PWP must be a Master's Thesis, a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Dissertation or a peer reviewed journal article.*

## In-Training Categories

### **14. Is it easier to become an RPBio, RBTech or ABT if I have previously been an associated in-Training registrant such as a Biologist in Training (BIT), RBTech in Training or ABT in Training?**

The benefit of being an in-Training or Trainee registrant is that when you apply to reclassify as an ABT, RPBio or RBTech registrant for the associated category, only your work experience, professional practice competencies, references, etc. are assessed. This is because your education/training has already been assessed and approved by the College. This may shorten the timeline of your application assessment.

### **15. Is it a requirement to register as an in-Training registrant, such as a BIT before becoming an RPBio?**

There is no requirement to become an in-Training (e.g., Biologist in Training, RBTech in Training or ABT in Training) registrant prior to becoming a practicing registrant, such as an RPBio, RBTech or ABT.

### **16. If I want to change status from a Registered Biology Technologist (RBTech) to an RPBio, do I first have to become a BIT?**

If you are currently an RBTech or an ABT and you meet the requirements for an RPBio, you can apply to become an RPBio without having to first be a Biologist in Training.

## Fees

### **17. I have a fee-related question. Who do I contact?**

For general questions about fees, refer to Schedule 2 of the College [Bylaws](#) and the [Application Fee Payment Schedule](#). Specific questions about your fees should be directed to the College's Director of Finance at [helen.taraskin@cab-bc.org](mailto:helen.taraskin@cab-bc.org).

## Alberta Society of Professional Biologist (ASPB)

### **18. Can ASPB members apply to the College?**

Yes, Professional Biologists (P.Biols) in good standing with ASPB can apply under labour mobility agreements to be an RPBio with the College.

### **19. Does an ASPB member need to pay for a CAB application?**

Yes. There is an application fee for an ASPB member to apply to be registrant with the College. Up-to-date application fees are found in Schedule 2 of the College [Bylaws](#). Additional information regarding ASPB and College registration can be found in the [Registration Via Labour Mobility In and Outside of Canada](#) section of our website.

## Internationally Educated/Trained Applicants

### **20. Are there additional requirements for internationally trained applicants?**

Please refer to the [Internationally Trained/Educated Applicants](#) section on our website for information for internationally educated/trained applicants.