

Technical Agrologist (TAg)



Purpose

- Prepares for impending Practice Rights
- Assists with those that don't meet **PAg** requirements
- Aligns with partner organizations and other provincial agrology institutes
- Fills gaps in ASTTBC areas of practice

Rationale

- *PGA*: “Serve and protect the public interest..”
- Provides another avenue for those practicing agrology to become registered professionals
- Clear gaps with agrology-related jobs that do not fit the scope of practice of other provincial regulators
 - ASTTBC does not have an agrology or agriculture scope of practice.

Benefits to the Member

- Benefits for a Person to Register as a **TAg**:
 - registration in a professional regulatory organization
 - professional development opportunities
 - recognition of academic training
 - employment opportunities and higher wages
 - insurance benefits
 - eligible to transfer to other provinces
 - ready for practice rights

Scope of Practice

- declared at time of application
- reviewed by Registrar, Deputy Registrar and/or Credentials Committee to ensure in line with education, training, and experience
- limited to two areas of practice (PAg is 3).
- change in the scope of practice must provide affirmation of competence to BCIA via formal request and must be approved
- recognized that most diploma programs are limited to two years and do not fully explore relationships between disciplines as a bachelor's degree would

Restricted Practice

- **TAgs** may practice independently with a restricted scope of practice
- Allows for:
 - collection of data, to operate equipment, make recommendations to other professionals
- Does not allow for:
 - sign off on documents that specifically require a **PAg** authorization
- Prevents:
 - advising, interpreting, or recommending in situations where they may present a risk to the public
- Mirrors Alberta Institute of Agrologists (AIA) and College of Applied Biology (CAB) of BC

Entrance Requirements

- Entrance Option 1: Approved Diploma Program
 - BCIA has prepared a list of approved programs
 - Criteria includes 60 total credits, 60% must be agrology related
- Entrance Option 2: Non-Approved Diploma Program
 - Graduation from a college diploma program not on approved list, will be reviewed in full by Registrar/Deputy Registrar and the Credentials Committee
 - Applies where programs are not as prescriptive and elective categories are not consistent across applicants
- Entrance Option 3: Applicants with Degrees
 - Degree does not meet requirements of a **PAg**
 - Applicant will be subject to practice limitations of a **TAg**

Articling Program

New Registrants must complete the Articling Program prior to achieving **TAg** of which includes:

- Articling Technical Agrologist (**ATAg**) designation
- a two year articling term
- completing various program elements and milestones
- being employed in the practice of agrology for two years
- mentored by a **TAg** or **PAG**
 - **TAgs** may only mentor **ATAgs**, not **AAGs**
- may be eligible for term reduction; assessed only at time of application

Upgrade to PAg status

- some diploma programs are eligible for laddering degree programs therefore;
- any **TAg** is eligible to upgrade their education to meet requirements for PAg designation
- some foundational courses in a diploma program (and eligible for technologist) may not meet foundational course requirements for a degree (i.e. Math and Statistics)

Rights of Registration

- **TAgs** and **ATAgs** have the same rights of registration as **PAg** and **AAg**, respectively
 - such as voting rights, ability to serve on Council, committees, or working groups

Registration and Application Fees

- Council approved that fees mirror **P**Ag and **A**Ag fees to reflect the standard of work expected by, and protection of the public, placed on work of the **T**Ag or **A**TAg
- **P**Ag/**T**Ag \$475 , **A**Ag/**A**TAg \$415
- Application fee \$200
- APPLY AT WWW.BCIA.COM