

	<b>FEDERATION EUROPEENNE DES GEOLOGUES</b> <b>EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF GEOLOGISTS</b> <b>FEDERACION EUROPEA DE GEOLOGOS</b>	Number: E1 Issue: Ver 8 Date: November 2018
	<b>REGULATIONS</b>	Approval Authority
	<b>Criteria for award of title of European Geologist</b>	<b>COUNCIL</b>

## 1 OBJECTIVE

To ensure that the criteria for award of the title of European Geologist are defined and consistent across the National Associations of the EFG

## 2 SCOPE

This Regulation covers the criteria for award of the title of European Geologist.

## 3 RELATED REGULATIONS

Reference should be made to the following related Regulations:

- Regulation C2: Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures
- Regulation E2: Procedure for award of the title of European Geologist
- Regulation E3: National Vetting Committees
- Regulation E4: Licensed Bodies
- Regulation E5: Registration Authority
- Regulation E6: Continuing Professional Development, CPD
- Regulation E7: Subscriptions and fees

## 4 CRITERIA

### 4.1 General Requirements

To qualify for the award of the title of European Geologist, an applicant must:

- (i) be a member of one of the National Associations within the EFG or hold an approved professional qualification awarded by an Associate Member of the EFG subject to the agreement of Council;
- (ii) provide evidence of a professional European connection in the case of being a non-European and not residing in Europe (see Statutes for the definition of Europe as applied by the EFG);
- (iii) hold a recognised degree or equivalent qualification in geology or related subject;
- (iv) have relevant postgraduation experience in the profession and practice of geology;
- (v) be supported by two European Geologists who have personal knowledge of the applicant (see 4.5);
- (vi) have completed and submitted an application form including a Professional Practice Report;
- (vii) have satisfied the EFG that they meet the requirements for award of the title of European Geologist through submission of supporting documentation and a professional interview; and
- (viii) have provided a written commitment to undertake a programme of Continuing

Professional Development.

The application will not be confirmed as being complete (and will not be considered by the EFG) until the non-returnable application fee has been received by the EFG or a National Licensed Body. Applicants to a National Licensed Body should submit their fee with the application. Applicants to the International Licensed Body through a National Vetting Committee will be invoiced for the fee once the application is accepted by the NVC and passed to the EFG Office and ILB for review. Applicants will receive an acknowledgement of receipt of their payment.

#### **4.2 Membership of National Association**

An applicant for the title of European Geologist must normally belong to one of the National Associations within the EFG and remain a member of a National Association after award of the title.

Council may, at its discretion, accept an application for award of the title of European Geologist from a member of an Associate Member of the EFG. Applications from members of an Associate Member of the EFG shall meet the following criteria:

- (i) hold a professional geological qualification awarded by the Associate Member organisation which is approved by the EFG Council as being equivalent to the title of European Geologist; and
- (ii) provide evidence of a professional European connection, such as a period of professional experience in Europe, participation in a European-based research project, attendance at a European university and such like. Such experience shall be for a period of at least three years.

#### **4.3 Recognised Degree of Equivalent Qualification**

An applicant for the title of European Geologist must have followed and satisfactorily completed an educational programme at university level in geology or a related subject and have been awarded a degree or equivalent qualification which is approved by the relevant National Association. The period of the educational programme shall be for a minimum of 3 (three) years (bachelor level / 2nd university level). National Associations of the EFG shall publish criteria for and accredit courses of study and the educational provisions in them in sufficient detail to enable the National Association to establish whether or not an applicant has satisfactorily completed an educational programme.

In evaluating an application for award of the title of European Geologist, the National Vetting Committee (Regulation E3) of the National Association shall validate claims to qualifications through inspection of originals of certificates or of notarised copies or through checking with the awarding body.

#### **4.4 Relevant Professional Experience**

The applicant for award of the title of European Geologist must demonstrate, through the application form, supporting documentation, professional practice report and a professional interview:

- (i) an ability to understand the complexities of geology and of geological processes in space and time in relation to the applicant's speciality;
- (ii) an ability to use geoscience information to generate predictive models and the critical evaluation of geoscience information to generate predictive models;
- (iii) an ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing;
- (iv) a clear understanding of the professional and ethical responsibilities of a professional geologist;
- (v) a clear commitment to developing and maintaining expertise as a professional geologist through a programme of Continuing Professional Development that is relevant to the speciality and professional work of the applicant; and

- (vi) a knowledge of and commitment to safe working practices in accordance with good practice and relevant statutory requirements applicable to the applicant's discipline or area of work.

