



Provincial and territorial provisional licencing policies

Since the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada announced plans to reformat the paediatric certification examinations by 2001, residents from across Canada have wondered what impact this will have on their ability to obtain independent practice licences. The Residents Section of the Canadian Paediatric Society (CPS) has been active in monitoring the progress of the proposed changes.

The new examination format separates written and oral components by only one week early in June. The examinations will be offered to paediatric residents who are finishing their fourth year of a paediatric training program. The new examination format will be offered for the first time in June 2001, and then the examinations will be

held once annually. In the event of failure, independent practice is delayed by at least one year until the candidate attempts the examinations again.

Thus, it has become even more important for Canadian paediatric residents who have completed their postgraduate education to seek alternate forms of practice licences pending the successful completion of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada certification examinations. The Resident Section contacted each provincial and territorial licencing authority for information about licencing policies.

Table 1 provides a summary of policies regarding temporary or provisional practice licences that are available from provincial and territorial medical licencing

TABLE 1: Provincial and territorial provisional licencing policies

Province or territory	Licencing authority	Policy
British Columbia	College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia 1807 West 10th Avenue Vancouver, British Columbia V6J 2A9 Telephone 604-733-7758, fax 604-733-3503	Resident may practise with a medical degree, Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada, plus two years of accredited and approved postgraduate training. Temporary registration is available (Medical Practitioners Act, Rule 75)
Alberta	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta 900 Manulife Place, 10180-101 Street Edmonton, Alberta T5J 4P8 Telephone 403-423-4764, fax 403-420-0651	Independent practice is considered on an individual basis and requires a letter of reference from the resident's program director
Saskatchewan	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan 211 Fourth Avenue South Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 1N1 Telephone 306-244-7355, fax 306-244-0090	Provisional licence is available with a medical degree and Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada. A five-year period is given to become fully registered (Medical Profession Act, Section 29, 1981)
Manitoba	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba 494 St James Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3G 3J4 Telephone 204-774-4344, fax 204-774-0750	Conditional registration is available. Practice is limited to paediatrics

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TABLE 1: Provincial and territorial provisional licencing policies (continued)

Province or territory	Licensing authority	Policy
Ontario	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario 80 College Street Toronto, Ontario M5G 2E2 Telephone 416-967-2600 or 1-800-268-7096, fax 416-961-3330	Restricted certificate is available to practise as a clinical or surgical assistant only
Quebec	Collège des médecins du Québec 2170 boul René-Levesque Ouest Montréal, Québec H3H 2T8 Telephone 514-933-4441, fax 514-933-3112	Provisional licence is not available. Training cards are issued to continue in postgraduate training program. Resident must pass provincial specialty examinations
Nova Scotia	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Nova Scotia 5248 Morris Street Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 1B4 Telephone 902-422-5823, fax 902-422-5035	Resident may apply for a 'defined' licence
New Brunswick	College of Physicians and Surgeons of New Brunswick One Hampton Road, Suite 300 Rothsay, New Brunswick E2E 5K8 Telephone 506-849-5050 or 1-800-667-4641, fax 506-849-5069	Resident may practise as an 'uncertified specialist'
Prince Edward Island	College of Physicians and Surgeons of Prince Edward Island 199 Grafton Street Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island C1A 1L2 Telephone/fax 902-566-3861	Licensing under 'temporary' category is available
Newfoundland	Newfoundland Medical Board 139 Water Street St John's, Newfoundland A1C 1B2 Telephone 709-726-8546, fax 709-726-4725	Resident may apply for 'temporary specialist' registration (Medical Board Regulations, Section 13)
Yukon	Yukon Medical Board PO Box 2703 Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6 Telephone 867-667-5111, fax 867-667-3609	Resident may register with a medical degree and Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada
Northwest Territories	Government of the Northwest Territories PO Box 1320 Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2L9 Telephone 867-920-8058, fax 867-873-0281	Provisional licencing is not available
Nanavut	Government of the Northwest Territories	Provisional licencing is not available

authorities. In those provinces or territories where provisional licencing is not available currently, any request to consider a policy change must be made on an individual basis through direct contact with the registrar. Further de-

tails are available from the provincial or territorial registrars or by contacting the CPS office, where a complete reference file of provisional licencing policies is maintained.