

Registration Services

APEGA Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet (CSAW) Guide

V5.1

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The images contained within this document may not exactly match the latest version of the software you are working with; however, it does not impact the process and workflow associated with the application, and reference process.

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Acronyms and Definitions

Acronyms

RPC Registration Program Coordinator

EA Engineer, Admissions

ASAT Academic Self-Assessment Tool

BOE Board of Examiners

CBA Competency-Based Assessment

CBAT Competency-Based Assessment Tool

CSAW Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet

DB Database

ITA Internationally Trained Applicant

M.I.T. Member-in-Training

OAS Online Application System

PMEM Professional Member

PMP Performance Measurement Plan

WER Work Experience Record

WHR Work History Record

Competency Definitions

Competency can be defined as an ability or skill to perform tasks and roles within a category to meet or exceed standards required by employers and the greater community. APEGA's competency model outlines the common competencies related to work experience that are essential for Professional Engineers in all disciplines to ensure effective practice and public safety. Competency measures an individual's ability, so the examples within the APEGA assessments are derived from actual work experience that applicants, and future Registrants, are required to demonstrate.

When APEGA assesses the competencies of an applicant for a Professional Engineering licence, the applicant needs to be clear that those competencies have been performed well in the circumstances they have encountered to date and will continue to do so in the future.

A competency-based system requires applicants to demonstrate the ability to apply their engineering knowledge reliably and safely across different circumstances; to recognize their professional limitations; and to be prepared, when necessary, to either extend and develop their expertise or to call for assistance from other sources. Providing detailed examples as part of a competency self-assessment allows APEGA assessors to have a clear picture of an applicant's knowledge and experience in all areas essential to safe and effective engineering practice.

Technical Competency

Involves the application of engineering theory, specifically involving design. This includes the use of codes, standards, and design drawings.

Technical Competency Sub-Categories

Regulations, Codes & Standards	You will be assessed on your knowledge of regulations, codes, and standards as they directly relate to your technical work. You must reference specific codes and their application to your technical work, demonstrating your knowledge of technical codes or regulations and their application.
Technical & Design Constraints	You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to identify and define technical and design constraints. You must demonstrate that you can work within those constraints to achieve a favourable technical outcome.
Risk Management for Technical Work	You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to identify and mitigate risks that affect the technical aspects of a project. You must differentiate between risk and safety. If you identify only public safety issues, you might not satisfy the requirements of this competency.
Application of Theory	You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to use engineering knowledge and theory in the development of engineering designs, process systems, operations, or technical solutions.
Solution Techniques – Results Verification	You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to self-check your professional-level technical work.
Safety in Design and Technical Work	You will be assessed on your use of engineering knowledge to identify, manage, and control hazards or provide for safe system operations.
Systems & Their Components	You will be assessed on your understanding of technical systems and their components and of interactions and constraints in the behaviour of the system. Demonstrate your

constraints in the behaviour of the system. Demonstrate your ability to manage processes within the overall system by

monitoring or modifying processes to achieve desired

outcomes.

You will be assessed on your demonstrated exposure to and awareness of a process or project life cycle. The overall life

cycle includes feasibility analysis through to design. implementation, operation, and maintenance, and on to

decommissioning and retirement.

You will be assessed on your demonstrated understanding of

and ability to assess quality assurance in design,

construction, or operations, including independent reviews of

design and technical processes.

You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to review, communicate, and transfer technical information and share

You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to orally

knowledge through graphics, drawings, or reports.

Communication Competency

Engineering Documentation

Project or Asset Life Cycle

Quality Assurance

The ability to professionally communicate orally and in writing, as well as possessing reading comprehension skills.

Communication & Competency Sub-Categories

communicate professional-level technical and project-**Oral Communication in** related non-technical issues clearly, in English. Your English example could include formal presentations or

presentations of technical input for detailed project

meetings.

You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to communicate, in writing, professional-level technical and Written Communication in project-related non-technical issues clearly, in English. Your **English**

example could include formal reports, detailed technical

memoranda, or field reports on technical issues.

You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to read and comprehend technical engineering documentation in Reading & Comprehension in English

English. You must show how you used the technical

documentation in your engineering work.

Project & Financial Management Competency

The ability to display competency and increased responsibility regarding project planning, implementation, financial aspects, and expectations of a project from start to finish.