The applicant must demonstrate that he/she has obtained sufficient knowledge and experience to be able to work independently and to be capable of supervising others. An applicant who is only able to undertake routine activities or to require extensive supervision would not meet the requirements for award of the title of European Geologist.

The applicant is unlikely to meet the requirements for award of the title of European Geologist without at least 9 (nine) years of experience comprising university level studies and subsequent post-graduation experience of which at least 5 (five) years must be relevant professional experience.

#### **4.5 Support by European Geologists**

An application for award of the title of European Geologist must be supported by two sponsors who have personal knowledge of the applicant and have known the applicant for at least three years.

The sponsors shall normally be European Geologists and have held the title for at least three years. However, the EFG may accept one of the two sponsors as a professional Member of a recognised professional body. In a member country where there are too few European Geologists this requirement may be relaxed by prior written approval of the Registration Authority.

#### **4.6 Application Form and Professional Practice Report**

An applicant for award of the title of European Geologist must submit a completed application form (see Annex A), including a Professional Practice Report.

The purpose of the Professional Practice Report is to:

- provide a comprehensive and clear account of the applicant's training and experience;
- demonstrate that the applicant possesses the relevant professional experience required for award of the Title (see Section 4.4 above); and
- demonstrate the applicant's ability to communicate clearly in writing.

The requirements for the Professional Practice Report are that:

- (i) it shall describe, with dates, the periods of relevant experience in the profession and practice of geology that the applicant is claiming (see Section 4.4 above);
- (ii) it shall describe the tasks undertaken for each period of experience cited, including the level of responsibility of the applicant and the name(s) of the supervisor(s). The report shall explain the ways in which such activities have contributed to the relevant experience that the applicant is required to demonstrate (see Section 4.4 above). (See Footnote <sup>1</sup>);
- (iii) it shall clearly and separately identify any formal training programmes, job-related courses and other activities carried out that contribute to the Continuing Professional Development of the applicant;
- (iv) each period of experience and training shall be countersigned by a supervisor, employer or other appropriate person who has personal knowledge of the applicant's work; details of the signatory are to be given in Section L of the application form. The signatory is required to confirm, on the basis of personal knowledge, that the

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<sup>1</sup> The personal contribution and level of responsibility exercised by the applicant and, where possible, some measure of the impact made, e.g. budget, level of risk, etc. should be included in the Professional Practice Report. A candidate for award of the Title of European Geologist will be expected to demonstrate the ability to undertake professional activities without supervision and the ability to direct others.

information provided by the applicant is a fair and reasonable description of the work undertaken and the applicant's contribution (see Footnote<sup>2</sup>);

- (v) the Professional Practice Report shall normally be 1,500 to 3,000 words in length, be concise and type-written. The report should be presented in the style of a professional report as a demonstration of the applicant's ability to prepare such professional reports and to communicate clearly in writing;
- (vi) the Professional Practice Report shall normally be prepared in the language of the National Vetting Committee to which the application is to be submitted. A National Vetting Committee may decline to accept an application in which the Professional Practice Report is written in a language that is not understood by members of that committee; and
- (vii) the Professional Practice Report must end with the following statement and be signed and dated by the applicant:

*“I hereby certify that this Professional Practice Report has been prepared in its entirety by me and all statements and claims made in this report are true and accurate.”*

#### **4.7 Supporting Documents**

An applicant applying for award of the Title of European Geologist is required to submit a portfolio of supporting paper documents that have been prepared by the applicant during the period of relevant experience cited on the application form and that help to demonstrate that the applicant has obtained the necessary relevant experience for award of the Title (see Section 4.4 above).

The documents may comprise:

- Reports;
- Published papers;
- Books
- Interpretative maps, plans and sections;
- Geophysical interpretations;
- Designs and relevant calculations;
- Technical specifications;
- Teaching syllabuses and examination papers; and
- Other similar documents.

Documents prepared as exercises during studies leading to a first degree or equivalent qualification (see Section 4.3 above) are not admissible.

Each supporting document submitted should be countersigned by a person such as an employer, client or supervisor, to indicate that the document was prepared by the applicant. Any document that was not wholly prepared by the applicant may be submitted as a supporting document provided that the contribution of the applicant to its preparation is clearly identified and confirmed by an appropriate signatory.

Documents that have been published externally, such as papers in a recognised scientific or technical journal or a published book, need not be confirmed by a signatory.

