

Alabama - 1) BS Forestry by school approved by the Board or SAF accredited.

2) Two years' experience in forestry after graduation

3) Pass oral or written examination

Arkansas - 1) A bachelor's or advanced degree in forestry from a college or university program accredited by the Society of American Foresters.

2) A bachelor's or advanced degree in forestry from a college or university program not accredited by the Society of American Foresters and, subject to graduation, three (3) years or more experience in forestry work of a nature satisfactory to the board.

3) A bachelor's degree in a natural resources-related field from a college or university program, including, but not limited to, wildlife management, with at least twenty (20) semester hours of forestry courses approved by the board and, subsequent to graduation, three (3) years or more experience in forestry work of a nature satisfactory to the board.

4) A bachelor's degree not related to natural resources from a college or university program and, subsequent to graduation, six (6) years or more experience in forestry work of a nature satisfactory to the board; or

5) A two-year associate's degree in forestry from a community college or junior college and, subsequent to graduation, six (6) years' or more of experience in forestry work of a nature satisfactory to the board.

Connecticut - 1) Pass SAF Certification exam

Georgia - 1) Pass SAF Certification exam

Maine - 1. **Education**

An applicant is required to either have a forestry degree or 60 contact hours of supplemental forestry education. The requirements for a qualifying forestry degree and the requirements for qualifying supplemental forestry education are set forth in Chapter 40, *Qualifications for Intern Forester License*.

2. **Forestry experience**

An applicant is required to demonstrate experience in the following four subject areas. Each of the four subject areas must be represented in the applicant's work history.

A. Forest Biology – including but not limited to tree growth, species identification, forest ecology, wildlife and fish ecology and habitat manipulation, tree disease and insect problems, silviculture, soils and water relationships, and fire ecology.

B. Forest Resources Measurement – including but not limited to basic surveying, area determination, sample design and analysis, measurements of trees and forest products, and photo interpretation and mapping.

C. Forest Resource Management and Harvesting – including but not limited to multiple-use principles, road design and construction, harvest layout, harvesting methods, environmental protection, marketing, and utilization standards, stand analysis and prescriptions, forest and wildlife habitat management, recreation management, urban forestry, fire, insect and disease protection, and financial management.

D. Forest Resource Policy and Administration – including but not limited to state environmental and forest practice laws, boundary and trespass laws, contract and sale administration, forest taxation, and forest economics.

3. Forester examination

The examination for a forester license is a two-part examination. Part 1 is an examination that tests the applicant's knowledge of Maine forestry practices, laws, rules, and policies. Part 2 is an examination approved by the board that tests the applicant's knowledge of forestry principles.

Current Maine Licensed Intern Foresters

a) with an SAF accredited program in Forestry or Forest Technology need only take the Maine forestry specific part of the exam. The exam may be completed during the internship.

b) qualifying by education variance are eligible to take the exam (both parts required) upon completion of the internship and after submission of Forester license application and approval.

Forester Applicants Licensed or Practicing in Another Jurisdiction. Upon submission of application, documentation of professional qualifications and board approval:

a) individuals with an SAF accredited program in Forestry or Forest Technology need only take the Maine forestry specific part of the exam.

b) individuals without an SAF accredited program in Forestry or Forest Technology are required to take both parts of the exam.

An unlicensed person who is providing forestry services as defined by Maine law must be registered with the Board. It is the responsibility of the supervising forester to register the unlicensed person with the Board annually.

Maryland - To qualify the applicant must have an undergraduate degree in forestry or a masters in forestry from a Board approved college or university or SAF accredited college or university.

Massachusetts - BS, MS, or MF in Forestry from SAF accredited or Board approved program plus three years' work experience, two of which are professional in nature.

AS in forestry from SAF accredited or Board approved program plus five years' work experience, two of which are professional in nature.

Michigan - AS in Forestry from SAF accredited or Board approved program plus 4 years' experience under an RPF, SAF Certified or ACF Forester.
BS in Forestry plus 2 years, BS in Natural Resources plus 2 years, a graduate degree in Forestry plus 2 years.
No degree, References, or endorsements by three RPFs.

Mississippi - Any person who has a bachelor's degree or higher from a university or college of forestry in a curriculum in forestry acceptable to the Board and found by the Board to be substantially equivalent to curricula in schools accredited by the Society of American Foresters followed by examination.