Project & Financial Management Competency Sub-Category

You will be assessed on your demonstrated knowledge **Project Management Principals**

and application of project management principles.

You will be assessed on your demonstrated knowledge Finances and Budget of the economic or financial aspects of a project or

elements of a project.

Team Effectiveness Competency

The demonstration of an ability to work effectively on multi-disciplinary teams of other professionals and technical workers.

Team Effectiveness Competency Sub-Category

Promote Team Effectiveness and Resolve or Mitigate Interpersonal Conflict

Professional Accountability

You will be assessed on your demonstrated ability to promote team effectiveness and manage or resolve interpersonal conflict effectively and professionally in the workplace.

Professional Accountability Competency

The ability to display competency and increased responsibility regarding project planning, implementation, financial aspects, and expectations of a project from start to finish.

Professional Accountability Competency Sub-Category

You will be assessed on your demonstrated understanding of professional accountability and self-awareness surrounding your limitations, ethical dilemmas

you have encountered, or

conflicts of interest (either real or perceived) that have

arisen in your work.

Social, Economic, Environmental, and Sustainability Competency

The demonstration of an ability to work effectively on multi-disciplinary teams of other professionals and technical workers.

Social, Economic, Environmental, and Sustainability Sub-Categories

You will be assessed on your demonstrated understanding and awareness of how the public is impacted by the work of engineers, how factors such as public behaviours must be considered part of engineering

work, and how safeguards

for the public are implemented and may change

throughout a project.

Benefits of Engineering to the Public

Protection of the Public Interest

You will be assessed on your demonstrated awareness of how the public is impacted by the work of engineers, how public input is vital to successful engineering designs, and how your engineering work is beneficial to the public. You will be assessed on your demonstrated awareness of the role of regulatory bodies, in addition to APEGA, in terms of enforcing safety and the protection of the public

and the environment.

Application of Sustainability Principles

Role of Regulatory Bodies

You will be assessed on your demonstrated awareness of sustainable options as they apply to the development of professional work, structures, or processes.

You will be assessed on how you promote the application of sustainability principles in your engineering work. These principles could apply either to the sustainability of a project or to environmental and social sustainability.

Promotion of Sustainability

Introduction

Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet – What is it?

The APEGA Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet (CSAW) is a one-time only, free tool that is used to assist in understanding the core competencies required for an application at APEGA. The results of the completed worksheet allow for discovery of your own current professional competencies and aid in making an informed and educated decision on the licensure application. The Results Summary provides the average for each competency category and a comparison to APEGA's minimum requirements.

The Board of Examiners (BOE) is the body that makes the final decisions regarding applications. It places a strong emphasis on skills and competencies such as:

- the ability to apply engineering principles
- demonstrated technical proficiency

The BOE considers increased technical competency and increasing levels of responsibility during the evaluation of experience. Experience required is listed on the APEGA web page https://www.apega.ca/apply/membership/professional-member/work-experience/engineers/work-record-validator-list.

Who Can Use It?

The CSAW is for individuals applying for Professional Engineering licensure. Applicants should be **candid** about all experience. This free tool helps determine the engineering skills applicants have gained through employment. Applicants have one chance per application to complete this form.

Where Can It Be Found?

The CSAW is in the <u>myAPEGA Portal</u> and can be used only by those who have started the application process and received an APEGA ID number. The CSAW form has 22 defined competencies that Professional Engineers must display to meet the requirements for licensure with APEGA. A printable summary of the results will appear in the myAPEGA Portal after you have completed and submitted it.

Do I Have to Complete this Form for My Application?

Completing the form is optional and, although not required, it is highly recommended. It has been made available to help you understand your competency levels in comparison to those required by APEGA. This is only a self-assessment and will not affect your membership application. The results from the assessment will not be used on any official APEGA form or application, or impact your current, or future, application.

Because this is only a self-assessment tool, APEGA staff cannot view or access the form or results. In addition, APEGA staff will not review, advise, mentor, or comment on the results of assessments. Your CSAW scores may differ from the official APEGA competency assessment.

Technical Support

After submitting the CSAW, it cannot be edited, changed, or re-opened, so it is important that all answers be checked and confirmed before submitting. If you encounter a technical issue, such as APEGA's systems being offline, please contact the APEGA office at https://www.apega.ca/contact/. Though this free service is being provided by APEGA, the office will not be responsible for other technical issues.

