

This Application Guide is a resource for Registrants interested in applying for the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario's (CPSO) Board of Directors (Board) Election. Included are the following:

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## Application Process

As a first step, Registrants must submit a full, complete application to be considered by the Governance and Nominating Committee (GNC) for the Election. All applications are reviewed to confirm eligibility and evaluated against the [CPSO Board Profile](#) (Profile) and the targeted attributes for the election cycle as outlined in the Notice of Election.

To be considered, your application must include two parts as listed below. Both parts must be completed and submitted by the application deadline:

1. **Complete Governance eLearning course.** This course reviews the roles and responsibilities associated with being a Board Director and those of CPSO as a regulatory body. Please contact the Governance Office at [GovSupport@cpso.on.ca](mailto:GovSupport@cpso.on.ca) to be enrolled.
2. **Submit an application [online](#)** that includes:
  - Confirmation of meeting eligibility criteria
  - A self-assessment used to determine alignment with the Board Profile
  - A Curriculum Vitae (max 3 pages)
  - A personal statement (max 300 words)

**To be considered, a complete application must be submitted by  
Friday, October 24, 2025, at 4 p.m.**

## Resources

All applicants should read and become familiar with the following information:

[CPSO's Strategic Plan](#)

[CPSO Board Profile](#)

[Declaration of Adherence Package 2025](#)

Relevant CPSO By-laws:

- [Article 2 Board Composition, Eligibility and Disqualification](#)
- [Article 3 Elections and Elected Directors](#)
- [Article 6 Meetings of the Board](#)

## Key Dates

Date	Activity
October 6, 2025	<b><u>Applications Open</u></b> The Office of the Registrar of CPSO will notify all Registrants of the application process and election.
October 24, 2025	<b><u>Applications Close (4 p.m.)</u></b> Completed applications must be submitted by 4 p.m. to be considered.
January 5–13, 2026	Interview period for selected applicant(s).
End of January / Early February 2026	<b><u>Applicants are notified if they are being recommended by the GNC for the Slate of Nominees (Slate).</u></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applicant(s) who are not included in the Slate may dispute the decision of the GNC by submitting written notice to the Registrar. Applicants will be informed of the dispute process when notified of the Slate decision.</li> <li>Applicant(s) who are included on the Slate will be given a campaign guide.</li> </ul>
February 17, 2026	<b><u>Voting Begins</u></b> Ballots emailed to all eligible Registrants for online voting.
March 10, 2026	<b><u>Voting Closes (Election Day)</u></b> Polling closes at 4 p.m. Nominees will be informed of the results once polling closes and may request a recount.
Mid March 2026	Results Posted on CPSO Website.
Fall 2026	Onboarding begins.
November 2026	Term starts at the close of the Board meeting.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. Once an applicant applies, what are the next steps?

The Governance Office will review completed applications to ensure eligibility and forward them to the GNC for review and determination of the next steps, which may include an interview. Your application will be considered complete once you have completed the application package and orientation. The Governance Office will confirm completion of your application via email.

### 2. If elected, when would I take office?

You would take office at the close of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Directors which is the last meeting of the calendar year.

**3. How long is the term of office of an Elected Director?**

The term of office for these elected positions is three years and ends at the close of the Annual Organizational Meeting of the Board of Directors.

You may run for re-election at the end of your term. Directors of the Board may serve up to three consecutive or non-consecutive terms (up to a maximum of nine years in total).

**4. I am in active practice; will I be compensated for the time away from my practice?**

Directors are paid to participate in CPSO activities as set out in the [CPSO By-laws \(Part 6, Article 12\)](#). It is important to note that if elected to the Board you are deemed to be an employee of the College by the CRA and as such you are subject to CPP and tax deductions. You will be issued a T4 for the compensation paid by CPSO.

**5. How much time will I have to commit if elected to the Board of Directors?**

Four Board meetings are held yearly, each lasting one to two days plus preparation time. Occasionally, a special Board meeting may be called.

In addition, the Ontario Physicians and Surgeons Discipline Tribunal (OPSDT) is required by law to have at least one Registrant Director sit on each panel. The expectation is that all Registrant Directors will serve on the OPSDT to help ensure the Board of Directors can fulfill its legislative obligations. Each member of OPSDT annually participates in one long hearing lasting five or more days, and two to three short hearings per year. On average, OPSDT members commit an average of 20 days per year.

**6. What happens with my personal statement if I'm on the Slate of Nominees up for Election?**

The personal statement of each nominee will be posted on CPSO's website. This information is also available in the voting system accessible through the e-ballot during the election period. The Governance Office will confirm the final content before posting.

**7. If I am elected to the Board of Directors, how will this impact my ability to serve as an active member of my professional association or the association for my medical specialty?**

Applicants should be aware that Directors are unable to hold a position which would cause them to have a conflict of interest by virtue of having competing fiduciary obligations to both CPSO and another organization. Examples include being a director or officer of the Ontario Medical Association, the Canadian Medical Protective Association, the Canadian Medical Association, the Coalition of Family Physicians and Specialists of Ontario, the Ontario Specialists Association, Canadian Association of Physician Assistants or the Ontario Physician Assistants Association. For more information about eligibility requirements, refer to the [CPSO By-laws Article 2](#).

**8. What are the expectations and limitations around social media use and political activism for applicants being considered for CPSO Board Election?**

Board Directors are held to a very high standard that goes beyond CPSO's Social Media policy, which applies to Registrants generally. In addition, Directors must recognize that effective advocacy is generally difficult to balance with their role at CPSO.

Board Directors must always consider the potential impact of all their communications, media contact, social media use and online conduct, whether public or private, on the reputation of, or public trust in, CPSO, the profession, medical self-regulation or a CPSO stakeholder (including the Ontario Medical Association, the government, medical schools and others). This applies whether the Director has or has not explicitly stated that their views do not reflect the views of CPSO. Personal advocacy and social media engagement must not compromise the reputation or impartiality of the Board or its committees.

**9. What is the on-boarding process for new Board Directors?**

Serving on the CPSO Board is a unique opportunity to contribute to CPSO's public interest mandate. New Directors are paired with experienced Board Directors who provide mentorship, guidance, and support. Board education sessions are held annually and play a vital role in providing knowledge of governance and professional regulation best practices.

**10. What if my circumstances change and I decide to withdraw from the election?**

Applicants who wish to withdraw from the election must give notice of withdrawal to CPSO in writing as soon as possible (this notice may be sent by email to [GovSupport@cpso.on.ca](mailto:GovSupport@cpso.on.ca)).

**11. Am I able to attend a Board of Directors meeting to observe prior to standing for election?**

The public may attend Board meetings, but not in-camera sessions. You can register to attend as an observer by contacting the Governance Office at [GovSupport@cpso.on.ca](mailto:GovSupport@cpso.on.ca).

Meeting dates and materials are posted [online](#).

**Do you have more questions? If so, please contact**  
**[GovSupport@cpso.on.ca](mailto:GovSupport@cpso.on.ca)**