

# Assessment in Alberta

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Alberta  
Assessors'  
Association



*[www.assessor.ab.ca](http://www.assessor.ab.ca)*

# What Does an Assessor Do?

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**Prepares assessments for calculation of property taxes by:**

*Performing site inspections and collecting data for various properties such as farmland, residential, industrial, commercial, pipelines, machinery & equipment.*

*Performing appraisals to determine market value for residential, commercial and industrial properties.*

**Assessors also:**

*Justify assessments before review boards.*

*Conduct public relations with taxpayers.*

# Potential Areas for Employment

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## **Municipalities**

*As a direct employee conducting assessments ( in cities, towns, villages, summer villages, municipal districts, counties)*

## **Private Assessment Firms**

*As an agent contracted to conduct assessments*

## **Property Tax Advisors**

*As a private agent representing property owners' interests*

## **Provincial Government**

*As an employee with Municipal Affairs providing advice on property assessment issues*

## **Federal Government-Crown**

*As an employee representing federal property interests*

# Getting Started as an Accredited Municipal Assessor of Alberta (AMAA)

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**Fully accredited assessors begin as Candidate Members of the Alberta Assessors' Association. To apply as a Candidate, an applicant:**

*Works in the practice of assessment, by definition*

*Possesses a high school diploma or equivalent and is 18 years of age or older*

*Submits an application fee and relevant membership dues*

*Commits to completing requirements for the AMAA designation within eight years*

# AMAA Designation Requirements

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**The AMAA designation is achieved by completing a combination of education requirements and work experience:**

*A Diploma in appraisal and assessment*

*An income producing property demonstration report*

*A practice of assessment/ legislation in Alberta course*

*Four years of relevant work experience*

*An Oral examination*

# Education Options

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**To obtain the necessary core education requirements towards accreditation, prospective students have two options:**

*Completion of the Diploma in Urban Land Economics offered as distance learning through the University of British Columbia Sauder School of Business*

*Completion of the two-year business program at Lakeland College, Vermilion Campus, specializing in Appraisal and Assessment*

# Average Salaries (2008)

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**Approximate starting salary for new assessors**

- **\$48,000**

**Accredited assessor salary range**

- **\$60,000 - \$72,000**

# Job Benefits

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Employers in the assessment profession offer benefits competitive with other professions. When interviewed for an assessment position the prospective employer will most likely be happy to detail the available packages.

Depending on the employer, the assessment profession can provide the opportunity for extensive travel throughout the province. Those seeking less travel are often able to gain employment with larger municipalities where the travel requirement is limited.

The Assessment profession provides the opportunity to value every type of real estate found in the province. From small resort properties to giant skyscrapers, members of the AAA have at one time or another been required to test their appraisal skills in this enormous challenge.

The scope of the profession provides an opportunity not only on the technical side of valuation but also a chance to advance managerial and leadership skills. Many of the larger employers in the province have programs in place that allow advancement opportunities for those seeking fulfilment on the “people” side of the business.

# Alberta Assessors' Association Statistics

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## Membership by Type (July 2009)

Accredited	294
Candidate	189
Associate	48
Retired	50
Student	1
Public	1
Life	6
Honorary	5
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>594 Members</b>

# Alberta Assessors' Association Statistics

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## Membership Type – By Gender Type\* (July 2009)

Total Membership	426 Male = 72%	163 Female = 28%
Accredited Members	230 Male = 78%	64 Female = 22%
Candidate Members	113 Male = 60%	76 Female = 40%

\* Excludes honorary members

# Alberta Assessors' Association Statistics

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## Membership by Employer Type (July 2009)

Private Companies		123
Cities		256
Rural Municipalities	Counties – 70	104
	Towns – 7	
	MD/RM/SA - 27	
Alberta Municipal Affairs		35
MGB/Federal Government		4
Colleges		2
Associations		5
Out-of-Province		5
Retired/Life		56
Student/Public		2
Undeclared Employer		2
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>594 Members</b>

# Alberta Assessors' Association (AAA)

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