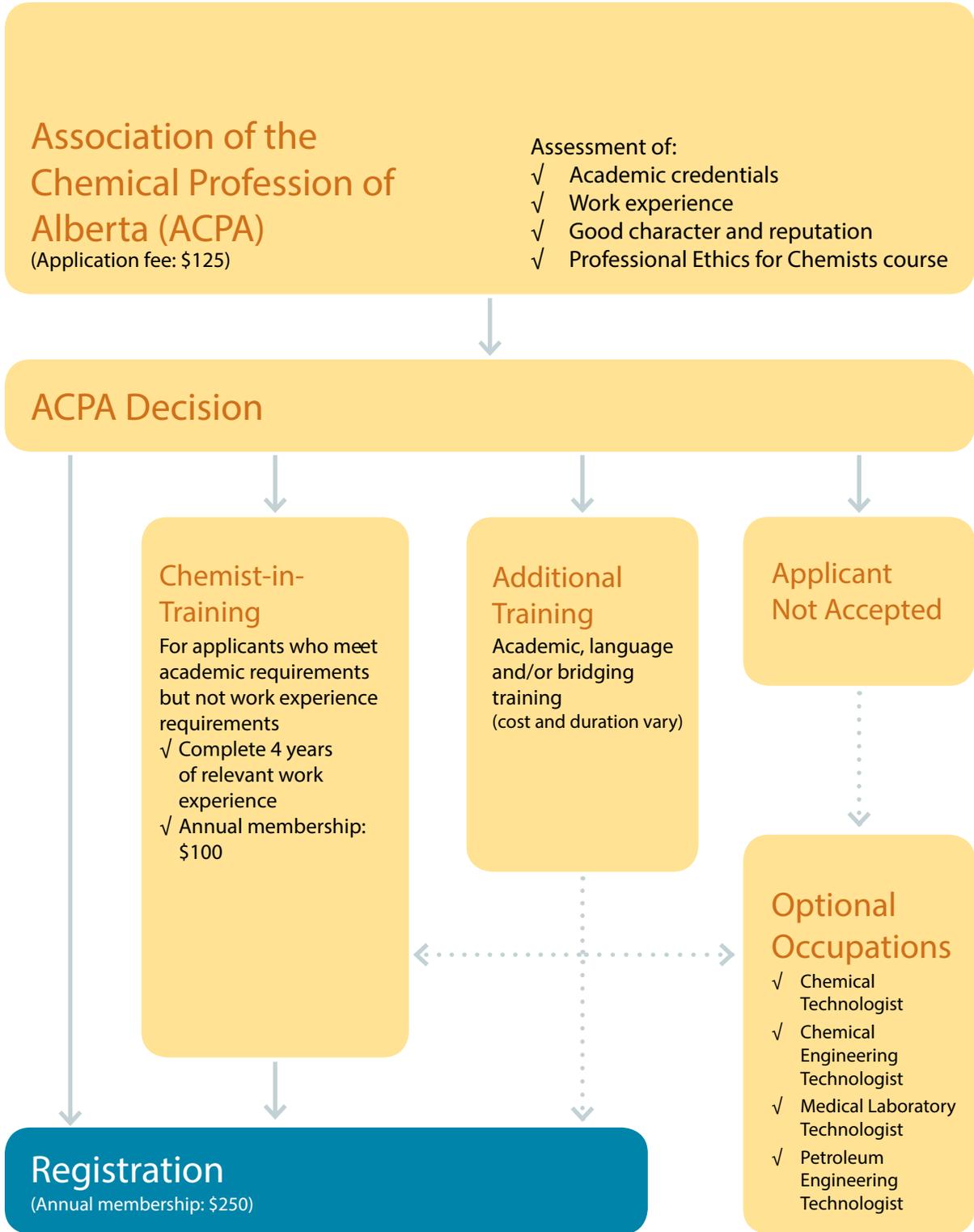


Chemist

Registration Process



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Description of Occupation

In Alberta, Chemists can work in many different sectors. For example, they may develop new fuels, polymers, pharmaceutical products, or work in a variety of industries where they can directly apply their chemical knowledge.

Chemists research elements and compounds, and apply chemical principles to develop a wide range of products and processes. Their job could include activities such as collecting samples and data, analyzing, synthesizing, purifying, modifying and characterizing chemical compounds, researching and developing new chemical formulations and processes, purchasing and selling chemicals, investigating the chemical aspect of drug action and developing and implementing safety and environmental programs.

Obtaining Registration in Alberta

Registration for Chemists in Alberta is currently voluntary. Registration provides improved employment opportunities because a Chemist registered with the Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta (ACPA) has met the association's academic and professional qualifications. A professional chemist also has the right to use the title Professional Chemist (P.Chem.) and can sign specified government documents (for example, Reclamation/ Remediation Certificates).

