



# Becoming a Guide in New Brunswick

Licensed guides are an integral part  
of an angling and hunting experience.

## **What is a guide's role?**

Licensed guides are an integral part of a New Brunswick angling or hunting experience. They provide expertise, local knowledge and help ensure the safety and regulatory compliance of their clients. Guides also enhance the quality of experience and increase the success rate of visiting sportsmen and sportswomen.

## **What are the legal requirements concerning guides?**

The New Brunswick *Fish and Wildlife Act* requires that non-residents are accompanied by a licensed guide to hunt in the province or to angle for Atlantic salmon or other fish species on Guide Required Waters after the designated date. These waters are listed in the Fish book and the *General Angling Regulation of the Fish and Wildlife Act* and include rivers in the province that support sea-run Atlantic salmon.

## **Where can I apply for a guide licence?**

First-time applicants can apply for a guide licence at any Department of Natural Resources and Energy Development (DNRED) office. Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements to hold a New Brunswick guide licence will be assigned an appointment to write the provincial guide exam. If they successfully complete the exam, an oath of office will be administered and their application for a guide licence processed.

## Natural Resources and Energy Development Offices

Bathurst	506-547-2080	Hampton	506-832-6055
Campbellton	506-789-2336	Miramichi	506-627-4050
Canterbury	506-279-6005	Plaster Rock	506-356-6030
Chipman	506-339-7019	Richibucto	506-523-7600
Dieppe	506-856-2344	Saint-Quentin	506-235-6040
Doaktown	506-365-2001	St. George	506-755-4040
Edmundston	506-735-2040	Sussex	506-432-2008
Florenceville-Bristol	506-392-5105	Tracadie-Sheila	506-394-3636
Fredericton	506-453-2345	Welsford	506-486-6000

*List current as of February 2022*

### What types of guide licences are available?

New Brunswick guide licences include:

- 1) Professional Guide Licence (Guide I)
- 2) Licence to Accompany (Guide II)

To qualify for a guide licence you must:

- be at least 18 years of age at the time of testing,
- not have a guide licence privilege cancellation as described by the *Fish and Wildlife Act*,
- meet the residency requirements for the type of guide licence you are applying for, and
- pass the provincial guide exam.

### **Residency requirements**

Guide I licences are available to Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada as defined by the federal *Citizenship Act* and the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act*.

Guide II licence holders must be a resident of New Brunswick as defined by the provincial *Fish and Wildlife Act*.

### **Which type of guide licence is best for me?**

Guide I and Guide II licences allow the licence holder to provide both hunting and angling guiding services. However, they differ in the following ways.



## **Professional Guide Licence (Guide I)**

- For persons who wish to charge a fee or collect a reward for their guiding service.
- You may guide up to 3 clients at a time but cannot hunt or fish while guiding. Exceptions to this rule apply during certain angling situations. For example, a Professional Guide may accompany only one licensed angler while angling from a boat in Guide Required Waters. Refer to the current Fish book for additional details.
- Licence fee of \$25.



### **Licence to Accompany (Guide II)**

- For persons who want to offer a no-fee or no-reward guiding service to a visiting non-resident friend or relative.
- The holder of a Licence to Accompany may hunt or fish while guiding, but can only guide one person at a time.
- Licence fee of \$7.50.

### **Are there training requirements?**

There are no mandatory training requirements to apply for a guide licence.

## How will I be tested?

The guide exam consists of 50 multiple choice and true/false questions and tests applicants on their knowledge of legal requirements related to guiding in New Brunswick. This exam is written in person at a DNRED office where you have arranged to be tested.



Exam question categories include:

- guide licensing,
- duties and responsibilities of a guide,
- hunting laws, and
- angling laws.

The pass mark is 80%. If you fail the exam there is a 30 day mandatory waiting period before you can be retested. Guide exams may also be done orally by request.

## How can I prepare for the guide exam?

Review the following documents prior to testing:

- 1) [Hunt and Trap](#) book (regulation summary)
- 2) [Fish](#) book (regulation summary)
- 3) [Becoming a Guide in New Brunswick](#) booklet

Besides online, these documents are available at any DNRED office.

## **Can I obtain both types of guide licences?**

You are not permitted to hold both a Professional Guide Licence and a Licence to Accompany at the same time. However, guides are able to change their licence status once a year. For example, you could request to change your Professional Guide Licence to a Licence to Accompany, or your Licence to Accompany to a Professional Licence, provided that you are eligible for both types of licences.

When exchanging your guide licence, the original guide licence must be returned and the appropriate licence fee paid for the new licence. There is no refund or crediting of fees when changing your licence status.

## **How long is a guide licence valid for?**

A guide licence may be obtained at any time of the year and is valid until December 31 of the year for which it was purchased.

## **How do I renew my guide licence?**

You can renew your guide licence by email or regular mail using a renewal form available online at [Guide I](#) or [Guide II](#). Guide licences may also be renewed in person at the Public Services office in Fredericton. Refer to the last page of this booklet for Public Services' contact information.



## **Duties and responsibilities of guides**

Guides have certain duties and responsibilities when it comes to providing a quality guiding service. These involve the exercise of good judgment and common-sense treatment of their clients while ensuring that they have a proper hunting or angling licence and any other required legal documents.

As a guide you must be aware that some of your guiding duties and responsibilities are a requirement under the *Fish and Wildlife Act*.

## The *Fish and Wildlife Act*:

- requires a guide to swear an oath that they will “endeavour to prevent the illegal taking of fish and wildlife”,
- makes it an offence for a guide to fail to report to a conservation officer any violations committed by their client(s), and
- requires every guide, “so far as they are able”, to prevent their client(s) from violating fish and game laws.

These duties are important. As a guide you are responsible for your clients and can be held legally responsible for their actions.

To obtain a complete summary of laws respecting guides, the *Fish and Wildlife Act* and its regulations can be downloaded at [Acts and Regulations](#).

## Where can I obtain more information?

If you require additional information about obtaining a New Brunswick guide licence, contact any DNRED office or:

**Natural Resources and Energy Development**  
Public Services – Guides and Specialty Licences  
PO Box 6000  
Fredericton NB  
E3B 5H1

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