



Ontario Association of Home Inspectors

Established by the Ontario Association of Home Inspectors Act, 1994

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Application for Exemption / Academic Review

O.A.H.I. Admissions Review Committee (ARC):

The O.A.H.I. Admissions Review Committee acknowledges that there are circumstances where an applicant may have a Technical Background or Experience which equals or surpasses some of the learning outcomes related to home inspection as set out in the National Occupational Standard (NOS) for home inspectors. For example, a licensed plumber would be considered to have the skills and knowledge to be exempt from the plumbing requirement. A registered homebuilder, or designer with sufficient experience may be exempted from some or all of the general requirements related to the envelope of the building. Also, someone from a professional background who has already taken a professional practices exam (P. Eng, or CET for example) would be exempt from that requirement. The list of possible exemptions is broken down according to the subject categories listed on page three. The corresponding knowledge Blocks of the National Occupational Standards are indicated in brackets besides the individual subjects.

It is unlikely that an applicant would be exempted from all requirements. Applicants must also have some formal training involving the application of the Standards of Practice such as is required of the community colleges who offer courses meeting the NOS.

The responsibility is on the applicant to provide sufficient documentation for the committee to evaluate the request. Requests without clear documentation to substantiate the request will be returned for further clarification or be rejected. Applicants may be contacted as a courtesy prior to submission to the ARC for further supporting information.

Exemption Review Assessment Fees:

Assessments are free of charge for OAH I members as a member benefit. There is a fee for non-members, which is applied as a credit upon joining the association. Rates appear when you click "Register". Be sure to log on as a member to get the member rate.

- 1) All documentation including this application must be uploaded online by you to the upgrade page of your Members Profile so that the records are permanently available. Your Member's Profile page is password protected to protect the privacy of your personal information. *****DO NOT EMAIL DOCUMENTS WITH PERSONAL INFORMATION to the OAH I!*******
- 2) Please use only PDF scans of original documents as it works best with the system. *Do not upload links as they are not permanent records. No phone shots please!***
- 3) Please clearly label ALL DOCUMENTS INDIVIDUALLY.**
- 4) Remember to include a copy of official TRANSCRIPTS of courses you have taken that are relevant to the occupation of home inspection as well as any trade certificates.**

Very Important Please Note:

1) Requests without proper documentation or explanation will be denied! If you are claiming to have prior construction related experience or other experience which you feel supports the exemption, please be thorough and detailed in describing it to us. For example, if you have been a contractor for 15 years, there normally should be a contractor's license or business license as evidence. If you do not have this type of accredited documentation in support of your request you may be asked to write the OAH I Prior Learning Assessment Exams or have a Prior Learning Assessment done by a community college offering an OAH I

accepted home inspector training program. Most colleges upon request will conduct Prior Learning Assessments (PLA), which will give course credit to applicants who are able to demonstrate equivalent knowledge of the course material. We will accept PLAs from any college offering an OAH I approved program. Many colleges will also let you challenge individual course exams.

Any exemption given by the OAH I Admissions Review Committee is for the purpose of OAH I accreditation only. Applicants who are working towards qualification with OACETT or towards a community college Home Inspection Certificate are encouraged to take the courses as offered through the college system in order to obtain credit for other programs.

OAH I Prior Learning Assessment Exam:

The OAH I has developed, with the help of Conestoga College and funding from Employment Ontario, a set of prior learning assessment exams, which correspond to the Blocks of the National Occupational Standard for home inspection. The purpose of the exam is to give qualification to applicants who have received their home inspector training from providers other than OAH I accepted providers or who have home inspection related experience in construction but no recognized trade certificates as verification to qualify for exemption.

The exam is modular in nature according to the individual Blocks of the NOS. Persons having taken the Prior Learning Assessment Exam will be given credit for the subject matter corresponding to the NOS Blocks which were successfully passed with 70% or higher. For example passing blocks A, B and C equal all of Group 1 as depicted below plus the Professional Practices component of Block 3.

The exam is currently available in paper format only and must be written at the OAH I office or a recognized testing centre such as a community college. Persons wishing to write the exam at a testing centre must make arrangements directly with the testing centre and provide the appropriate contact information to the OAH I office. Applicants will be responsible for any testing fees and any additional courier costs.

The Prior Learning Exam is broken into two parts. Part 1 covers Blocks A, B and C of the National Occupational Standard (NOS) for Home Inspection. Part 2 covers Blocks D, E and F of the NOS. Each exam contains approximately 225 mixed format questions including a few picture questions to challenge your report writing abilities and communications skills. Each exam may take up to four hours.

The exam is designed to be similar to a Certificate of Qualification exam for persons with prior training or experience relevant to the occupation of home inspection. The exam is specific to the occupation of home inspection rather than general construction knowledge. There is no study guide.

You do not need to write both Part 1 and Part 2 of the exam but you may if you choose. Applicants who have a strong background in the Group 1 “building the box” subjects may wish to challenge the Group 2 mechanical subject matter of Blocks C, D and F which is covered in Exam 2.

Prior Learning Assessment Exam Fees:

Unlike the Exemption Review, the Prior Learning Assessment Exam is not a free service to members due to the high cost of printing and lengthy marking time. Rates appear when you click “Register”. Be sure to log on as a member to get the member rate. Non-members may also take the exam but the fee is 25% higher than the member rate. The rate for writing both exams is slightly reduced.

To make an Exemption Review Application please complete the worksheet below and sign at the bottom:

I am hereby requesting Review by the Admissions Review Committee for the following Exemptions:**NOTE: THIS IS A FILLABLE PDF**

Please check all that apply and for which you have uploaded documentation.

Group 1: (General Building Envelope Systems)

- Structural Systems
 Exterior Systems
 Roof Systems
 Insulation and Ventilation
 Interior Systems

Corresponding NOS Blocks

- (Blocks B and C of the National Occupational Standard)
 (Blocks B of the National Occupational Standard)
 (Blocks B of the National Occupational Standard)
 (Blocks C of the National Occupational Standard)
 (Blocks C of the National Occupational Standard)

Group 2: (Specialized Building Envelope Systems)

- Heating Systems
 Air Conditioning Systems
 Fireplaces and Solid Fuel Burning appliances
 Plumbing Systems
 Electrical Systems

- (Block D of the National Occupational Standards)
 (Block D of the National Occupational Standards)
 (Block D of the National Occupational Standards)
 (Block E of the National Occupational Standards)
 (Block F of the National Occupational Standards)

Group 3:

- Professional Practices
 Practical Training*

- (Block A of the National Occupational Standards)
 (OAH I Requirement)

* Exemption from practical training is only given to Applicants Members who have already competed a set number of fee paid home inspections to a recognized home inspection standard AND have had their reports successfully verified to OAH I standards.

The following documentation is included in support of my request:

Please include course transcripts, documented work experience (if relevant), letters of reference etc.

Applicant's Name: _____ Date: _____

Telephone No.: _____

Email Address: _____

I certify that the information contained in and as part of this application is true, and I consent to verification of the information by the OAH I:

SIGNATURE: _____**DATE:** _____

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