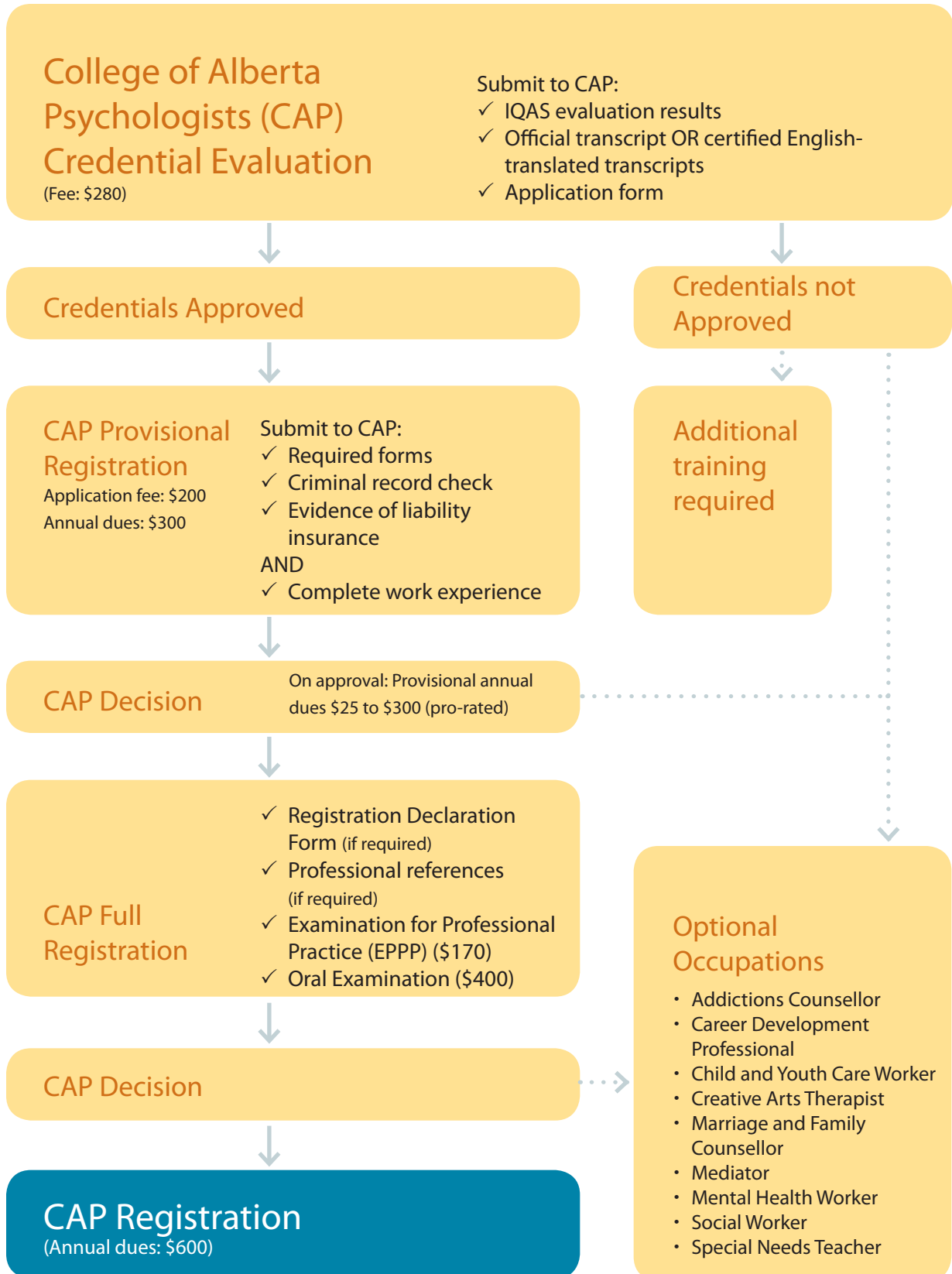


# Psychologist

## Registration Process



## **Psychologist**

### Registration Process

#### **Description of Occupation**

Psychologists assess, diagnose and treat psychological, emotional and behavioural issues. They usually specialize in a certain area, and may work as a Clinical Psychologist, a Counselling Psychologist, a School Psychologist, an Industrial/Organizational Psychologist or a Research/Experimental Psychologist.

#### **Obtaining Registration in Alberta**

To become a Psychologist in Alberta, you must register with the College of Alberta Psychologists (CAP).

After CAP has approved your academic credentials, you can begin the process to register as a Provisional Psychologist (which means you are in the process of completing your full registration). You will need to submit the following:

- Application Form
- Application Fee
- Annual dues for Provisional Psychologists
- Completed supervision plan form
- Registration verification form
- Fitness to practice declaration form
- Criminal records check
- Evidence of liability insurance coverage.

When you have been approved as a Provisional Psychologist, you can then continue the process to become a fully Registered Psychologist with CAP.