New Hampshire - Experience shall be determined as follows:

- (1) Applicants possessing a 4-year forestry degree shall have 2 years' experience which is equivalent to 4000 hours within not less than 24 months and not more than 60 months of the date of application.
- (2) Applicants possessing a 2-year forestry degree shall have 4 years' experience pursuant to Fors 302.02 which is equivalent to 8000 hours within not less than 48 months and not more than 72 months of date of application.
- (3) Applicants possessing a 4-year degree in a related field shall have 4 years' experience pursuant to Fors 302.02 which is equivalent to 8000 hours within not less than 48 months and not more than 72 months of the date of application.
- (4) Applicants possessing a 2-year degree in a related field shall have 6 years' experience pursuant to Fors 302.02 which is equivalent to 12000 hours within not less than 72 months and not more than 120 months preceding the date of application.
- (5) Applicants possessing no forestry or related degree shall have 8 years' experience pursuant to Fors 302.02 which is equivalent to 16000 hours within the 10-year period preceding the date of application. (c) Experience shall be gained under the supervision of a licensed forester or if not, written explanation shall be included with the application describing why the experience should be considered satisfactory to the board.

North Carolina- BS, MS, MF in Forestry, BS or MS in related field and passage of SAF Certification Exam. People not following one of the above pathways must first complete six years of full-time forestry work experience immediately before applying for registration.

The work experience must be of a nature acceptable to the Board. Applicants will become registered after submitting the above letter and forms properly, passing the Level 1 Registration Examination and completing at least six years of full-time forestry employment acceptable to the Board.

South Carolina - Pass SAF Certification exam.

Vermont - Applicants for licensure shall qualify under one of the following paths to licensure:

- (1) Possession of a bachelor's degree, or higher, in forestry from a program approved by the Director, satisfactory completion of two years of the SAF Certified Forester experience requirements, and passage of the SAF Certified Forester examination, which may include a state portion if required by the Director by rule.
- (2) Possession of a bachelor's degree, or higher, in a forestry-related field from a program approved by the Director, satisfactory completion of three years of the SAF Certified Forester experience requirements, and passage of the SAF Certified Forester examination, which may include a state portion if required by the Director by rule.
- (3) Possession of an associate degree in forestry from a program approved by the Director, satisfactory completion of four years of the SAF Certified Forester experience requirements, and passage of the SAF Certified Forester examination, which may include a state portion if required by the Director by rule.
- (4) Possession of a valid registration or license to engage in the practice of forestry issued by the appropriate regulatory authority of a state, territory, or possession of the United States, or the District of Columbia, based on requirements and qualifications shown by the application to be equal to or greater than the requirements of this chapter. Such an applicant may be examined on forestry matters peculiar to Vermont and may be granted a license at the discretion of the Director. (Added 2015, No. 166 (Adj. Sess.), § 2.)

West Virginia – 3.1 An applicant for certification as a registered forester shall submit evidence to the board of the following:

- 3.1a. A bachelor's degree in forestry from a four-year school, college or university accredited by SAF and at least two years of full-time equivalent work experience as a professional forester within the ten years preceding the date of filing and application for registration; or
 - 3.1b. An associate's degree from a two-year technical forestry program recognized by SAF, plus a bachelor's degree in another natural science or business and at least four years of full-time equivalent work experience in the field of forestry acceptable to the board within ten years preceding the date of filing an application for registration.
- 3.2 An applicant for certification as a registered forestry technician shall submit evidence to the board of an associate's degree from a two-year technical forestry program recognized by SAF and at least four years of full-time equivalent work experience in the field of forestry acceptable to the board within ten years preceding the date of filing an application for registration.

British Columbia - Process to Become an RPF

Individuals who want to register as an FIT or ASFIT to become a practicing RPF must have either completed a [Canadian Forestry Accreditation Board](#) (CFAB) accredited degree program within the past 10 years or hold a degree in forestry or a related field. All individuals who want to apply for registration as a trainee must complete the eligibility assessment. This process assesses your academic background and work experience to

determine if you are eligible to apply for registration with FPBC. If you are determined to be eligible, you will be invited to submit an application for registration.

There are two types of trainee categories that will eventually lead you to full status as an RPF:

- Forester in Training (FIT)
- Allied Science Forester in Training (ASFIT)

To become a practicing RPF registrant with FPBC you must:

- apply to become a temporary registrant–trainee (FIT or ASFIT);
- complete the FPBC education program requirements including work experience.

During your enrolment as a trainee, you must complete the following before your trainee registration expires:

- six education modules in the FPBC online learning management system.
- articling requirements including work experience.
- core competency requirements (only applies to ASFITs).
- Completing all the education program requirements takes a minimum of 24 months.