

APPENDIX 5

STUDENT CATEGORY OF MEMBERSHIP



Appendix 5 – Student Category: Legislative Excerpts from Other Professions within Alberta

The premise of technical exams administered by APEGA is to provide challenge exams for applicants to demonstrate their competence of post-secondary course material for assessed academic deficiencies. The challenge is how to provide a defensible, fair and expedited path for applicants who did not graduate from a CEAB- accredited institution to demonstrate their academic knowledge to obtain their professional licence. Other regulated professions face a similar challenge for their applicants who have not graduated from approved post-secondary institutions. The below table summarizes how other regulated professions in Canada address this issue.

Profession	Nurses	Pharmacists	Dentists	Lawyers	Veterinarians	Physicians	Optometrists	Physiotherapists
Offer technical exam?	No, must take courses or bridging program and substantially equivalent competency assessment to be able to take national entry to practice exam	No, must take courses and, once academically qualified, the national entry to practice exam	No, bridging programs and national entry to practice exam	Potentially yes, but applicants must also pass provincial bar admission course and articling	No, must take courses and, once academically qualified, national entry to practice exam	No, must take courses and, once academically qualified, national entry to practice exam	No, mandatory bridging programs and national entry to practice exam	No, must take courses and, once academically qualified, national entry to practice exam

Of the other regulated professions surveyed, only lawyers seem to offer exams similar to APEGA technical exams to address deficiencies in education. All other regulated professions surveyed require that applicants obtain the necessary educational requirements by taking courses or bridging programs. Most regulated professions have an entry-to-practice examination that all applicants must pass to practice, which is only available for applicants to take once their academic requirements have been fulfilled.