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

#### **Residency Requirement**

There is no residency requirement to begin your application for registration as a Psychologist in Alberta. However, you will need to live in Alberta to complete the application process after your credentials are approved.

## Requirements

Internationally educated Psychologists must meet the following requirements:

### 1. *Academic Credentials*

You must have a master's degree in psychology or a master's degree that is substantially equivalent to a master's degree in psychology in order to register as a Psychologist in Alberta.

If you were educated outside of Canada and the United States, you must have your academic credentials assessed by 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.

After you have received your IQAS assessment, you must submit the following to CAP:

- Original IQAS assessment
- Completed Application Form
- Fee
- Thesis abstract if you completed a thesis-based graduate degree
- Official transcripts or certified translated copies of your transcripts from all educational institutions listed on your Application Form (official transcripts must be mailed to CAP directly from your educational institution while certified copies can be included with your Application Form)
- Supporting documents (course descriptions) for all courses you have taken that do not have "psychology" in the title or do not appear to be from a program of psychology.

### 2. *Work Experience*

Provisional Psychologists have to complete 1,600 hours of practice under the supervision of a Registered Psychologist who has been approved by CAP's Registration Approvals Sub-Committee (RASC). Of those 1,600 hours:

- A minimum of 50 per cent and a maximum of 75 per cent must be spent in service delivery (any client activity)
- A maximum of 400 hours may be dedicated to professional activities such as research and evaluation, teaching, supervision, administration and consultation
- A minimum of 400 hours must be dedicated to interventions.

Your 1,600 hours must begin after you have applied for registration and the RASC has approved your supervision arrangement.

If you are registered as a Psychologist in your home jurisdiction, you can apply as a "Registered Elsewhere" applicant with CAP.

You must have been registered/licensed for independent practice and in good standing as a Psychologist for a minimum of two (2) years in your home jurisdiction in order to have the 1,600 hours of supervised practice waived.

You may request to be placed on the Provisional Psychologist register while completing the registration requirements (the Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology and the Oral Examination in Psychology). As a Provisional Psychologist, you will be required to practice under supervision and follow the Standards of Supervision Form B (available on the CAP website).

### **3. Good Character and Reputation**

You must provide an original criminal records check with your application for provisional registration.

Unless you are a “Registered Elsewhere” applicant, you will also have to provide:

- Registration declaration form
- Three (3) professional references.

### **4. Examinations**

After you have been granted provisional registration or are approved as a “Registered Elsewhere” applicant, you must take two (2) examinations:

- The Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) covers eight (8) content areas: biological bases of behaviour, cognitive-affective bases of behaviour, social and multi-cultural bases of behaviour, growth and life-span development, assessment and diagnosis, treatment, intervention and prevention, research methods and statistics, and ethical, legal and professional issues.

To take this exam, you are required to submit the appropriate form and fee to CAP. CAP will then provide you with instructions to apply for this exam.

- The Oral Examination in Psychology tests your competence to practice in your declared area(s) of practice.

You will have to submit five (5) copies of your work samples (one must be signed by your supervisor) of your typical practice, along with the appropriate form and fee. If you are a “Registered Elsewhere” applicant, you are not required to submit a work sample with your application form.

### **English Language**

While there is no English language test required, you do need to be able to speak, read and write in English.

## Payment

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

CAP Evaluation of Academic Credentials	\$280
Provisional Registration Fee	\$200
Provisional Psychologist Annual Dues	\$25 to \$300 (prorated)
EPPP	\$170
Oral Examination	\$400
Registered Psychologist Annual Dues	\$600

Note:

Provisional Psychologist annual dues are prorated, so if you were to become a Provisional Psychologist at the beginning of the year you would pay more for your annual dues than if you were to become a Provisional Psychologist toward the end of the year.

## Average Earnings

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

Average hours worked per week	38.2
Average wage per hour	\$39.19
Average salary per year	\$77,583

## Employment Options

You can also consider working in Alberta in related occupations such as Addictions Counsellor, Career Development Professional, Child and Youth Care Worker, Creative Arts Therapist, Marriage and Family Counsellor, Mediator, Mental Health Worker, Psychiatrist, Social Worker or Special Needs Teacher.

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

## Contact Information

College of Alberta Psychologists (CAP)  
2100 SunLife Place  
10123-99 Street  
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3H1  
Telephone: 780-424-5070  
Toll-free: 1-800-659-0857  
Website: [www.cap.ab.ca](http://www.cap.ab.ca)

## Resources

This information is an overview of the registration process. For the most current information on registering as a psychologist in Alberta, visit the College of Alberta Psychologists' website at [www.cap.ab.ca](http://www.cap.ab.ca).

Application Forms and Information:

[Information for Internationally Educated Applicants](#)  
[Application for Evaluation of your Credentials](#)  
[Provisional Psychologist Registration Forms](#)  
[Fast Tracking](#)

Academic Credentials:

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

Examinations:

[Examination Information](#)