Using the CSAW

Creating a myAPEGA Account

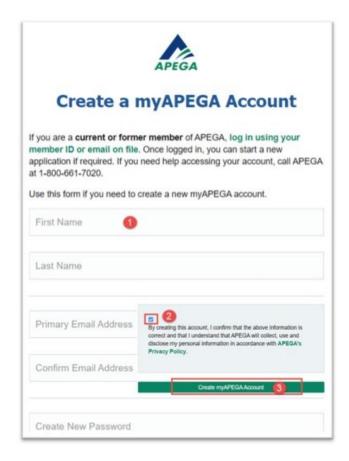
Applying for licensure at APEGA consists of many steps and includes multiple internal review processes.

To begin, applicants must create an account.

1. Go to https://www.apega.ca/portal-login to create an account



2. Fill in the required information, click the checkbox and click create myAPEGA account



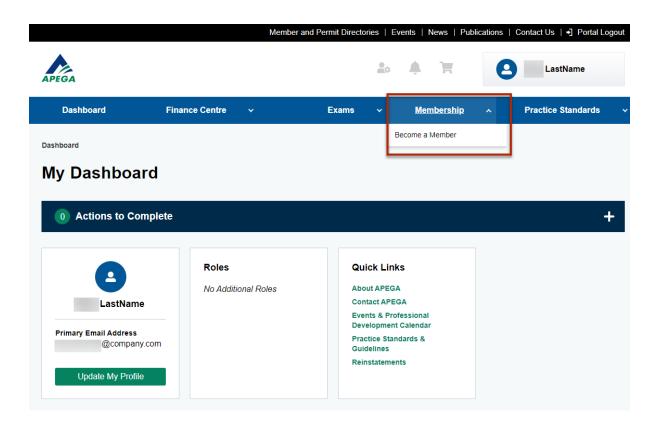
3. Returning members can also use https://www.apega.ca/portal-login, but simple login



Starting an Application

Once an applicant has created an account, they are ready to start their application for licensure.

1. In the main navigation, click on the **Member** tab and choose the **Become a Member** option



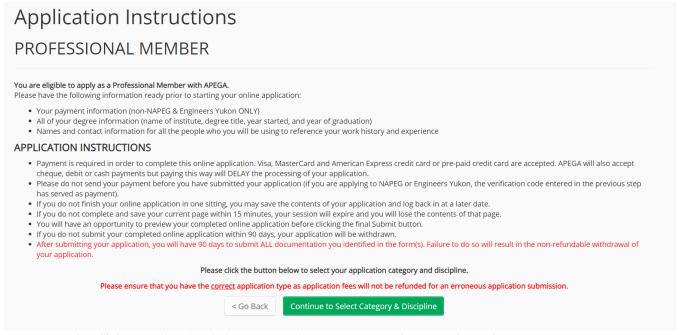
2. Next, click **Determine the Application Type** to complete the application questionnaire



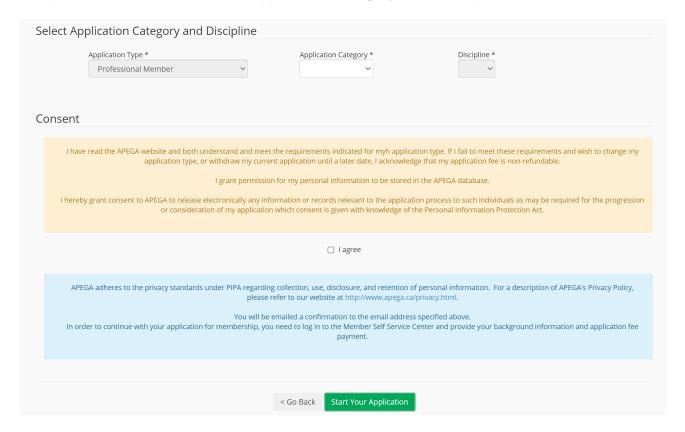
3. Applicants will answer the five questions to determine what application they are eligible for

