



# Professional Planners

## Pathway to Registration for Internationally Educated Professionals (IEP) in New Brunswick

Professional Planners are regulated professionals in New Brunswick (NB). Registration with the [New Brunswick Association of Planners \(NBAP\)](#)—the regulatory authority—is required to use the designations "Registered Professional Planner" or "RPP," as outlined in the [Registered Professional Planners Act](#).

Urban and land use planners develop plans and recommend policies for managing land use, physical facilities and associated services for urban and rural areas and remote regions. They are employed by all levels of government, land developers, engineering and other consulting companies, or may work as private consultants.<sup>1</sup>

For work opportunities and other information, visit [NBjobs.ca](#).



## STEPS TO REGISTRATION

NBAP offers three pathways for Foreign Qualification Recognition (FQR):

1. [Reciprocal / Advanced Standing \(R/AS\)](#)<sup>2</sup>: For applicants employed in planning and holding full membership with an R/AS signatory organization.
2. [Accredited Degree \(AD\)](#)<sup>2</sup>: For IEPs with degrees accredited by R/AS signatory organizations.
3. [Prior Learning Assessment Recognition \(PLAR\)](#): For applicants holding an undergraduate degree (any field), currently employed in planning, and five years of professional planning experience.

### PART 1: COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT

**Step 1 – Application and Assessment:** Submit your application, required documents<sup>3</sup>, and assessment fee via the [Professional Standards Board \(PSB\) Candidate Portal](#). Be sure to select NBAP as your provincial association. Required documentation includes, but is not limited to:

Accredited Degree applicants	R/AS applicants	PLAR applicants
Official confirmation of employment, and official job description, official transcripts		
	Credential evaluation report (e.g., <a href="#">WES</a> or <a href="#">IQAS</a> )	
	Confirmation of foreign professional membership	Cover letter and resume demonstrating 5 year of professional planning experience, <a href="#">PLAR Self-Assessment Grid</a> , and <a href="#">PLAR Portfolio</a>

Once complete, PSB will assess your application and send the results to NBAP. Current WES or IQAS fees can be found [here](#) or [here](#), and the PSB assessment fees for applicants can be found [here \(AD\)](#) [here \(R/AS\)](#) and [here \(PLAR\)](#).

**Step 2 - Language Proficiency:** NBAP does not have a language proficiency requirement for registration. Most employers, however, require proficiency in either English or French. Language proficiency may also be required for immigration and/or academic upgrading purposes.

<sup>1</sup> [National Occupational Classification \(NOC\)](#) definition.

<sup>2</sup> Currently the American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) in the USA, and the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA).

<sup>3</sup> All documentation must be officially translated into English or French which are the official languages of New Brunswick.

## PART 2: REGISTRATION WITH THE NEW BRUNSWICK REGULATORY BODY

**Step 3 –Candidate Membership:** NBAP informs applicants of their assessment results. Unsuccessful candidates receive guidance to address deficiencies. Successful applicants become Candidate Members upon paying NBAP and [Canadian Institute of Planners \(CIP\)](#) fees. Membership is managed by the [Atlantic Planning Institute \(API\)](#) on behalf of NBAP. Current membership dues may be found [here](#) (NBAP) and [here](#) (CIP).

**Step 4 – Mentorship and Sponsorship:** Candidate members must complete at least one year of [Mentorship](#) and [Sponsorship](#). There is no cost for this requirement.

**Step 5 – Examination:** Candidate members must complete the online [Ethics and Professionalism Course and Test](#) (online and on demand via the PSB Candidate Portal). Once a candidate has completed their mentorship, sponsorship, and ethics test, they are eligible to sit the [Professional Examination](#) (online, proctored, offered twice annually, with up to three attempts). Current fees can be found [here \(ethics course/test\)](#) and [here \(Professional Exam\)](#).

**Step 6 –Full Membership:** Passing the Professional Exam grants full membership with NBAP and CIP, subject to ongoing [annual dues](#) and other regular membership requirements.

**If you're in New Brunswick:** Contact a [WorkingNB office](#) for help navigating the registration process and to access employment counselling services.



## REGISTRATION COSTS AND TIMELINE<sup>4</sup>

The total fees to become an NBAP member via the R/AS and AD pathways will be approximately \$3,180 CAD, and assessment can take 3-4 weeks. The total fees via the PLAR pathway will be approximately \$3,500 CAD and assessment can take 8-10 weeks. Overall, certification typically requires over one year for all pathways due to mentorship, sponsorship, and exam scheduling.

**Pre-arrival:** A Canadian job offer is mandatory to apply. Employment in New Brunswick is necessary for Candidate or Full Membership.



## WORKING IN NEW BRUNSWICK, CANADA

To work legally in Canada, you must be a Canadian citizen, a permanent resident, or hold a valid work permit. For immigration assistance, visit [Immigration New Brunswick](#). If you are already in Canada, WorkingNB employment counsellors are available to assist you prior to your arrival in New Brunswick. Email: [vecs.svce@gnb.ca](mailto:vecs.svce@gnb.ca) to set up an appointment.



DIGITAL COPY

<sup>4</sup> Fee and timeline estimates are as of November 2024 and are subject to change. Individual situations may increase costs and timelines—some examples include: document translation into English or French, international couriers, travel and living to exam sites, any professional liability insurance requirements, etc.