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GENERAL INFORMATION AND PROCEDURE FOR THE
REGISTRATION OF GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION
SCIENCE (GISc) TECHNOLOGISTS

AND

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SCIENCE (GISc)
TECHNICIANS.

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1 Introduction

These notes provide details on HOW to apply for registration with PLATO and WHAT happens once an application has been lodged. Candidates can also obtain advice and assistance from the PLATO Registrar and their regional GISSA representative.

Registration as either a Geographical Information Science (GISc) Technologist or Technician requires presentation of work activities as recorded in a logbook. The importance of maintaining a continuous logbook of ALL work activities cannot be over emphasised.

An application fee has been established to cover the cost of examinations, interviews and scrutinising. The fee will not be refundable in the case of a failed application. This fee must be included with your application.

2 GISc TECHNICIAN-IN-TRAINING

2.1 General

There are no academic or technical requirements for registration as a GISc Technician-in-Training.

It is normal to register as a GISc Technician-in-Training when commencing studies at a tertiary educational institution and this form of registration is necessary before a GISc Technologist or a Professional GISc Practitioner can employ a candidate in order to provide practical experience.

2.2 Requirements

The relevant application form must be completed and certified by a Commissioner of Oaths / Justice of peace.

2.3 Procedure

The application form must be submitted to the Registrar with the prescribed registration fee.

The Registrar will notify the candidate when he or she has been registered.

3 GISc TECHNICIAN

3.1 General

After passing a recognised examination [NQF Level 5 GISc qualification, National Diploma in Cartography or in Geographic Information Science] or equivalent qualification approved by the PLATO Educational Advisory Committee (EAC) in this category, a candidate may apply for registration subject to having completed the prescribed period of practical experience which may include a practical test.

A GISc Technician may describe himself or herself as such, and use the appropriate letters after their name (GISc T) but may only work under the personal supervision of a suitably qualified person.

3.2 Requirements

- a) A Certified copy of the relevant GISc Qualification,
- b) A Certificate confirming that a suitably qualified mentor has approved the experiential training of the candidate and that all required training has been covered.
- c) Certificate from an approved institution indicating that a practical test has been completed.
- d) The relevant application form completed before a Commissioner of Oaths / Justice of Peace.

3.3 Procedure

Submit the application form to the Registrar with the prescribed application fee.

The Registrar scrutinizes the application and decides on the acceptance of the candidate.

The Registrar notifies the candidate and, if approved, sends him or her a certificate as soon as the relevant registration fees have been paid.

If the application is not successful, the candidate may re-apply but only after the passage of two months. Another application fee will be required.

4 REGISTRATION AS GISc TECHNOLOGIST

4.1 General

After passing a recognised examination (usually a three-year Bachelor degree or equivalent GISc NQF level 6 qualification) and completing a period of practical training, a candidate may apply to be registered as a GISc Technologist.

The scrutinizing process that follows will involve a law examination and probably a practical test.

A GISc Technologist may describe him or herself as such, use the appropriate letters after his/her name (GISc Techn) and may work unsupervised. He or she may also supervise and certify the work of GISc Technicians.

4.2 Requirements

- a) A certified copy of the relevant GISc Qualification, recognised by the Education Advisory Committee.
- b) A certificate indicating that the Law Examination as prescribed for a GISc Technologist has been passed.
- c) The Full details of experience in the form of four (4) certified copies of a GISc Technologist Log Books and/or Schedules of Experience.
- d) The relevant completed application form, certified by a Commissioner of Oaths/ Justice of Peace.

4.3 Procedure

An application form to register as a GISc Technologist must be submitted to the Registrar with the prescribed application fee.

The Registrar scrutinizes the practical training of the candidate for appropriateness and completeness.

Should the practical training be accepted a ***practical test*** on any one, or a combination of the following aspects may be set:

- Data capture
- Database design
- Data manipulation
- Spatial analysis
- Cartographic design
- Map production
- Spatial information presentation
- Project management

The candidate will be notified by the Registrar of the exact task and requirements for a practical test and will be given supporting data and documentation where relevant.

The practical test, which typically takes two weeks to complete, must be finalised within three months and all records and reports returned to the Registrar for evaluation.

If considered necessary, the candidate may be notified of the date, time and place of an interview for evaluation by the Registrar or appointed panel.

The Registrar notifies the candidate of the outcome of the practical test and interview and invites the candidate to apply [in writing] together with the examination fee to sit the next available Law examination for GISc Technologist. He or she will be advised of a venue and after the examination sent a notification of success or failure.

The Registrar notifies the candidate of the outcome of the application and, if successful sends the relevant certificate.

If the application is not successful, the candidate may re-apply, but only after the passage of six months. New application fees are payable.

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