



Ontario Association for
Applied Architectural Sciences

March 2008 Newsletter

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Message from the President

I am pleased to let you know that the OAAAS policy for experienced applicants has been approved and applications are being accepted beginning March 1, 2008. The report from the Executive Director provides a summary of the policy.

This is a significant development for OAAAS because it enables us to give appropriate advanced standing to individuals who are experienced in the building design field. Suitably qualified professionals can show an independent assessment panel that their background is sufficient to qualify them for certification as a Licensed Technologist OAA and to become a recognized part of the architectural profession in Ontario.

This new process will interest many people, including:

- Architectural technologists working in architectural firms, building departments, engineering offices and similar places.

- Technologists, working on their own, who work closely with an architect.
- Foreign-trained building design professionals.
- Intern architects or students in the RAIC Syllabus program who might see the Licensed Technologist OAA designation as an important benchmark on their long journey.

The process will also interest architectural firms since their employees have an opportunity to obtain an important certification. Firms can contact OAAAS Executive Director **Garry Neil** about making a presentation about this policy.

If you know anyone interested in seeking advanced standing in OAAAS, please put them in touch with **Vera Alexeeva**, Admissions Coordinator. Contact Vera at valexeeva@oacett.org or at 416.621.8694 ext. 223 and ask for an information package. The information is also on our website through www.oaa.on.ca

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Message from the Executive Director/ Registrar

A candidate with a combination of academic training and work experience equal to 12 years may qualify for certification at the highest level offered by OAAAS, Licensed Technologist OAA.

OAAAS is extremely busy. Our Program Guide is available on line and we are admitting new members daily. We have a new membership information package which we will happily send to anyone interested in pursuing a career through OAAAS. We are also now accepting applications under the Advanced Standing Policy (ASP).

Fast track to Licensed Technologist OAA

Under the ASP, candidates seeking standing at the highest level offered by OAAAS, Licensed Technologist OAA, must have 12-years experience working as a technologist with or for an architect.

The work experience requirement is reduced for each year of academic training, with a maximum reduction of four years.

A candidate must submit information about 10 projects in which they have been involved, in at least three building types. A Committee will select three of these for

which the candidate will submit thorough documentation.

The candidate will be interviewed by a team of architects whose task it is to ensure that the candidate has the breath of experience necessary to meet the requirements for OAA licensure.

As the final steps, a successful candidate must write the OAAAS practical exam, attend the OAA Admission Course and purchase the Canadian Handbook of Practice.

Costs for the new process will vary according to individual circumstances. For example, since Licensed Technologists OAA are members of OACETT at an advanced level, a candidate may need to join, or to write the OACETT Professional Practice Exam. Applications will be examined first for OACETT eligibility.

Individuals interested in seeking advanced standing are invited to contact me directly to discuss their situation.

Garry Neil,
Executive Director/Registrar
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Ontario Association of Architects New Continuing Education Requirements

Technologists OAAAS and Licensed Technologists OAA Have a commitment to lifelong learning

Members are reminded that those who hold the designation Technologist OAAAS or Licensed Technologist OAA must meet continuing education requirements as set out in the OAA's Continuing Education Program. Effective with the two-year cycle that began on 1 January 2008, changes have been made by the OAA in collaboration with other associations of architects.

The basic changes involve moving from points to hours and from OAA-directed requirements to Core learning. Members of OAAAS must now obtain the following in each two-year cycle:

Licensed Technologist OAA - 35 hours of learning (28 hours are self-directed and seven hours are Core learning)

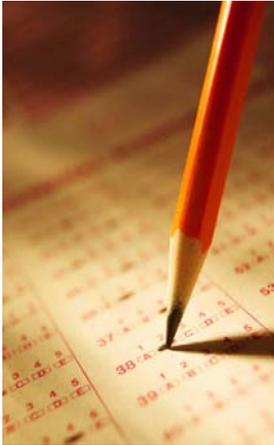
Technologist OAAAS - 15 hours of learning (11 hours are self-directed and four hours are Core learning)

Self-directed learning includes courses or private study "related to" the profession. The OAA Core Learning Program comprises courses offered by one of the architects' associations, or courses offered by Ontario universities. You will find all the details under the Continuing Education section of the OAA website. Each issue of the OAA e-bulletin contains information about upcoming Core learning opportunities.

Another important change is that members are responsible personally for keeping track of their Continuing Education credits in their member file on the OAA website.

What OAAAS members
need to know about the
OAA Continuing
Education Program

You can receive credits for prior work experience on joining OAAAS



Applicants for OAAAS membership have three months from joining to claim credit for work experience earned prior to joining.

Joining OAAAS is an excellent career move for architectural technologists. It's the only way to gain recognition as part of the architectural profession in Ontario.

The new Advanced Standing Policy is designed for senior technologists who have significant experience working for an architect.

But, any technician or technologist with prior work experience can receive credits towards standing in OAAAS. All credits will reduce the time it takes to become a Licensed Technologist OAA.

Some applicants with an appropriate college diploma might already have sufficient experience to become a Technologist OAAAS.

Foreign academic training and work experience may also qualify in part.

To take advantage of these work experience rules, you must first apply to OACETT and OAAAS. Within three months of joining, you complete and submit work experience record forms for each one thousand hours of experience you gained before joining.

All candidates should consult the Program Guide for Licensed Technologist OAA, available in the OAAAS section of the website www.oaa.on.ca.

OAAAS to hold its first members' meeting

In conjunction with its Annual General Meeting and the meeting of the OAAAS Founders, the Board of Directors is extending an invitation to all OAAAS members to attend our first-ever meeting.

OAAAS Members' Meeting
Wednesday, June 4, 2008
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Valhalla Inn, 1 Valhalla Inn Road, Toronto

This meeting will be an excellent opportunity to hear all of the latest developments, to meet the OAAAS Board members, to network with other architectural technologists, and to have your questions and concerns addressed by OAAAS officials.

Please RSVP to **Vera Alexeeva** at valexeeva@oacett.org or 416.621.9621 ext. 223, so we will know how many members plan to attend.

I look forward to meeting you at the meeting.

Garry Neil
Executive Director/Registrar

Launched in 2003 by the Ontario Association of Architects and the Ontario Association of Certified Engineering Technicians and Technologists, OAAAS is a forum for establishing the education, experience and examination requirements, as well as scope of practice, for three categories of building designers: Associate OAAAS, Technologist OAAAS and Licensed Technologist OAA. The OAAAS program ensures that standards and qualifications are maintained and the public interest is protected.