

Internationally Educated Applicants Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

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1. [What registration category should I apply for?](#)
2. [I have a degree, does this alone meet the education requirements for a Registered Professional Biologist \(RPBio\) application?](#)
3. [I have a diploma, does this alone meet the education requirements for a Registered Biology Technologist \(RBTech\)?](#)
4. [Transcript information. If I obtained my degree or diploma outside of Canada or the United States, what academic information do I need to provide to the College?](#)
5. [Credentialing services are expensive. Why do I have to use one?](#)
6. [If I have provided an international credentialing agency report on my transcript\(s\) previously to another organization or government body, such as part of a permanent residency application, can I supply the documents myself to the College?](#)
7. [I took three courses abroad. Do I have to provide the credential assessment?](#)
8. [My transcript is from a Canadian institution but it has been issued in French. Do I have to provide a credential assessment or a translation?](#)
9. [Must I live in Canada to register?](#)
10. [Can relevant work experience from outside of Canada be used in my application?](#)

1. What registration category should I apply for?

Please review information on the [College's website](#), including the [Credentialing Standard](#), which details the required qualifications and application streams for all registration categories. You may also complete the College's free online [Applicant Self-Assessment Tool \(ASAT\)](#) to help you determine which category you should apply for.

Internationally educated applicants will be applying under streams 2, 3 or 4 (as applicable).

2. I have a degree, does this alone meet the education requirements for a Registered Professional Biologist (RPBio) application?

No. All RPBio applicants are required to have a minimum of a bachelor's degree and have completed specific course requirements.

For RPBio streams 2, 3, and 4, applicants must enter course titles manually in their application and also provide course descriptions (highly recommended but not mandatory) in English or French. This information is used by the College to verify that required courses have been successfully completed.

Applicants with a degree can also apply to be a Registered Biology Technologist (RBTech).

3. I have a diploma, does this alone meet the education requirements for a Registered Biology Technologist (RBTech)?

No. For RBTech stream 2, applicants are required to have a diploma and have completed specific courses, which are described in the [Credentialing Standard](#). Applicants must also enter course titles manually in their application and provide course descriptions (highly recommended but not mandatory) in English or French. This information is used by the College to verify that required courses have been successfully completed.

4. Transcript information. If I obtained my degree or diploma outside of Canada or the United States, what academic information do I need to provide to the College?

For applicants with credentials issued outside of Canada and the USA, the College requires:

- A **course-by-course** education/training credential assessment report in English from a Canadian credentialing service.
- The credentialing service must receive official transcripts directly from the issuing educational institution.
- The credentialing service must not create a report based on copies of official documents or from official documents obtained from an applicant.
- The credentialing service must not create a report based on translated documents derived from copies submitted to a translator by an applicant.
- The credentialing service must provide their assessment/report directly to the College.
- The following credentialing services meet the above requirements:
 - [World Education Services \(WES\)](#)
 - [International Credential Evaluation Service \(ICES\)](#)
 - [Comparative Education Service \(CES\)](#)
- You may also use another credentialing service that meets the College's requirements—please confirm with College staff (registrar_office@cab-bc.org) in advance.
- The College *does not* accept evaluations from either International Qualifications Assessment Services (IQAS) or International Credential Assessment Service of Canada (ICAS), as they do not meet the College's requirements.

5. Credentialing services are expensive. Why do I have to use one?

Credentialing assessments/reports are necessary for the College to:

- Confirm that international education/training (i.e., degree, diploma, certificate) and associated courses are equivalent to Canadian education/training; and
- Assess that courses submitted in an application meet the College's education/training requirements for the registrant category applied for.

6. If I have provided an international credentialing agency report on my transcript(s) previously to another organization or government body, such as part of a permanent residency application, can I supply the documents myself to the College?

No. For internationally trained applicants, the College requires a **course-by-course** credential assessment, and not the ECA (Educational Credential Assessment) requested for immigration purposes. In addition, the credential assessment must be sent directly from the credentialing service to the College.

7. I took three courses abroad. Do I have to provide the credential assessment?

If an applicant is using those courses as part of their application, yes, they need to provide the credential assessment.

8. My transcript is from a Canadian institution but it has been issued in French. Do I have to provide a credential assessment or a translation?

No. Applicants do not have to provide a credential assessment for programs taken *within* Canada, even if the content (partially or totally) was in French.

The College accepts applications and transcripts in French, as it is one of the official languages of Canada.

9. Must I live in Canada to register?

No. The College of Applied Biologists does not have a residency requirement, and we treat all applicants the same regardless of where they were educated, trained, or where they work/live. If you have questions about qualifications, please refer to our [Credentialing Standard](#) before reaching out to the College with questions.

10. Can relevant work experience from outside of Canada be used in my application?

Yes. Work experience, paid or unpaid, from anywhere in the world, may be used in an application, as long as it meets the practice of applied biology as defined in the [Applied Biologists Regulation](#) as well as the requirements detailed in the [Credentialing Standard](#).