

TYPICAL INTERVIEW PROCESS

Introduction

Applicants for engineering licensure who have graduated from non-CEAB accredited university programs are typically assigned, as a minimum, a set of Confirmatory Examinations. If the individual has in excess of ten years of engineering experience, the associations/ordre will “look to exempt” the applicant from the examinations. In some of the associations/ordre, the decision to exempt an applicant from the examinations is made by way of an interview.

Process

When an application is received, the association/ordre will first assess the academic qualifications. If the academic qualifications are not from a CEAB accredited engineering program, but do appear to be acceptable, the association/ordre will assign Confirmatory Examinations. The applicant’s engineering experience will then be assessed. Applicants with more than ten years of experience may be invited to an interview to determine if the examinations assigned can be waived.

The interview panel comprises a Chair and two interviewers. The interviewers are professional engineers who work in the same field that the applicant has stated is his or her discipline. The Chair is a professional engineer from a different discipline than the applicant. The interviews are typically 45 to 60 minutes long.

The Chair explains the interview purpose and process to the applicant. The applicant is then invited to describe one or more projects that he or she has worked on that demonstrate his or her abilities to carry out the role of the professional engineer. The interviewers ask the applicant detailed technical questions and pose hypothetical situations to ensure the applicant truly understands the work and the engineering component and responsibilities. The interviewers will ascertain whether the applicant has sufficient knowledge of Canadian codes and standards or demonstrates that he or she is in the process of learning them. The interviewers may give theoretical test questions to the applicant if there is some concern regarding a particular area of the applicant’s knowledge.

The chronological order of the work experience will be reviewed to ensure an increasing level of responsibility.

Following the interview, the interviewers and the Chair decide whether the applicant has sufficiently demonstrated his or her knowledge and experience to have the Confirmatory examinations waived. The applicant is then notified of the results of the interview.