How to Know if a Document Must be Authenticated by a Licensed Professional

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta

Follow these two steps to know if a document must be authenticated (stamped, signed, and dated) by a licensed professional (i.e., professional engineer, professional geoscientist, professional licensee, or licensee).

1 Determine if the activity falls under the definitions of the practice of engineering or geoscience as per sections 1(q) and 1(r) of the *Engineering and Geoscience Professions (EGP) Act.*

2 Apply the Three-Part Authentication Test

1. Does the document contain technical information resulting from the practice of engineering or geoscience?
2. Is the document complete for its intended purpose?
3. Will the document be relied on by others?

If the answer to **all three** questions is yes, the document must be authenticated by a licensed professional.

A licensed professional must stamp, sign, and date the document. If applied to an electronic document, a digital-signature provider approved by APEGA must be used.

For detailed information about authentication, please read our practice standard at www.apega.ca/assets/PDFs/authenticating.pdf.

Questions?

Contact APEGA's Director of Professional Practice

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Practice of engineering means

(i) reporting on, advising on, evaluating, designing, preparing plans and specifications for or directing the construction, technical inspection, maintenance or operation of any structure, work or process:

(A) that is aimed at the discovery, development or utilization of matter, materials or energy or in any other way designed for the use and convenience of humans, and

(B) that requires in that reporting, advising, evaluating, designing, preparation or direction the **professional application of the principles of mathematics, chemistry, physics or any related applied subject**

Practice of geoscience means

(i) reporting, advising, evaluating, interpreting, processing, geoscientific surveying, exploring, classifying reserves or examining related to any activity

(A) that relates to the earth sciences or the environment,

(B) that is aimed at the discovery or development of oil, natural gas, coal, metallic or non-metallic minerals, precious stones, other natural resources or water or that is aimed at the investigation of surface or subsurface conditions of the earth, and

(C) that requires, in that reporting, advising, evaluating, interpreting, processing, geoscientific surveying, exploring, classifying reserves or examining, the **professional application of the principles of mathematics, chemistry, physics or biology through the application of the principles of geoscience**