



- The Practice Guide
- Policy
- Consultations
- Positions & Initiatives
- CPGs & Other Guidelines
- Legislation & By-Laws
- Make a Complaint
- Publications
- Professionalism and Practice Program

## Pathway 2 – IMG with Canadian Postgraduate Training without RCPSC or CFPC Certification

SHARE >     

**Policy Category:** Registration  
**Under Review:** No  
**Approved by Council:** September 2008; February 2010  
**College Contact:** Registration Inquiries

Downloadable Version(s):  [Pathway 2](#)

In an effort to improve access and reduce barriers for qualified physicians, the College's Council approved groundbreaking policy in September 2008 that established four new registration pathways. The four approved pathways came into effect on December 1, 2008. Subsequently, Pathways 1, 2 and 3 were amended in February 2010 to comply with the AIT and the FMRAC National Standard. These new registration requirements vary depending on the source of the applicant's medical degree, where the applicant is currently practising and where the applicant received postgraduate training.

The Pathways are applicable to the following groups of physicians:

1. Physicians with a Canadian medical degree and postgraduate training without RCPSC or CFPC certification. See [Pathway 1](#).
2. International medical graduates (IMGs) with Canadian postgraduate training without RCPSC or CFPC certification. [See details below](#).
3. Physicians with a U.S. or Canadian medical degree or Doctor of Osteopathy degree with U.S. postgraduate training and certification. See [Pathway 3](#).
4. IMGs with US postgraduate training and certification. See [Pathway 4](#).

### Preamble

The College's registration regulation sets out the requirements which must be met in order for an applicant to be issued a certificate of registration.

If an applicant does not meet the requirements set out in the regulation it may still be possible for an applicant to qualify pursuant to one of the exemption policies.

Please note that if you currently hold a certificate of registration in any Canadian jurisdiction except Nunavut you may be eligible for registration in Ontario under new provisions of the *Health Professions Procedural Code*. See [Legislation and By-Laws](#) for more detail.

All applicants must be able to demonstrate that their past and present conduct indicates that they are mentally competent to practise medicine; will practise with decency, integrity and honesty and in accordance with the law; have sufficient knowledge, skill and judgment to engage in the kind of practice authorized by the certificate and can communicate effectively; and will display an appropriately professional attitude.

In addition to the registration regulation and policies, all applicants will also be subject to other CPSO policies and regulations which apply to current registrants. In particular, the Changing Scope of Practice and Re-entering Practice policies, and the regulation pertaining to the use of specialist titles may have relevance for new applicants. All applicants will also be subject to the College's expectations with respect to continuing professional development.

All registrants qualified under this policy will undergo an assessment after completing a minimum of one year of practice in Ontario. Assessments ensure that physicians are practising competently and safely. All physicians in Ontario undergo assessments and it is part of the College's vision of quality professionals that all physicians will be assessed every 10 years.

## Pathway 2: IMG with Canadian Postgraduate Training without RCPSC or CFPC Certification

The Registration Committee may direct the Registrar to issue a certificate of registration to an applicant who is an IMG, if the applicant has:

1. successfully completed:
  1. a Canadian residency program; or
  2. acceptable pre-1993 training;
2. successfully completed:
  1. the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examinations; or
  2. an acceptable qualifying examination; and
3. practised for five or more continuous years in Canada while holding an independent or full license or certificate of registration without restrictions but do not currently hold a certificate in a Canadian jurisdiction. <sup>1</sup>

The following conditions will be placed on the certificate of registration:

1. The physician must practice with a mentor and/or supervisor until he or she has successfully completed an assessment.
2. The physician must undergo an assessment after completing a minimum of one year of practice in Ontario. The certificate of registration automatically expires 18 months from the date of issuance, but may be renewed by the Registration Committee, with or without additional or other terms, conditions and limitations.

### How Barriers are Reduced

This policy adds another pathway to licensure for applicants who are not certified by the RCPSC or CFPC and do not currently hold a certificate in a Canadian jurisdiction. (See [footnote 1](#)). Under this policy, eligible candidates now have a route to a certificate of registration to practice medicine independently limited to their scope of practice, subject to an initial one-year period of practice under supervision (or a mentor) and successful completion of an assessment after the first year of practice. Unsuccessful completion of an assessment would result in expiry of the certificate of registration unless it is renewed by the Registration Committee, with or without additional or other terms, conditions and limitations.

<sup>1</sup> If you currently hold a certificate of registration in any Canadian jurisdiction except Nunavut you may be eligible for registration in Ontario under new provisions of the *Health Professions Procedural Code* (the "Code"). Please refer to sections 22.15 to s.22.23 of the Code, available under [Legislation and By-Laws](#).

[← Back to Policies](#)

### RELATED INFORMATION

#### Related Topics

- [Glossary of Terms](#)
- [Guidelines for College-Directed Supervision](#)