Determine Your Application Type Please answer the following questions to determine your Application Type for membership: 1. Other Registrations Are you applying for an Inter-provincial Mobility application (currently enrolled as a Member-in-Training (MIT) or registered as a Professional Member in a Canadian territory or province) and wish to work in Alberta for any duration by obtaining the same class of membership? OYesONo
2. Academics
What is your educational background?
OA completed engineering or geoscience degree
OA partial engineering or geoscience degree
OA complete degree in a related field *
OA partial degree in a related field *, or a complete two-year technical diploma
* Related fields include math, physics, and general science. Please contact APEGA if your education is not listed in one of the categories above.
3. Experience
How many years of experience do you have?
O ₀
O1 or 2
O ₃
O4 or more
Note: If you want to claim post-graduate experience credit, please include that time in your total experience; if you have 3 years of work experience plus 1 year of post-graduate experience, select 4 or more. See Post Graduate Academic Studies Experience Credit for more information.
4. Citizenship
Are you a Canadian Citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada?
OyesONo
5. Organization
Please select the organization you would like to apply for (If you are enrolled as a Member-in-Training (MIT) or registered as a Professional Member in a Canadian territory or province and wish to work in Alberta for any duration by obtaining the same class of membership, please select "Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta" from dropdown menu).
<u> </u>
Declaration
 I declare that all the above statements are complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I agree to file additional information in support of my application for membership. I understand that a false statement or misrepresentation may disqualify me for registration.
SUBMIT CANCEL

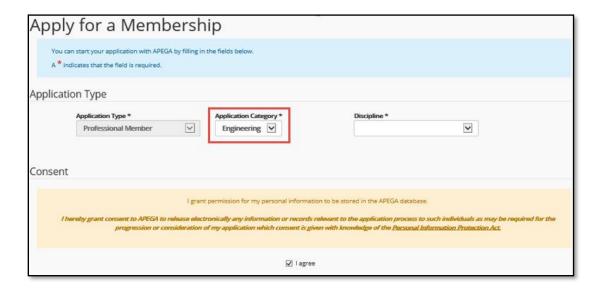
- 4. After answering the five questions and submitting, the system will show the applicant what application they can complete.
 - a. If this is the correct application click Continue to Select Category and Discipline



- b. If the application is incorrect, please return to the questionnaire or contact registration@apega.ca for more information
- 5. Applicants will then choose their **Application Category* and Discipline**



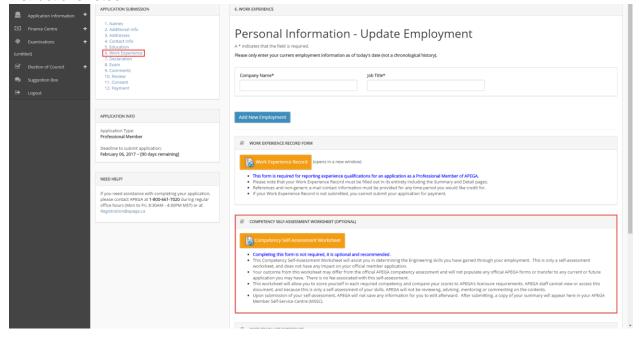
NOTE: Only engineering applicants applying to be Professional Engineers or Licensees can use the CSAW. The **Application Category** must display engineering. Those applying for a geoscience licence will not be able to use this assessment.



Completing the CSAW

Finding the CSAW Form in the myAPEGA Portal

Once the APEGA ID number is received and the applicant has signed in to the myAPEGA Portal, the CSAW link will be available under **Step 6 Work Experience** of the requirements. Please read the instructions listed.



Worksheet Instructions from the myAPEGA Portal, application section

Completing this form is optional. Although not required, it is recommended.

- This free Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet (CSAW) helps determine the engineering skills an applicant has gained through employment. This is only a self-assessment. It does not affect the licensure application.
- The CSAW lets the applicant score themselves in each required competency and compare the scores to APEGA's licensure requirements.
- The CSAW assessment may differ from the official APEGA competency assessment.
- The CSAW results will **not** be used on any official APEGA forms or applications.
- APEGA staff cannot view or access the CSAW results.
- Because this is a self-assessment, APEGA will not review, advise, mentor, or comment on the results.
- After submitting the CSAW, no edits can be made. A printable summary of the results will appear in the myAPEGA Portal.

After reading the instructions, press the Clicking the button will open a blank CSAW e-Form in the same browser window starting with the CSAW Instruction page.

