
ABCFP Member Quality Assurance Program in Areas of Peer and Practice Reviews

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Policy

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Introduction

The quality assurance program consists of two elements on an annual basis:

1. 70 mandatory peer reviews of members selected at random and according to professional practice risk.
2. A budget-determined number of in-depth practice reviews of randomly selected members practicing in fields characterized by significant risk and low to moderate risk.

Registered members, Special Permit Holders, except for Visiting Professional Foresters, and Natural Resource Professionals are eligible for both types of reviews and each appropriate membership class and category will be sampled according to their membership representation.

This policy will be communicated to members through the magazine, the Increment and the website.

Requirements

Mandatory Peer Review

- Each year, approximately 70 members will be selected by a combination of random and risk-based processes based on practice.
- Members will be informed that they must submit to a peer review by a date set by staff as per the process described on the [Peer Review](#) page of the ABCFP website.
- The rest of the membership still has the option of carrying out voluntary peer reviews.
- ~~If a member does submit to a peer review he or she will be exempt from being chosen for a mandatory peer review for 10 years but will not be exempt from being chosen for a risk-based practice review.~~ The PGA has prescribed requirements for future Practice Reviews, which does not allow for exemptions. (Text amended February 25, 2020)
- Members selected for a mandatory peer review must complete and submit all peer review forms to the practice review specialist, including the member's self-assessment.
- The practice review specialist has the ability to audit all of the completed mandatory peer reviews for quality control and to record and follow up on any remedial recommendations which may be required.

- The Continuing Competence Committee will provide remedial recommendations for significant negative findings and ABCFP staff will provide remedial recommendations for minor negative findings.
- If a member who is selected for a mandatory peer review does not complete and submit the review by a date set by staff, that member will be subject to a detailed work review and must travel to Vancouver at his or her own time and expense for the review.

Risk-Based Practice Reviews

General Details

- Risk-based practice reviews will be completed within the allotted annual budget.
- Practice areas of focus will be developed on an annual basis and members will be chosen for low, moderate and high risk occupations to ensure full membership representation.
- Consultants will be hired to do the on-site risk-based practice reviews if staff does not have the technical expertise to carry them out.
- The risk-based reviews will look at how the members are maintaining competency, how they are qualified for their job, technical and professional completeness and correctness and how much professional development is being done.
- The start of a risk-based review will include a preliminary practice review done by staff.
- If there are other members in the same location who were involved with the reviewee's work, they may be chosen for a review as well to decrease unit cost and improve efficacy of reviews.
- Members can volunteer for risk-based reviews.
- The Continuing Competence Committee will provide remedial recommendations for significant negative findings and ABCFP staff will provide remedial recommendations for minor negative findings.

Potential Consequences for Serious Breaches of the *Foresters Act*, Bylaws or Council Resolutions or For Not Following Peer or Practice Review Remedial Recommendations

- The ABCFP Continuing Competence Committee may refer matters to the discipline process if findings from peer or practice reviews are consistent with section 22 (1) (grounds for a discipline complaint) of the *Foresters Act*.
- If a member does not follow remedial recommendations provided by ABCFP staff or the continuing competence committee, the ABCFP Continuing Competence Committee will determine appropriate consequences, including referral to the discipline process.

Confidentiality

All mandatory peer review and risk-based practice review results and materials provided by members will be confidential and will only be accessible to appropriate ABCFP staff and the continuing competence committee.



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Ensuring BC's Forests Are In Good Hands.