Agrology Technologist

Registration Process

Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA) Application

(application processing fee $250)

Assessment of:
- ✓ Academic credentials
- ✓ Work experience
- ✓ Character and reputation
- ✓ English language skills

Review by AIA Registration Committee

- ✓ Application form
- ✓ Academic transcripts
- ✓ IQAS assessment
- ✓ Resumé
- ✓ Letters of reference
- ✓ Scope of practice

AIA Decision

Approved for Agrology Technologist in Training program

Conditions:
1. Canadian work experience
2. Four exams ($708 fee)
3. Attendance at AIA annual general meeting, conference and other events
4. References
5. $300 annual fee

Conditional Approval

Additional training required:
- ✓ Academic
- ✓ Language

(cost and duration vary)

Applicant Not Accepted

Scope of Practice Approval

Registered Technologist in Agrology

(annual membership fee $475)

Optional Occupations

- Other Biological, Environmental or Agricultural Technician or Technologist positions.

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Description of Occupation

Agrology Technologists provide technology advice and services for a variety of agricultural and environmental applications. They apply technological approaches to the production, improvement, use, processing and marketing of plants and animals, and the management of related resources.

Agrology Technologists work in diverse areas ranging from environmental and agricultural land management and resource conservation. This includes soil, water and wildlife resource protection; crop and livestock development, production and management; business management and financial systems; and contaminated land remediation and reclamation.

Obtaining Registration in Alberta

In Alberta, Agrology Technologists who meet the registration requirements of the Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA) must be registered with the AIA. To obtain the Registered Technologist in Agrology (RTAg) designation you must:

- ☐ Complete a recognized diploma or applied degree in agriculture or environmental science (or equivalent).
- ☐ Apply to AIA for the Agrology Technologist in Training Program.
- ☐ Complete the Agrology Technologist in Training Program.
- ☐ Submit a proposed Scope of Practice statement.

Only registered AIA members may call themselves an Agrology Technologist in Training or a Registered Technologist in Agrology.

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 Agrology Technologists must meet and confirm the following requirements to be eligible for membership with the AIA:

1. Academic Credentials

The minimum education requirement for admission to the Agrology Technologist in Training program is a two (2) year diploma or applied degree in which you have achieved a minimum of sixty (60) credits. This includes:

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- ☐ A minimum of thirty-three (33) credits related to the practice of agrology
  - Eighteen (18) credits must be beyond the introductory level
  - Fifteen (15) credits can be in any agrology courses
- ☐ Nine (9) credits must be in natural sciences
- ☐ Eighteen (18) credits can be in any area
  - Six (6) of these credits should be beyond the introductory level

All courses must have Canadian college or 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

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.

2. *Work Experience*

Agrology Technologists in Training must have a minimum of three (3) years post-graduate agrology work experience to obtain RTAg 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.

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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 are registered with a professional organization and who can verify your work experience outside of Canada.

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

   Once you complete the Agrology Technologist in Training work experience requirements, you can apply for RTAg 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.

Examinations

Once your application to become an Agrology Technologist in Training has been approved, you must pass exams in four (4) modules to obtain RTAg 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. Agrology Technologists in Training must pay for the cost of the exams.

Note:

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

In addition to passing the exams, there are other requirements Agrology Technologists in Training must meet to obtain RTAg 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 RTAg 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. Agrology Technologists in Training are required to have their Scope of Practice approved by the Registration Committee prior to receiving the RTAg designation.

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Payment

The following fees may apply for internationally educated applicants. All fees are in Canadian dollars. Fees are subject to change. See association websites for the most up-to-date fees.

AIA Fees	
Application fee	$250
Annual membership fee for Agrology Technologist in Training	$300
Annual membership fee for RTAg	$475
Examinations	$708
IQAS Fees	
Basic Assessment	$100
Description of Course Work Assessment	$200 for one university or college degree PLUS $75 for each additional degree

Note:

- Agrology Technologists 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 Biological Technologists and Technicians in Alberta, according to the Alberta 2009 Wage and Salary survey:

Average hours worked per week	37.2
Average wage per hour	$28.50
Average salary per year	$55,232

Employment options

You can also consider working in Alberta in related occupations such as other Biological, Environmental or Agricultural Technician or Technologist positions.

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).

For information on the difference between Agrology Technologists and Agrologists in Alberta, go to AIA's website: Member Designations.

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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 only an overview of the registration process. For the most current information on Agrology Technologist 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:

- Agrology Technologist in Training Exams

Other:

- Competency Requirements for Professional Status
- Agrology Profession Act and Regulation
- International Qualifications Assessment Service (IQAS)

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