

Articles – Requirements

Purpose

The objective of this work experience is to ensure that all candidates gain acceptable experience that is practical and varied, and to allow them to progress to the level of maturity required to make reliable professional judgments.

Guidelines

1. Application of Theory: The skillful application of theory is an important component of professional land surveying. Experience must include active participation in and supervision of: (a) project research and analysis, including scope and operating conditions, safety and environmental issues, economic feasibility, technical merit; (b) collection and assessment of field evidence; (c) applying technical and legal solutions; (d) making final project decisions in a practical and timely manner; (e) delivering final product and managing finances/budget.
2. Practical Experience: The Candidate must gain experience by: (i) Attending work sites, locating and assessing evidence, taking measurements, setting out positions, dealing with clients, regulatory authorities and the public; (ii) Conducting research at relevant locations, and applying statutes and regulations to projects; (iii) Observing and participating in all record keeping requirements and practices including field notes and project files; (iv) Reading and understanding the legal aspects of relevant contracts and ensuring the terms are followed; (v) Achieving an understanding of professional and business ethics and applying this understanding in his/her business practices; (vi) Gaining an insight into the importance of being part of a team.

The period of articles shall include 24 months of acceptable professional land surveying work experience based on the above Guidelines and the Elements stated below. The 24 months of experience assumes a minimum of 3300 hours that must be totaled and signed off by the Nova Scotia Land Surveyor and submitted to the Board. The Nova Scotia Land Surveyor only signs off on the articles when they feel that the candidate has acquired the appropriate level of experience to obtain active membership. For a minimum of 50% of the 24 months a Candidate shall be in a supervisory position or role.

Elements of Experience

The Candidate must gain experience in the following elements of professional land surveying using the associated minimum time (percentage) criteria.

The Guidelines should be applied to these elements as applicable. The Element and Minimum Time Percentages totaling 100 are as follows:

Boundary Retracement, 20;

Boundary Establishment, 10;

Technical Surveys, 10 (e.g., Site, control, location certificates, etc.);

Research and Analysis of Evidence, 5;

Preparation of Description of reports, 5;

Professional Development, 5 (e.g., Client interaction, estimates, business management, etc.); Discretionary Practice, 45 (determined by the candidate and the member).

Approval Process

- The Board must approve the articling agreement of a person seeking membership as a candidate before the period of articles begins.
- The Board must approve the name of the active member entering into an articling agreement with a candidate.
- With the approval of the Board, a candidate may transfer the responsibility of articles to another active member by signing a new articling agreement.
- A candidate must complete the period of articles in the manner and in accordance with the timelines in the articling agreement.
- Upon completion of the articling period, an active member to whom a candidate is articulated must sign a form approved by the Board confirming that all the requirements of the articling agreement have been met.

An initial interview with the candidate, the principal, and a minimum of three members of the Board of Examiners will be scheduled by the ANSLs within 60 days of receiving the articling paperwork and fees. Candidates may receive credit for any field time, office time and examinations written prior to approval of articles. During the interview, the action plan to complete articles submitted by the candidate and principal will be reviewed by the Board to ensure that it is realistic. This interview is required prior to the Board approving articles. The interviews are generally held in person but have been done online due to location. There are three possible outcomes to this interview:

- The Board approves articles.
 - o The ANSLS Administration notifies the candidate and principal in writing within two weeks of the interview regarding approval of articles.
- The Board defers approval of articles until additional information is received.
 - o ANSLS Administration sends a letter to the candidate and principal regarding deferral of articles within two weeks of the interview.
- The Board refuses articles. The Board will not approve articles if:
 - o the principal is unable to provide the candidate with sufficient training and experience.
 - o the principal accepts more than one candidate under articles per calendar year. (The principal may accept two candidates per calendar year if one of the candidates is transferring articles or any other extenuating circumstance.)
 - o ANSLS Administration will send the written decision with reason(s) to the candidate and principal within three weeks of the interview.