

# Oregon State Board of Geologist Examiners

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Q) What is an “Application Packet”?**

A) An application packet is the information required by the Board to review to determine your eligibility for the examination.

**GIT Application Packet:** Short application form (fundamental exam only); official transcripts; application fee; examination fee.

**RG Application Packet:** Long application form (you may be sitting for only the practice section of the exam or you may be sitting for the fundamental along with the practice exam); official transcript (*unless previously provided with your GIT Application Packet*); Experience Record Form; Verification of Experience Form(s); Application fee; Exam(s) fee.

**CEG Application Packet:** CEG application form; Experience Record Form; Verification of Experience (for CEG work); Selected Geotechnical Project List Form (*only required if your experience was not supervised by a CEG*); Application fee; Exam fee.

### **Q) What does being a Geologist-in-Training (GIT) mean?**

A) It means you have passed the fundamental section of the ASBOG National exam. You have met one of the requirements toward becoming a Registered Geologist. You are eligible to sit for this exam with your completed degree work.

### **Q) How is the GIT exam different from the regular exam?**

A) The ASBOG National exam has two parts: the fundamental (4 hours) and the practice (4 hours). The GIT exam is the fundamental section of the National ASBOG exam. In Oregon, you may sit for it when degree work is completed. When the remainder of your experience is gained, you may sit for the practice section. The fundamental and practice together comprise what is referred to in the questions as the “regular exam”.

### **Q) Is it necessary to take the GIT exam to eventually take the full exam?**

A) No, it is not necessary, but you would be doing yourself a big favor to sit for this exam early in your career. Much of the fundamental information about geology could be forgotten as you become more specialized in your work while gaining your experience. When you have completed your experience time, you will be sitting for both the fundamental (GIT) and practice at the same time should you choose not to sit for the fundamental earlier.

### **Q) Do I need to send official transcripts with my application for the practice exam?**

A) Depends! If you previously provided an official copy with your application for the fundamental (GIT) exam, then please do not provide a second official transcript. If you passed the fundamental exam in some other state, then yes, you must provide an official transcript in your application file.

**Q) What are the exam requirements for registration?**

A) You must pass two examinations for your registration as a Registered Geologist. The ASBOG exam is actually two separate exams of four hours each that may be taken and passed at different times.

**Q) What does Cooperative Registration mean?**

A) Cooperative Registration means you sat for the ASBOG exam in another state and you are applying based on successfully passing the exam in that state. Your application packet must still contain all the following elements, the same as any other applicant: completed application form; official transcript; experience record; Verification of Experience from supervisors; and fee.

**Q) I am a Californian. The national exam is only offered one time a year in California. I want to take the exam in Oregon. What do I have to do?**

A) The California Board will not allow the Oregon Board to “proctor” the exam for candidates accepted as candidates in California. Therefore, you must apply as a new applicant with the Oregon Board and meet the application requirements and deadline. Each state evaluates experience based on its Rules and Statutes. Just because you have been accepted in California does not mean your application packet will automatically be accepted in Oregon. (NOTE: As of Fall, 2007, California will again be administering the ASBOG examination two times per year. This question will soon be removed from this list.)

**Q) How can I know when I have reached the experience mark that will admit me to the ASBOG practice examination?**

A) Experience can be gained in two ways:

- Under direct supervision (UDS) by a Registered Geologist; or
- In responsible charge (IRC).

Geology experience directly supervised by a Registered Geologist qualifies as UDS work experience. OAR 809-030-0015 (1)(d) states that “one year of experience is granted for each year spent working under the supervision of a Registered Geologist; however, a minimum of three years of such experience must be completed before any credit is granted”.

To be eligible for the practice examination, experience and education must sum to seven. If you have three years UDS, but have completed only a baccalaureate degree (valued at 2 years), then you must have an additional two years UDS experience to meet the requirement for examination. A post-baccalaureate degree can also provide additional experience credit which could allow you to sit for the exam after 3 years UDS. Degree credit is based on the calendar years in school; the awarding of a degree; and the content of the coursework.

In responsible charge (IRC) is not *unsupervised* work, but rather, supervised work where you are the employee with the geology knowledge. The supervisor is usually a Professional Engineer. You cannot be working without supervision for the experience time to count. You must have five years *IRC* to meet the requirement of the law. If you have

post-baccalaureate coursework but your experience is all IRC, your post baccalaureate coursework will not benefit you in qualifying for the examination. But if your baccalaureate degree was not geology or a related science degree, then your post baccalaureate degree could be the qualifying degree or coursework to admit you to the fundamental examination.

Evaluating your application material is the responsibility of the Board. The information above is designed to assist you in understanding how your college coursework is used in the examination eligibility process.