

Overview of the Six Experience Areas

Overview

The Association of BC Forest Professional's new registration process will open up to enrolled members and their sponsors in late April 2016. This module-based process has been developed over the past year in response to member's and employer's concerns about the current registration exams and the general preparedness of new members for professional work. As a result of these changes, the ABCFP has acquired and developed a learning management system which will host the modules and provide ongoing, web-based access to learning materials and examinations. This combination of modules is built around six experience areas that have been deemed important to the profession and valuable to professionals who are beginning a career. The modules will be available completely online to reduce the cost and time associated with our old process. Once an enrolled member has partnered with a sponsor, successfully completed the modules, provided evidence of 24 months of qualifying work experience and completed any outstanding core competencies, he or she will be approved for registration. The process will be the same for all prospective RPFs, RFTs and NRPs.

Six Experience Areas

1. Regulation and Ethics

As the introductory experience area, this area contains information relating to the primary purpose, structure and function of the ABCFP, as well as introducing ethical standards for members. The *Foresters Act*, bylaws, the complaints process, and important guidance documents are covered. There is a multiple choice exam associated with this content that must be passed in order to proceed to the next area.

2. Professional Reliance

This area contains an introduction, advanced and application modules. Based on the professional reliance workshops offered previously, this content reviews definitions, examples and challenges in understanding professional reliance. The application exercise requires the enrolled member to complete an evaluation of a professional practice project. This application module must be reviewed and validated by the sponsor.

3. BC Forest Professionals Working with Aboriginal Communities

The module in this area contains information regarding Aboriginal people's culture and guidance for relationship building and meaningful consultation. It also goes into BC case law in order to understand the Aboriginal people's perspective and the implications for forestry practice. While the module does contain embedded questions, there is no final exam.

4. Forest Legislation and Policy

This area contains two learning modules and two exams as well as an application module. The first module and exam is focused on forest legislation including the Forest Act and FRPA. The second module and exam is focused on other legislation that applies to the practice of forestry, such as wildland fire and inventories. The exams must be passed in order to advance. The application module will require enrolled members to provide an example of professional work and discuss how legislation and policy are pertinent to it. This application module must be reviewed and validated by the sponsor.

5. Business of Forestry

This area contains two learning modules that focus on the "Framework" and the "Internal Workings" on the business of forestry in British Columbia. The first module is focused on an overview of forestry management in BC and customized videos explaining the main parties, Aboriginal peoples and other stakeholders in the management of forests and the associated operations, tenuring and permitting systems. The second module is focused on providing viewers with insight into workplace environments for the various forest parties in BC. These include practitioner insight into the business drivers and the professional's role in the system in various forestry disciplines and ABCFP designations.

6. Communicating Professional Advice

This area contains one learning module as well as an application module. The learning module is designed to impart key elements of communication that are required from forest professionals in today's workplace. The application module will require enrolled members to demonstrate their understanding of professional communications through the submission of a professional work document and practice diary. This application module must be reviewed and validated by the sponsor.

For updates and more information, please visit our website: abcfp.ca/web