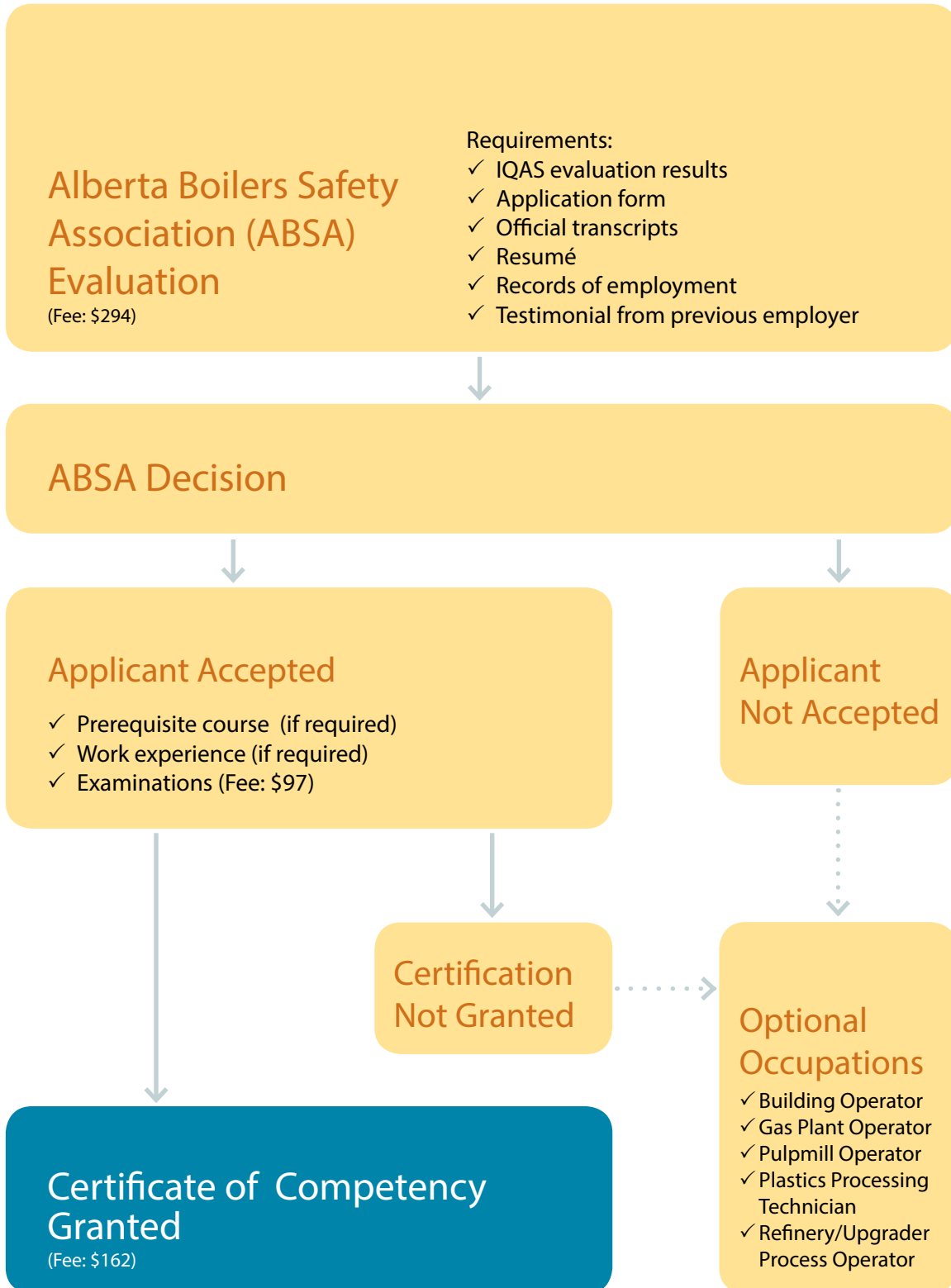


Power Engineer

Certification Process



Power Engineer

Certification Process

Description of Occupation

Power Engineers maintain and operate equipment that provides heat, refrigeration and other utility services to industrial and commercial facilities. This equipment might include boilers, turbines, generators, internal combustion engines, pumps, condensers, compressors or pressure vessels. In industrial plants, senior Power Engineers may work in control room environments, ensuring continuous and reliable operation of equipment and systems. For example, Power Engineers can operate oil and gas upgraders and plants, coal-fired power generation plants, plastics plants, food processing operations, pulp mills and building heating systems.

