

Civil Engineering in Canada

The intent of these notes is to give general guidance to members of the Institution of Civil Engineers who are considering practicing civil engineering in Canada.

Registration requirements

In Canada, only a Professional Engineer (PEng) is licensed to practice engineering and to take responsibility for their work and that of others, including signing and sealing design documents; by law, no one can practice as a PEng in Canada without a license. An Engineer (without a license) works under the supervision of a PEng and is not allowed to take responsibility for their work or that of others or to sign and seal design documents. PEng status is similar to Chartered Engineer status and is awarded by the relevant provincial or territorial engineering association so you need to refer to the relevant association for the application requirements and process: www.engineerscanada.ca/e/co cms.cfm

Before you can work in Canada you must be a Canadian Citizen, Permanent Resident or hold a Temporary Work Visa. For information on obtaining these please visit:

www.cic.gc.ca/english/immigrate/index.asp.

If you are from the UK, please visit: www.unitedkingdom.gc.ca

Generally, to gain PEng status you must be a Canadian Citizen or a Permanent Resident. If you intend to practice engineering in Quebec, you should also anticipate being able to work in French; you should be at least near fluent in written and spoken technical French.

Relevant bodies

The national engineering organisation is Engineers Canada (www.engineerscanada.ca) and they maintain the website "*PEng - The license to Engineer*" (www.peng.ca) which explains the path to gaining PEng status.

The national civil engineering organisation is the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering (www.csce.ca), which provides a learned society function but not a licensing function.

Each Province or Territory has its own engineering association, which awards the PEng license. For the list of associations, please visit: www.engineerscanada.ca/e/co cms.cfm.

Recognition of existing qualifications

Currently there are no agreements to facilitate the recognition of CEng MICE in Canada so unfortunately you will need to start from the beginning to gain PEng status. Engineers Canada and the Engineering Council are signatories to the Washington Accord which covers recognition of academic qualifications so if you hold an accredited degree recognised by the Engineering Council for CEng registration, you should be granted exemption from the academic examinations. If you encounter any difficulties with this or are asked to provide further information please let the [ICE Representative](#) for your region know.

ICE in Canada

ICE divides Canada into four regions each with a Representative. Please visit the ICE Canada webpage for contact details: www.ice.org.uk/nearyou/The-Americas/Canada

Our International Representatives are volunteer qualified Members and are not immigration or employment agents; however they are able to offer more focused advice on practicing engineering within their region. They would be happy to advise you. In conjunction with other major UK engineering institutions, the Institution supports two joint local associations:

- The Western Canada Group of Chartered Engineers - www.wcgce.org
- Canadian Prairies Group of Chartered Engineers - www.cpgce.org

Canada is a vast, sparsely populated and a particularly beautiful nation in which to practice engineering; it has many, many opportunities. We wish you every success as you consider whether to come and work in Canada.

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