

Provisional Register Policy

POLICY TITLE	Conditional Practice – Specialty Discipline Practice
PURPOSE	Ensure all physicians, surgeons and osteopaths who have not met the requirements for the General Register as a medical or surgical specialist have the required training and competencies to practise medicine safely.
SCOPE	This policy applies to physicians, surgeons and osteopaths who are registered on the Provisional Register Conditional Practice as a medical or surgical specialist. These members practise independently and are the most responsible physician in the care of their patients.
NOTES	<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 Alberta Health Services (AHS) sponsorship is a condition of registration on the Provisional Register.</p>

LAST REVISED: JANUARY 16, 2023

POLICY STATEMENT

Physicians, surgeons and osteopaths in the practice of a specialty discipline who have **not** met the requirements for the General Register for a medical or surgical specialist 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 [AHS sponsorship letter](#).
- 7) Pass a [Practice Readiness Assessment \(PRA\)](#), comprised of the **Preliminary Clinical Assessment** and a **Supervised Practice Assessment**.
- 8) Meet discipline-appropriate post-graduate training and certification requirements. The requirements for specialties and subspecialties are outlined below.
 - a. **Specialty** – The physicians must have at least 48 months of discipline-specific postgraduate specialty 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 specialist training and certification.
 - b. **Subspecialty** – The physician must provide evidence that they have successfully completed discipline-specific postgraduate training and have achieved specialty certification in the primary specialty. 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 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 an [AHS sponsorship letter](#).
- 6) Meet discipline-appropriate post-graduate training and certification requirements. The requirements for specialties and subspecialties are outlined below.

- a. **Specialty** – The physicians must have of discipline- specific postgraduate specialty 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 specialist training and certification.
 - b. **Subspecialty** – The physician must provide evidence that they have successfully completed discipline-specific postgraduate training and have achieved specialty certification in the primary specialty. 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 postgraduate training and certification.
- 7) Pass a [Supervised Practice Assessment](#).

Physicians who don't meet the requirements for the Provisional Register as a specialist may be eligible for registration on the Provisional Register as a non-specialist. 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; and
- 2) Achieved specialty certification recognized by another medical regulatory authority; and
- 3) Fulfil 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](#)

AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS

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