Before Starting the CSAW

- The CSAW e-Form will time out after **15** minutes of no activity, so please have enough time to complete the assessment unless you expect to save and return to it.
- The worksheet can only be submitted if all required fields are completed.
- Once submitted, you cannot log back in to change or update the worksheet.
- The worksheet can be saved, accessed, and if not yet submitted, edited later.
- You must fill out the Canadian Environment; Situation; Action and Outcome; and Score fields for each key competency.
- Only one Results Summary per CSAW e-Form submission will be generated.

Filling in the CSAW Document

After pressing the **Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet** button, you will be directed to the CSAW document to complete it. It consists of the following pages:

1. **Instruction page** Clicking **Next** will move your page view to the next page. (This will allow you to begin the CSAW Competency 1.1.)



COMPETENCY SELF-ASSESSMENT WORKSHEET (CSAW)

The Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists of Alberta

Instructions for Completing the Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet (CSAW)

This free Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet (CSAW) helps you determine the engineering skills you have gained through employment. This is only a self-assessment. It does not affect your member application.

The CSAW allows you score yourself in each required competency and compare your scores to APEGA's licensure requirements. The CSAW assessment may differ from the official APEGA competency assessment. The CSAW results will not be used on any official APEGA forms or applications.

APEGA staff cannot view or access your CSAW results and because this is a self-assessment, APEGA will not review, advise, mentor, or comment on the results.

For each key competency, describe how you gained the indicators in a work environment. The descriptions in the Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet (CSAW) Guide describe each competency.

Score yourself using the 0-5 scale at the bottom of the page. Click the "Next" button to go to the next competency page.

NOTE: You must complete all sections to get a complete summary report of your competencies.

When finished, click "Next" to go to the last page of the assessment. It will let you review your assessment, submit it, and check your summary scores.

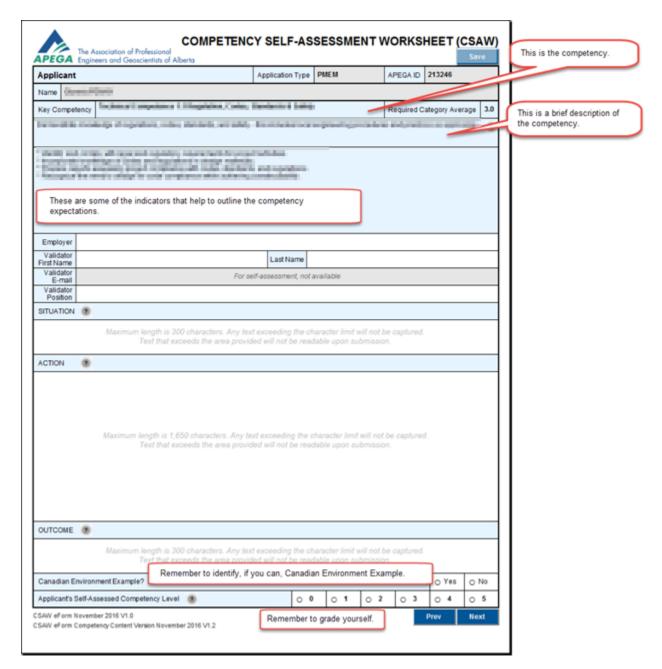
After you submit the CSAW, you will not be able to edit it. A printable summary of your results will appear the Online Application System (OAS) of the myAPEGA portal.

If your score has not met APEGA's requirements, consider improving your skills before applying as application fees are non-refundable.

l have read and understand the instructions above.

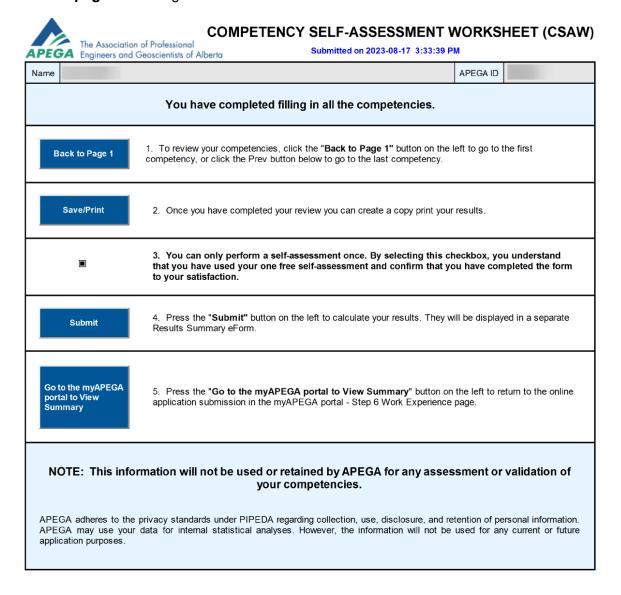
Please <u>click here</u> to access your Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet.