Obtaining Certification in Alberta

To become a Power Engineer in Alberta, you must be certified by the Alberta Boilers Safety Association (ABSA), the Pressure Equipment Safety Authority. ABSA is responsible for the administration and delivery of safety programs related to boilers, pressure vessels and pressure piping systems in Alberta. Power Engineers have a graduated certification system, with entry allowed at either the 5th or 4th Class level and progression available to the 1st Class level.

Each class entitles you to supervise specific types of equipment in specific operating conditions. With progression in certification, you can provide supervision for larger plants and assume greater job responsibility.

Links to Application Forms and contact information for ABSA can be found at the end of this document.

Residency Requirement

There is no residency requirement to begin your application for certification as a Power Engineer.

Requirements

Internationally educated Power Engineers may apply to have their qualifications assessed to determine what credit they may be eligible for towards Alberta certification. This is done by submitting application form AB 141 (Application for Evaluation of Foreign Qualifications) together with supporting documents and the required assessment fee. ABSA will evaluate your credentials and determine which level of certification you may fit into and if you are eligible to challenge an examination for that level.

1. Academic Credentials

ABSA does not assess international educational credentials. Individuals who wish to have their academic qualifications considered towards power engineering certification must have their educational credentials evaluated by an assessment service such as the International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS). For details on how to obtain an IQAS assessment and to download an application, visit the IQAS website at the address provided at the end of this document.

The following must be submitted to ABSA:

- The results of the IQAS assessment,
- Copies of official educational transcripts and
- The AB141 form.

Those writing the 4th or 5th Class Power Engineer's examination must take a course acceptable to ABSA before they can take the examination, unless exempted through the assessment process. These courses may be taken by distance education. Contact ABSA to find out course details.

2. Work Experience

You must have relevant work experience in order to be certified as any class of Power Engineer.

The amount of experience you must have varies depending on the type of environment you worked in, the position you held and the examination you wish to challenge. The minimum length of experience is six (6) months (for a 5th Class Power Engineer), and increases with the level of certification you seek.

Previous experience, including experience obtained outside of Canada, may apply.

You must submit to ABSA:

- Testimonials, records of employment and/or resumé(s) of the relevant experience you wish considered.

3. English Language

While there is no English language requirement to become a certified Power Engineer, the courses and examinations are in English.

4. Examinations

You must pass an examination for the particular class of Power Engineer you are applying for if you wish to become certified, unless you have been exempted as a result of the assessment.

The following must be submitted to ABSA at least 21 days prior to the examination date:

- Completed AB-66 Application Form (you must complete Part A and sign it; Part B must be completed and signed by a company official who can verify your experience, whether it was obtained in or outside of Canada)
- Examination fee.

When your application is approved, you will be mailed or emailed a notice of examination indicating the date, time and place.

The 5th and 4th Class examinations consist of 150 multiple-choice questions. The 3rd Class examination is a combination of multiple choice and long answer questions. The 2nd and 1st Class examinations consist of long answer questions only.

If you pass your examination, you will receive a Certificate of Competency for the particular class you applied to.

Payment

Fees are listed in Canadian dollars and are subject to change. See ABSA for the most up-to-date fees.

ABSA Evaluation Fee	\$294
Issuance of Certificate of Competency	\$162
Annual fee for registration of Certificate of Competency	\$32.50
Examination Fee	\$97

Average Earnings

The overall average earnings for all Power Engineers, according to the Alberta 2013 Wage and Salary survey:

Average hours worked per week	44.6
Average wage per hour	\$36.79
Average salary per year	\$84,194

Employment Options

You can also consider working in Alberta in related occupations such as Building Operator, Gas Plant Operator, Pulp Mill Operator, Plastics Processing Technician or Refinery/Upgrader Process Operator.

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

Contact Information

Alberta Boilers Safety Association (ABSA)
 9410 – 20th Avenue
 Edmonton, Alberta T6N 0A4
 Telephone: 780-437-9100
 Fax: 780-437-7787
 Email: power.engr.cert@absa.ca
 Website: www.absa.ca

Resources

This information is an overview of the certification process. For the most current information on Power Engineer certification visit the ABSA's website at www.absa.ca.

Application Forms and Information:

[Internationally Educated Power Engineers
Power Engineer Certification
ABSA Forms \(including forms AB-66 and AB-141\)](#)

Academic Credentials:

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

Examinations:

[Examination Information](#)
[Examination Schedule](#)

Fees:

[Fee Schedule](#)