

POLICY TITLE	Limited Practice Register – Clinical Surgical Assistant
PURPOSE	Ensure all physicians and osteopaths who do not satisfy the criteria for independent practice registration, and who may provide limited medical services in a variety of specific settings under supervision, have the required supervision, training and competencies to practise medicine safely.
SCOPE	<p>This policy applies to physicians or osteopaths on the Limited Practice Register who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have successfully completed Alberta Health Services’ (AHS) Clinical Assistant/Surgical Assistant orientation and assessment process and • are not the most responsible physician in the care of patients. Their practise of medicine is limited to AHS assignments and must be under the supervision of their program lead or designate.
NOTES	<p>Requirements for registration under this policy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A confirmation the physician or osteopath has successfully completed AHS’ Clinical Assistant/Surgical Assistant orientation and assessment process. • Ongoing support from AHS in order to remain on the Limited Practice Register. If AHS withdraws support, this requirement for registration will no longer be met and the registration will no longer be valid. <p>Registration on the Limited Practice Register is not a pathway to independent practice. Physicians must meet the criteria for either the Provisional Register or the General Register to be eligible for independent practice.</p>

LAST REVISED: MARCH 8, 2023

APPROVED BY COUNCIL: SEPTEMBER 10, 2020

POLICY STATEMENT

Physicians or osteopaths whose training, certification and clinical practice experience does not meet the requirements for independent practice on the General Register or the Provisional Register Conditional Practice, but who have successfully completed AHS’ Clinical Assistant/Surgical Assistant orientation program. These physicians must:

- 1) Have a primary **medical degree** from a medical school listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools at the time the candidate completed the program. Otherwise, they must have a Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine degree from a school in the United States,

accredited by the American Osteopathic Association Commission on Osteopathic College Accreditation.

- 2) Have a **minimum of one year of continuous postgraduate training**. Fellowship training, community service, public service, national service, Medical Officer posts and practice experience do not meet the requirements for postgraduate training. Postgraduate training must be in a formal accredited training program that:
 - a) has defined learning objectives,
 - b) provides instruction and supervision to trainee in hospital wards, emergency departments, outpatient clinics and other hospital departments, and may include community-based clinics and office practices,
 - c) provides graduated levels of responsibility in accordance with the trainee's stage of training and success in achieving their program's training objectives,
 - d) has a formal assessment and evaluation of the trainee's performance, which leads to advancement through the program,
 - e) does not require or permit the trainee to be the most responsible physician in the management of patients and
 - f) is part of the criteria for independent practice registration in the trainee's home jurisdiction.
- 3) Have **passed the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Exam Part 1 (MCCQE1)**.
- 4) Demonstrate [English language proficiency](#), if applicable.
- 5) Have satisfactorily completed the [AHS' Clinical or Surgical Assistant orientation and assessment process](#).
- 6) Submit a satisfactory [criminal record check](#).
- 7) Demonstrate currency of practice. This includes evidence of having been in postgraduate training or independent practice within the last three years or a time period as assessed at the discretion of the Registrar.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- [English language proficiency policy](#)
- [Criminal record check policy](#)

RESPONSIBILITIES

The Registrar is given the authority to determine applications for registration under sections 28 to 30 of the *Health Professions Act* (HPA). Section 20 of the HPA allows the Registrar to delegate functions and duties to another person. The Registrar has delegated his duties and responsibility under Part 2 of the HPA to the Deputy Registrar responsible for registration.

APPROVAL

Council governing the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta

AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS

- [Health Professions Act](#)
- [Health Professions Act: Physicians, Surgeons, Osteopaths and Physician Assistants](#)
- [Profession Regulation](#)
- [CPSA Bylaws](#)