

<b>POLICY TITLE</b>	<b>Conditional Practice – Specialty Discipline Practice</b>
<b>PURPOSE</b>	Ensure all physicians, surgeons and osteopaths who have not met the requirements for the General Register as a medical or surgical practitioner in a specialty discipline have the required training and competencies to practise medicine safely.
<b>SCOPE</b>	This policy applies to physicians, surgeons and osteopaths who are registered on the Provisional Register Conditional Practice as a practitioner in a medical or surgical specialty discipline. These members practise independently and are the most responsible physician in the care of their patients.
<b>NOTES</b>	<p>The Provisional Register is for regulated members who have not met the requirements for the General Register.</p> <p>The Provisional Register may be subject to terms, limitations, conditions and/or restrictions. These include but are not limited to the requirement to successfully complete a Practice Readiness Assessment.</p> <p>Registration on the Provisional Register is valid for a maximum of six years unless an extension is granted by the Registrar in extenuating circumstances in accordance with the Physicians, Surgeons and Osteopaths Profession Regulations</p> <p>Physicians must meet certain criteria in order to transfer to the General Register. Ongoing sponsorship is a condition of registration on the Provisional Register.</p>

**LAST REVISED:**     **March 28, 2024**

## POLICY STATEMENT

Physicians, surgeons and osteopaths in the practice of a specialty discipline who have **not** met the requirements for the General Register may take one of two routes to obtain a provisional permit. They must meet specific criteria—outlined below—for their route:

### Route 1 – Candidates must:

- 1) Have a **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 passed the **Medical Council of Canada** Qualifying Exam Part 1 (MCCQE1) or hold the equivalent United States Medical Licensure Examinations (USMLE).

- 3) Demonstrate [English language proficiency](#), if applicable.
- 4) Submit a satisfactory [criminal record check](#).
- 5) Demonstrate **currency of practice**. This includes evidence of having been in discipline-specific postgraduate training or discipline-specific independent practice for one (1) year within the last three (3) years.
- 6) Obtain an [sponsorship letter](#).
- 7) Pass a [Practice Readiness Assessment \(PRA\)](#), comprised of the **Preliminary Clinical Assessment** and a **Supervised Practice Assessment**.
- 8) Meet discipline-specific post-graduate training and certification requirements. The requirements are outlined below.
  - a. **Specialty Discipline** – The physicians must have at least 48 months of discipline- specific postgraduate training. Both the training and certification process must be substantively equivalent to that required by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). They must be able to produce a verifiable document of completion of discipline-specific training and certification.
  - b. **Subspecialty Discipline** – The physician must provide evidence that they have successfully completed discipline-specific postgraduate training. Both the training and the certification process must be substantively equivalent to that required by the RCPSC. The physician must also provide evidence they have successfully completed subspecialty discipline postgraduate training and certification.

**Route 2** – Candidates who may be eligible by [approved jurisdictions](#) must

- 1) Have a **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) Demonstrate [English language proficiency](#), if applicable.
- 3) Submit a satisfactory [criminal record check](#).
  - a. For the purposes of this Route only, candidates are required to provide a valid criminal record check from any jurisdiction where they have practiced for more than 90 days within the last five (5) years.
- 4) Demonstrate **currency of practice**.
  - a. This includes evidence of having been in discipline-specific postgraduate training or discipline-specific independent practice within the last three (3) years.
- 5) Obtain a [sponsorship letter](#).
- 6) Meet discipline-specific post-graduate training and certification requirements. The requirements are outlined below.

- a. **Specialty Discipline** – The physician must have discipline- specific postgraduate training and certification from one of the approved jurisdictions. Both the training and certification process must be substantively equivalent to that required by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC). They must be able to produce a verifiable document of completion of discipline-specific training and certification.
  - b. **Subspecialty Discipline** – The physician must provide evidence that they have successfully completed discipline-specific postgraduate training and have achieved. Both the training and the certification process must be substantively equivalent to that required by the RCPSC. The physician must also provide evidence they have successfully completed subspecialty discipline postgraduate training and certification.
- 7) Pass a [Supervised Practice Assessment](#).

**Route 3** - Physicians who don't meet the requirements for Route 1 and 2 **may** be eligible for registration on the Provisional Register. Applicants must have:

- 1) Successfully completed discipline-specific postgraduate training of a duration that is within 12 months of that required by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada for the equivalent/specific specialty discipline; and
- 2) Achieved specialty discipline certification recognized by another medical regulatory authority; and
- 3) Fulfill all the other criteria of the Provisional Register Conditional Practice

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- [English language proficiency](#)
- [Criminal record check policy](#)
- [Therapeutics Decision Making Exam \(TDM\)](#)
- [Approved jurisdictions for Route 2](#)

## 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 Assistant Registrar responsible for registration.

## APPROVAL

Council governing the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta

## AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS

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