- 2. Your 22 competency pages to complete have six competency categories:
 - 1. Technical Competence
 - 2. Communication
 - 3. Project and Financial Management
 - 4. Team Effectiveness
 - 5. Professionalism
 - 6. Social, Economic, Environmental, and Sustainability



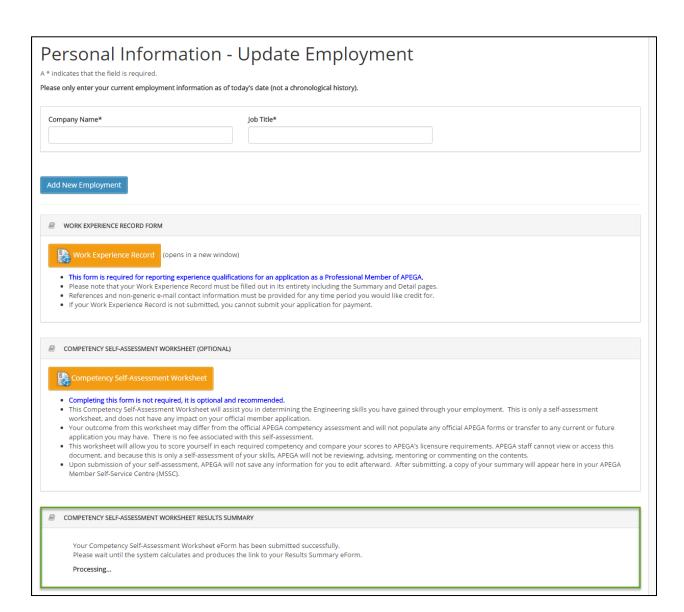
NOTE: In the **Applicant's Self-Assessed Competence Level** section, you will fill in a number between 0 and 5 to rate each of your key competencies. These will be used to calculate the average assessment level for each competency category on the summary form.

3. Last page containing final confirmations and instructions.



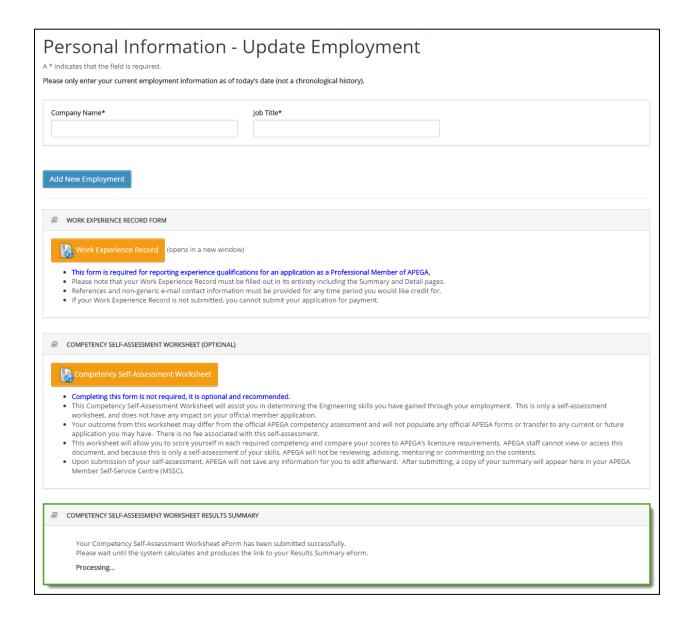
Before Submitting the CSAW

- Review all your work before submitting. You cannot go back and edit.
- Clicking the Back to Page 1 button will take you back to Competency 1.1.
- Checking the checkbox in section 3 will enable the Submit button and disable the Back to Page 1
 button. Unchecking the checkbox will disable the Submit button and enable the Back to Page 1
 button.
- Clicking on the buttons Submit and Go to the Online Application System of the myAPEGA portal to View Summary will take you to the Step 6 Work Experience page in your application. You will see a message that your e-form has been submitted successfully, and that you will have to wait until the system produces the link and e-form.



