

Agrologist

Registration Process



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Description of Occupation

Agrologists provide advice and services related to agricultural and environmental science and technology. They apply scientific principles to the production, improvement, use, processing and marketing of plants and animals, and the management of related resources.

Agrologists work in science and technology fields such as environmental land management and resource conservation. This includes the protection of soil, water and wildlife resources; natural resource economics; business management and financial systems; food processing safety and security; environmental impact assessment and mitigation planning; livestock and crop development, production and management; rural community development and support, and contaminated land remediation and reclamation.

Registering as an Agrologist in Alberta

Agrologists must be registered with the Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA) in order to work in Alberta. To obtain the Professional Agrologist (P.Ag.) designation you must:

- Complete a recognized four-year Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture or environmental science (or equivalent).
- Apply to AIA for the Agrologist in Training Program.
- Complete the Agrologist in Training Program.

Only registered AIA members may call themselves an Agrologist in Training or a Professional Agrologist, and are entitled to practice the profession of Agrology in Alberta.

Complete the **New Member Application Form** and provide detailed and accurate answers to all questions. Applications and required documents can be submitted online through the AIA website, or you can send them to AIA at the following address:

The Alberta Institute of Agrologists
249, 2055 Premier Way
Sherwood Park, Alberta
T8H 0G2

Links to the New Member Application Form and other resources are at the end of this document.

Residency Requirement

You must be a Canadian citizen or lawfully permitted to work or study in Canada in order to start the application process.

Registration Requirements

Internationally educated Agrologists must meet and confirm the following requirements to be eligible for membership with AIA:

1. **Academic Credentials**

The minimum education requirement for admission to the Agrologist in Training program is a four-year Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture or environmental science or equivalent (120 credits). This includes:

- A minimum of forty-five (45) credits related to the practice of agrology

- Twenty-four (24) credits must be at the senior level
- Twenty-one (21) credits can be any agrology courses
- Fifteen (15) credits must be in natural sciences
- Nine (9) credits must be at the senior level in any area
- Fifty-one (51) credits can be in any area
- You must provide evidence that each of the following is included in the degree: English; Math, Calculus or Statistics; and Economics.

All courses must have Canadian university equivalency. AIA will review your academic transcripts to determine if you meet the academic requirements.

You should contact the academic institution you graduated from and request that an official copy of your academic transcripts be sent directly to the AIA office at:

The Alberta Institute of Agrologists
249, 2055 Premier Way
Sherwood Park, Alberta
T8H 0G2

If AIA determines that you do not meet the academic requirements for membership then:

- You will be advised what courses you need to take.
- You will be asked to submit a plan of course studies which AIA must approve.
- When you successfully complete the courses your academic qualifications will be approved.

Note:

AIA is not able to assess foreign credentials before you arrive in Canada. To have your credentials assessed before arriving in Canada, contact the academic institution where you were trained. Have them send your transcripts to the International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS) at:

International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS)
Alberta Employment, Immigration and Industry
9th Floor, 108 Street Building
9942-108 St.
Edmonton, AB T5K 2J5
Telephone: 780-427-2655
Fax: 780-422-9734

IQAS compares educational qualifications from other countries to provincial educational standards.

An IQAS assessment does not guarantee recognition of your qualifications in Canada. However, it may help speed up the application process with AIA once you arrive in Canada. You are responsible for paying the assessment costs.

A Basic Assessment, for employment or professional licensing, costs \$100. A Description of Course Work Assessment costs \$200 for one university or college degree, and \$75 extra for each additional university or college degree. All fees must be paid before the assessment can begin.

2. Work Experience

Agrologists in Training must have a minimum of three (3) years post-graduate agrology work experience to obtain P.Ag. status. A minimum of one (1) year Canadian work experience is mandatory.

You may be given up to two (2) years credit for verified, equivalent work experience outside of Canada.

When completing the New Member Application Form, you should submit an up-to-date resumé. The resumé should describe your complete employment history, including current employment. You must provide references from professionals who can verify your work experience outside of Canada.

3. Good Character and Reputation

Once you complete the Agrologist in Training work experience requirements, you can apply for P.Ag. status. At this time, three (3) professional references must be provided. One (1) of those references must provide evidence of your good character and reputation.

4. English Language

You must demonstrate an ability to communicate (read and write) in English. English proficiency may be verified by AIA through verbal communication. You may also be asked to demonstrate writing ability in person.

5. Examinations

Once your application to become an Agrologist in Training has been approved, you must pass exams in four (4) modules to obtain P.Ag. status.

The modules and exams are offered by AIA. The minimum passing grade for all exams is 70 per cent. Exams are available in English. Agrologists in Training must pay for the cost of the exams.

Note:

Agrologists in Training have a maximum of three (3) years to complete their training.

In addition to passing the exams, there are other requirements Agrologists in Training must meet to obtain P.Ag. status including but not limited to:

- Attendance at the annual AIA conference and annual general meeting.
- A minimum three (3) years post-graduate agrology work experience, including a minimum of one (1) year Canadian experience.
- Demonstrated competency in communication and project management.
- Three (3) professional references must be provided who will recommend you for P.Ag. status.

Scope of Practice

You will need to identify on the New Member Application Form your primary practice area(s). AIA has identified thirty-three (33) practice areas in four (4) agrology sectors including: Life sciences; environment; agriculture and food. (See Resources section at the end of this document for a complete description of the practice areas.)

Applicants with three (3) or more years post-graduate agrology-related work experience should provide a written description of their current agrology practice.

Based on the information received and verified, the AIA Registration Committee will review your Scope of Practice.

Mentor program

Internationally trained Agrologists who have no Canadian work experience may be matched with a mentor for a period of time.

Payment

The following fees are payable to AIA. Payments can be made online, or you can send payment to the AIA address listed above. All fees are in Canadian dollars.

Application fee	\$250
Annual membership fee for Agrologist in Training	\$300
Annual membership fee for P.Ag.	\$475
Examinations	\$708
*Fees are subject to change. See AIA website for most up-to-date fees.	

Note:

- Agrologists in Training are also responsible for the cost of attending workshops, annual conferences and any other events or activities that may be necessary to complete the program.

Average Earnings

The overall average earnings for Agrologists in Alberta, according to the Alberta 2009 Wage and Salary survey:

Average hours worked per week	41.1
Average wage per hour	\$27.48
Average salary per year	\$57,272

Employment options

You can also consider working in Alberta in related occupations such as Agrology Technologist.

For more information about additional employment options, go to the following website: [Alberta Learning Information Service \(ALIS\) Occupational Profiles — Agrologist \(www.alis.gov.ab.ca/occinfo\)](http://www.alis.gov.ab.ca/occinfo).

Contact Information

Alberta Institute of Agrologists
249, 2055 Premier Way
Sherwood Park, Alberta
T8H 0G2
Telephone: 780-464-9797
Fax: 780-464-1171
Email: info@aia.ab.ca
Website: www.albertaagrologists.ca

Resources

This information is an overview of the registration process. For the most current information on Agrologist registration visit the AIA website at www.albertaagrologists.ca.

Application Forms and Information:

[Requirements to Obtain Professional Designation](#)
[Application Process](#)
[Application Form](#)
[Application Fees](#)

Academic Credentials:

[Academic Requirements](#)

Work Experience:

[Work Experience Requirements](#)

English Language:

[English Language Competency](#)

Examinations:

[Agrologist in Training Exams](#)

[Competency Requirements for Professional Status](#)

[Agrology Profession Act and Regulation](#)

[International Qualifications Assessment Service \(IQAS\)](#)