



Fact Sheet

International Engineering Graduates

- ◆ As the licensing and regulating body for engineering in the province, Professional Engineers Ontario (PEO) relies on the contributions of international engineering graduates.
- ◆ In its almost 90-year history, more than half of PEO's elected presidents were educated and trained outside Canada. A similar percentage of professional engineers educated elsewhere volunteer on PEO committees, including those that assess the academic and experience qualifications of licence applicants.
- ◆ Approximately one-third of Ontario's more than 73,000 licensed engineers were educated outside Canada, a testament to PEO's continuous efforts to facilitate the licensing of internationally trained professionals, while maintaining high standards to protect the public.
- ◆ To help ensure that immigrants arrive in Ontario with full knowledge of our licensing requirements and a head start, PEO allows prospective immigrants to begin the Ontario P.Eng. licensing process from outside Canada, before they finalize their immigration plans, and to continue the process when they arrive in Ontario.
- ◆ Since 2000, applicants from over 1000 institutions world-wide have been granted licences by PEO.
- ◆ In 2005, for the first-time ever, PEO licensed more international engineering graduates than graduates of a Canadian accredited engineering program, although only 25 per cent of international graduates typically apply for licensure. This feat was accomplished again in 2006.
- ◆ In January 2005, the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities released *Opening Doors – An Investment in Prosperity*, which included a scorecard on Ontario regulatory bodies' progress in enhancing accessibility to their professions for foreign-trained professionals. In that survey, PEO scored at the top of the list of Ontario regulators.
- ◆ A licence is not required for engineering employment in Ontario, so long as a licensed professional engineer supervises and is responsible for the work.
- ◆ On October 25, 2010, the *Professional Engineers Act* was amended to eliminate the requirement to be a Canadian citizen or have the status of a permanent resident to be licensed as a professional engineer in Ontario.