Internationally educated Chemists can and should begin the application process before they arrive in Alberta. To apply, set up an account on the ACPA website at www.pchem.ca and follow the online instructions under 'Apply to Join'.

Complete the online Application Form and provide detailed and accurate answers to all questions. Attach relevant supporting documents such as transcripts, resume, reference letters, IQAS assessments and language proficiency, if applicable.

Contact information and other resources are at the end of this document.

Residency Requirement

There is no provincial residency requirement to register with the ACPA, however, it is expected that members will work in the Province of Alberta at least on an occasional basis.

Requirements

Internationally educated Chemists must meet the following requirements:

1. *Academic Credentials*

A four (4) year Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from an accredited Canadian university or equivalent is the minimum requirement.

- Contact the school you graduated from and ask for original transcripts. Transcripts should be sent directly from the school to the ACPA.
- A photocopy of your degree certificate that has been verified and signed by a Notary Public.
- If your documents are in a language other than English, you will need to have them translated by a certified translator.
- If you do not have an accredited degree in Chemistry from a Canadian University, the ACPA considers the following to be an equivalent:

- Sixteen (16) single semesters of university chemistry courses. At least two single semester courses must be in *each* of four of the five major chemistry subdisciplines (biochemistry, organic, inorganic, physical, and analytical chemistry) and at least one of the two courses in each of the chosen subdisciplines must be at the senior (3rd or 4th year university) level.

or

- Writing and passing the chemistry portion of the Graduate Record Examination.

2. **Work Experience**

To become a Professional Member with the ACPA, you must have at least four (4) years of full-time chemistry-related work experience, with at least one (1) of these years of chemistry related work experience in Canada.

- Fill out the Chemistry-Related Work Experience section of the online Application Form and upload a current resume. Include the dates you were employed, the name and location of your employer, your position and your responsibilities.

Note:

- Work experience can be international.
- One year of work experience credit will be granted to those applicants who have completed an M.Sc. degree in chemistry. A maximum work experience credit of two years will be granted to those applicants who have completed a Ph.D. in chemistry or an M.Sc. in chemistry plus a Ph.D. in chemistry. A maximum of one additional year of work experience credit will be granted for one or more years of post-doctoral fellowship work.
- If you hold an undergraduate and/or graduate degree in chemistry or equivalent, but do not have the practical experience, you may apply to become a Chemist-in-Training (CIT) to gain Canadian work experience. Once you have one (1) year of practice that is equivalent to the type of work a Professional Chemist does, you will be eligible to become a Professional Chemist with the ACPA. You will still need a total of four years of work experience.

3. **Good Character and Reputation**

A Chemist registered with the ACPA must be of good character and reputation.

You must have one reference that can testify that they know you and that you are of good character. This person must be a registered professional or a member of the clergy.

Applicants must take the mandatory course in Professional Ethics for Chemists within a year of applying for membership before full membership status will be granted.

Professional Development

Chemists must maintain their professional development annually by completing an online Declaration of Professional Practice and Professional Development form. Because chemistry covers a very broad range of topics, the professional development requirements are quite flexible. If an applicant is unsure whether or not a course is considered professional development, they should contact the ACPA.

Payment

The following fees are payable. Fees are in Canadian dollars.

| | |
|--|-------|
| One-time Application Fee (at the time of application) | \$125 |
| Professional Chemist Annual Renewal Fee | \$250 |
| Chemist-in-Training Annual Renewal Fee | \$100 |
| *Fees are subject to change. See association for most up-to-date fees. | |

Average Earnings

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

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Average hours worked per week | 38.1 |
| Average wage per hour | \$53.60 |
| Average salary per year | \$106,869 |

Employment Options

You can also consider working in Alberta in related occupations such as a Chemical Technologist, a Chemical Engineering Technologist, Medical Laboratory Technologist or a Petroleum Engineering Technologist.

For more information about additional employment options, go to the following website:

[Alberta Learning Information Service \(ALIS\) Occupational Profiles — Chemist](#)
(for more information on all occupations see www.alis.alberta.ca/occinfo).

Contact Information

Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta
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Edmonton, AB T6R 2V4
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Fax: (780) 413-0076
Email: acpaoffice@pchem.ca
Website: www.pchem.ca

Resources

This information is an overview of the registration process. For the most current information on Chemist registration visit the Association of the Chemical Profession of Alberta website at www.pchem.ca.

Membership Categories and Information

<http://www.pchem.ca/member-categories>

Professional Development

<http://www.pchem.ca/professional-development>