A signatory should be personally familiar with the documents that they are countersigning. Approved signatories should be European Geologists, professional members of a National Association that is a Member of the European Federation of Geologists or a professional member of a recognised professional body.

Applicants are encouraged to be selective in the documentation they submit in support of their application. Normally, at least two supporting documents should be submitted, but the total

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<sup>2</sup> A curriculum vitae and/or a list of published papers is not acceptable as a Professional Practice Report.

weight should not exceed 2 kg in weight. Heavy binders should be removed before documents are submitted. The applicant is responsible for ensuring that the portfolio of documents provides an adequate demonstration of the relevant professional experience stated in their application.

All documents will be returned to the applicant, normally on completion of the Professional Interview.

The Federation undertakes to respect confidentiality of documents. However, it recognises that some applicants may be unable to submit an adequate portfolio of supporting documentation because of imposed restrictions on confidentiality or difficulties in obtaining appropriate signatories. In these circumstances, the applicant should initially discuss the matter with the National Vetting Committee to whom the application is to be submitted in an attempt to overcome the problems. If the difficulties cannot be overcome, the applicant will be required to satisfy the National Vetting Committee that he/she has the necessary relevant experience for award of the Title by, for example:

- a signed statement from an employer or client to indicate that documentation has been prepared by the applicant, but is confidential;
- a statement from the applicant explaining why documentation is not available.

#### **4.8 Professional Interview**

Applicants applying for award of the title of European Geologist will be required to attend a Professional Interview. The interview will be conducted by an Interview Panel appointed by the National Vetting Committee to whom the applicant has applied.

The interview will be conducted in a language previously accepted by the applicant and the Interview Panel and will last approximately one hour. It will be conducted to examine whether the applicant has the range of relevant experience as described in Section 4.4 above.

Applicants will be required to make a short oral presentation (approximately 10 minutes in duration) at the start of the interview to:

- (i) give a summary of their career highlighting their experience and responsibility; and
- (ii) demonstrate that they meet the requirements for award of the title of European Geologist (see Section 4.4 above).

In addition to demonstrating technical and professional knowledge arising from his/her experience, the applicant will be required to demonstrate:

- (iii) an appreciation and knowledge of the EFG's Code of Ethics (Regulation C1); and
- (iv) an understanding of the importance of Health and Safety in the workplace.

#### **4.9 Equivalent Professional Qualifications**

A National Association that awards a professional qualification equivalent to the title of European Geologist may apply to the Registration Authority (Regulation E5) for recognition of that professional qualification. Subject to the approval of the Registration Authority, the National Vetting Committee may accept the award of the national professional qualification as evidence that the applicant has met part of the requirements for award of the title of European Geologist.

All applicants for award of the title of European Geologist must have met all the requirements set out above. Any of these requirements that are not included in the professional qualification awarded by the national Association must be met by the applicant for award of the title of European Geologist.

#### **4.10 Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures**

Any applicant who is not satisfied with the outcome of their application for award of the title of European Geologist may write to the Secretary General of the EFG seeking further information or explanation of the result. Any applicant who is still not satisfied may appeal under the Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures (Regulation C2).

#### **4.11 Reinstatement**

A European Geologist whose title has been lapsed due to failure to pay the annual fee or by being removed for whatever reason from the register of European Geologists and who wishes to apply for revalidation shall submit a request for reinstatement to the relevant National Vetting Committee or Licensed Body and provide the following information.

- Where status has lapsed for less than two years the request for reinstatement should comprise statements as to the reasons for the lapse and the reasons for now seeking reinstatement. The request will provide details of the relevant professional experience and continuing professional development during the lapsed period and will be reviewed by the National Vetting Committee. The request for reinstatement should be accompanied by the annual member fees that would have been paid if no lapse had occurred. The National Vetting Committee shall confirm that the applicant remains as a member of their National Association.
- Where status has lapsed for between 2 and 5 years, in addition to the process above a formal interview or reinstatement meeting must be held between the applicant and two members of the National Vetting Committee.

If the details are deemed satisfactory, the applicant will be recommended to the relevant Licensed Body for reinstatement. If the committee is not satisfied with the details provided, the applicant will be required to submit a completely fresh application for validation.

- Where status has lapsed for over 5 years no re-instatement is allowed and a completely new application for European Geologist must be submitted and a full professional interview carried out.

#### **RECORDS**

The Secretary General is responsible for maintaining a Register of all European Geologists to include:

- name and registration number of each European Geologist; and
- identity of the Licensed Body (see Regulation E4) responsible for award and maintenance of the title.