

FAQ

ASTTBC Registered Technical Specialist Report

July 6, 2022

Why is ASTTBC eliminating the registration class of RTS and sunseting many of the RTS subclasses?

A significant change occurred when ASTTBC transitioned to the Professional Governance Act (PGA) in 2021, which requires the sole purpose of regulation to be protection of the public interest. ASTTBC decided to review the professions captured within the RTS classification, to determine whether regulation in its current form met with the ASTTBC mandate. Using a risk-based analysis, it was determined that sunseting many of the RTS subclasses is expected to have little impact on public safety. The review recommended the elimination of the RTS class and the sunset of many of the RTS subclasses, as well as the creation of ROWPs and RFPTs as separate registration classes.

Does the RTS group exist amongst other regulators in Canada?

No. After a review of ASTTBC's regulatory documents, and an environmental scan to identify whether and how other jurisdictions oversee the technical specialist group, it became clear that the RTS class is unique to BC. Of all the jurisdictions reviewed, no other has defined this group of occupations as "technical specialist," nor uses self-regulation for these types of roles. Although all Canadian provinces seem to have some form of regulation for technicians and technologists or certified engineering technologist, none of the regulatory bodies oversee technical specialists. In jurisdictions where there is a form of oversight for specific occupations, this exists as a licensing/certification model only.

When will these changes take place?

Depending upon the feedback received during consultation with key stakeholders, the work to sunset RTS may take place in 2023, with the eventual sunseting of subclasses in 2024.

What does it mean for me if I am dual registered?

This is duplicative registration and the recommendation is that people have one class of registration which will be either a ASc.T, CTech, ROWP or RFPT. If home inspection comes to ASTTBC then that could also be another class of registration.

What if I lose my classification and cannot move to either AScT or CTech?

There will be a time-period for transition where options will be available for those who need additional school/work experience to become an AScT or CTech.

How will I benefit from the RTS and subclass sunseting?

RTS is not a recognized title under any other BC regulation or legislation other than the PGA. This will give the public greater clarity as to the registrants' area of expertise. In some cases when you select your discipline that you practice in then you will also declare an area of practice, which may include a current Registered Technical Specialist subclass.

How many registrants will be impacted?

In total, 309 registrants will be impacted by this sunset; this number does not include the registrants that will be captured under the creation of ROWPs and RFPTs as separate classes, or the registrants who are concurrently registered as ASCT or CTech.

If a title is sunset, am I still able to use it?

Under the PGA, ASTTBC currently has reserved title of RTS, ASCT and CTech. Moving forward, after consultation, there could be more reserved titles added and at that time ASTTBC will only probe titles that come under regulation.

Can I still work if my title is sunset and/or will it impact my ability to work?

These changes should not impact your ability to work if the title will be sunset.

Can ASTTBC provide an update on Home Inspectors?

The Office of the Superintendent of Professional Governance (OSPG) is currently conducting a review of the governance of the profession of Home Inspection. ASTTBC is not able to provide any further comments until there is an update by the OSPG.