

## Annual General Meeting (AGM)-June 7, 2025: Question & Answer

I am working at Management level in pharmaceutical manufacturing company. I am looking for skill trades Technician positions: Millwrights and Electricians. Whom should I contact from our Association for support and help?

OACETT does not oversee or certify skilled trades such as millwrights or electricians, and our job board does not post positions related to these trades. We do recommend reaching out to your local colleges, as they will typically have both trades and technology programs.

Are the chapters notified when someone has joined the association and been assigned to their chapter?

Not at this point. This feature can be added as a quarterly report. Great idea!

Will Bob Jameson be doing the chicken dance at this year's conference again?

For the right donation, I suspect he would :-) We hope everyone will participate in the Fletcher Foundation's fabulous draw to win a 2025 Hyundai Elantra!

Having Biomedical Engineering Technicians and Technologists under Bioscience confuses many people into thinking that we are Medical Lab Techs when we are more equipment, devices and electronics focused. Is there some rationale for grouping us all into Bioscience?

Biomedical roles increasingly intersect with other bioscience domains such as biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, and life sciences. A broader "Bioscience" classification better captures this cross-disciplinary nature and aligns with how employers structure teams and functions). Last fall we had a booth at the CESO Conference (Canadian Medical and Biological Engineering Society).

Total active members in OACETT as on today?

There are 20,300 active members as of June 1, 2025.

Is this referring to careeredge.ca?

Yes, that is the partner organization that OACETT is developing a pilot with.

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**How do one benefit from CTEN what are requirements for accessing to platform?** 

CTEN is a job board designed specifically for technicians and technologists in Canada only accessible to OACETT members. Employers post technician- and technologist-specific roles across the platform, and you can message them directly. Positions are targeted toward technical professional, and your profile will be seen by the right audience, minimizing irrelevant listings. To access CTEN, use your current portal username and password. You can then create your profile. If you encounter any issues, please contact services@oacett.org.

Please confirm how many C.E.T.'s transferred to OACETT from other provinces/territories in 2023, 2024 and 2025. How does this small number of transfers justify spending \$750K of member dues on the designation name change?

That number is 56, but to be clear, the name change initiative is not being driven nationally by the desire to better facilitate inter-provincial transfers. It is driven by the desire to have a common national title for technologists, equivalent to C.Tech., that makes it easier to advocate for the profession at a national level. Such an issue came up this year with the elimination of eligibility for post-graduate work permits from a number of college engineering technology programs across the country.

Can members reach out to their chapter via the app? And Chapter reach their members via the app?

Yes, that is the intention in both cases, but it will require members to sign up for the app.

What is OACETT doing in harmonizing with the ministry of trade to acquiring the trade license such as Red seal for prospective member technicians?

At this time, OACETT does not have any plans to harmonize our certifications with the Red Seal trades. We do have legislation in place with the Electrical Safety Authority for OACETT certified technicians and technologists to be eligible to apply to be master electricians. In addition, a couple of our college partners are looking at the potential for bridging programs for graduates from the trades programs to be able to achieve the education requirements to qualify to be certified as technicians by OACETT.

How do we input CPD hours for being on one's Chapter Executive Committee? I understand volunteering as Treasurer, Secretary, etc. counts towards CPD. But how many hours per CPD cycle does that count for? And is that considered active or passive? I'm still not clear on this.

Submission of CPD hours are completed through the OACETT member portal. There is also a video on the website under CPD that demonstrates the steps required. Being on chapter executive committee, as well as other OACETT committees/subcommittees is eligible for up to 15 hours of passive CPD over the 3-year cycle.

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How many of the student's membership were free memberships?

272 out of 828. This was part of a one-year pilot. Only first year students were eligible when we launched the pilot two years ago and we are following them through a six-year cycle to see what effect free student membership has on conversion when it comes time to transition to full Associate membership.

What was the cost of staff time for Name and Designation change?

OACETT does not have an hourly tracking system and is therefore not able to provide a reliable estimate for staff time invested to date.

It must be said that, announcement of recommendation by Nominating Committee will put the Challenger or the other party at a great disadvantage thus, reducing their chance of being voted on.

One of the Nominating Committee's mandates is to recommend the best mix of competencies and demographics for the slate of Board members. It is therefore considered important that, when making their decision, members are aware of who the Nominating Committee had recommended as the best fit within the Board slate. It is not about any member being better than another, it is what the Board members bring in combination for optimal stewardship of the association.

What's the easiest way to track your CET certification process and how long should it take to get certified?

Through the OACETT member portal, members can track their certification process. The length of time to become certified is variable due to how long it takes receive the supporting documents for the admissions subcommittee to make a decision. In most cases, it is 4 months from application payment to receiving the admissions subcommittee decision.

What trade shows or professional shows (events) are OACETT are planning to exhibit as an outreach and engagement with other professionals? Can certified members participate / support OACETT in planned events/shows?

For 2025, we participated in or will be participating in: OSCA (Ontario School Counsellors Association) conference, OBOA (Ontario Building Officials Association) Trade Show, The Build Expo. Internationally Educated Expo. AMO (Association of Municipalities of Ontario), ROMA (Rural Ontario Municipalities of Ontario), CANECT, OWA (Ontario Water Power Association), OWWA (Ontario Waste Water Association), Skills Ontario Guidance Councillors Event. We are always looking for member volunteers. Reach out to <a href="mailto:servcies@oacett.org">servcies@oacett.org</a>.

◆ OACETT HQ has been at 10 Four Seasons for many years. Is the lease being evaluated as being competitive compared to other "office" spaces. Is the current office space serving/optimized for the administration / executive staff well (comments). Are there plans to continue to be located at the current address for the foreseeable future or plans to seek a new address at some point in the coming years?

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In April 2022, OACETT did move from the 4th floor to the 7th floor at 10 Four Seasons into a space that was 50% smaller, optimized for a hybrid work schedule, collaboration and desk sharing. A full market search was conducted including looking at other buildings and options were brought to the Board of Directors for the final decision. A new 10-year lease was negotiated that saved the association \$500,000 over the term of the lease.

◆ OACETT NEW Web site is an improvement and improved user experience. Is the new WEB project ongoing or completed for now? Any other developments being considered for the future to increase public engagement (via WEB) with OACETT?

The total project is completed, but we are always making changes and improvements and looking for ideas. We will be adding a chat bot, pop up sliders for gaining input. Reach out to services@oacett.org.

Is there information c10 [CTEN] on the website?

Yes. Go to the Careers tab (https://www.oacett.org/careers) and that's where you can log in for CTEN.

Does the Career Edge program also apply to OACETT-associated members?

It will eventually. We are rolling it out in phases. Most likely in the winter of 2026.

**♣** Is it possible to know how many new student members have joined in 2024?

There were 751 student members who joined in 2024.

I'm interested to belong to chapter as an Associate Member but I'm in Nigeria at the moment...

How can people outside Canada, join a chapter of his/her choice?

At this point, we are investigating how to assign members who do not have a physical address in Ontario to a chapter. We will reach out to you shortly.

I would like to have clarification on how Pheila Kung can run for Board member and also win MESC for 2025 to 2027

OACETT's Parliamentarian provided this written response during the meeting: "The By-law states that a member can't accept a nomination for more than one elected position. OACETT leadership has interpreted this to mean that a candidate elected to one position must decline any other position to which they are elected." Had Phelia been elected to the Board, she would have had to decline the MESC position and a new election for the MESC rep would have been run in the Central region. The Board of Directors and Committees will be reviewing processes and timing to try to prevent such potential overlaps in future.

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