Reading the CSAW Results

Once the link and e-form are ready, the section for **COMPETENCY SELF-ASSESSMENT RESULTS SUMMARY** is displayed in **Step 6** of your online application in the myAPEGA Portal. A button link called **Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet Results Summary** is now available. This allows you to review your results.



To view the read-only, submitted version of the Competency Self-Assessment Worksheet e-form:

1. Click on the button



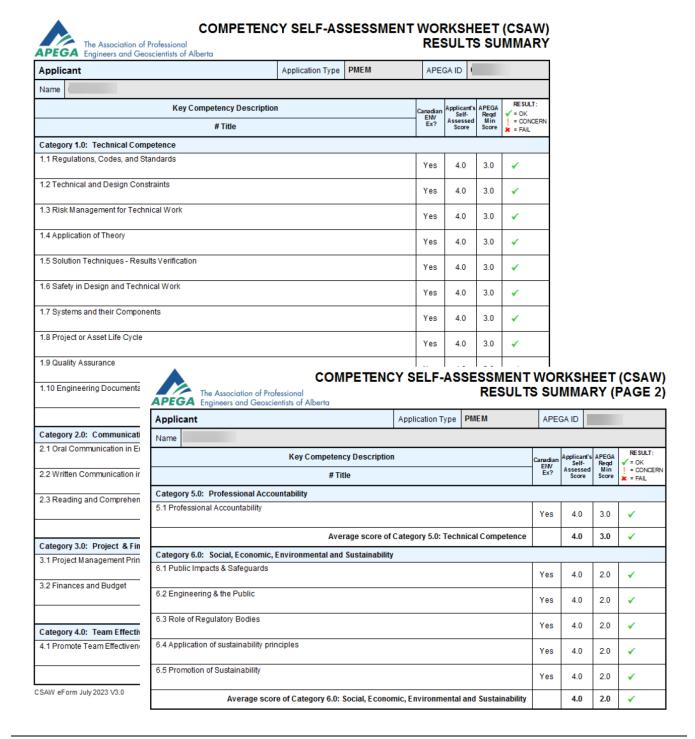
. You will see a popup as follows:



- 2. Click **OK** to close the popup and current browser tab.
- 3. Click **Read-Only** to generate and open a PDF in a new browser tab, where a PDF is available to download or **Save Page As** and save the file locally.
- 4. Click on the link to open the e-form in a new window.

You can click the iFiller **Print** button to print to paper or print to a PDF file and save the file locally.

The **summary page** displays all of your scores for each competency and includes results that suggest your experience meets, does not meet, or is close to APEGA's requirements.



Understanding the CSAW Results Summary

APEGA's CSAW results are generated to help you make an informed decision about your application. This self-assessment is your interpretation of your skills and abilities and may differ from the decision of the Board of Examiners (BOE).

i. If any of your competency scores result in a FAIL, your message will read:

You have one or more competencies indicated with a FAIL (□). This would result in your application being denied by APEGA.

Any competency receiving a **Fail** indicates that your experience does not meet APEGA's requirements for licensure and your application will be denied. You will be withdrawn without refund and will be invited to apply again when your experience is stronger.

ii. If one or more of your competency scores result in a CONCERN, your message will read:

You have one or more competencies indicated with a CONCERN (!). It is recommended that you consider your strength in this competency before you apply. Once you submit your application under the Competency-Based Assessment (CBA) process, your score will be an average of:

- 1) your competency-based assessment score (not this worksheet, but a similar form to be filled out at time of application);
- 2) your competency assessment scores from one or more Validators; and
- 3) your competency assessment scores from one or more Examiners.

If the average of all scores on a competency is below the minimum required, you will fail that competency, and your application will be denied by APEGA. Therefore, we have indicated concern around any competency for which your self-assessed score is below the average required for that competency category.

iii. If one or more of your competency scores result in an OK, your message will read:

You have one or more competencies indicated with an OK (□). This simply indicates that the score you have assessed yourself for that competency is equal to or greater than the average required score for that competency category. Once you submit your application under the Competency-Based Assessment (CBA) process, your score will be an average of:

- 1) your competency-based assessment score (not this worksheet, but a similar form to be filled out at time of application);
- 2) your competency assessment scores from one or more Validators; and
- 3) your competency assessment scores from one or more Examiners.