

Legislative Guidance

Re-entry to or Change in Practice

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Related topic(s):	Health Professions Act

Legislative guidance provides physicians and surgeons with assistance in navigating legislation applicable to medical practice. These documents are meant to be used as a helpful resource and should be read in conjunction with the legislation they refer to.

Registrants may seek guidance on these issues by contacting the College or by seeking medical legal advice from the CMPA or other entity.

PREAMBLE

This guidance has been developed to assist registrants with respect to their re-entry to or change in focus or scope of practice.

GUIDANCE

Sections 2-7 and 2-8 of the [Bylaws](#) under the *Health Professions Act*, RSBC 1996, c.183.

CURRENCY IN PRACTICE

2-7 A registrant is deemed current for clinical practice when the registrant has practised within the scope of their certified training and recent experience, excluding research, teaching, administration or medical regulation, for at least 24 weeks in the preceding three years to the satisfaction of the College.

Re-entry to or change in focus or scope of practice

- 2-8 (1) A registrant
- (a) who is not current in clinical practice under section 2-7, must,
 - (i) notify the registrar in writing,
 - (ii) undergo a review and assessment of skill, knowledge and competency as determined by the registrar,
 - (iii) provide a written report acceptable to the registrar of successful completion of such review and assessment, and
 - (iv) undergo retraining as specified by the registrar, if any,
 - (b) who wishes to change the focus or scope of his or her clinical practice to an area in which the registrant has practised less than 24 weeks a year in the preceding three years, must, prior to applying for registration or changing the focus of his or her clinical practice,
 - (i) notify the registrar in writing,
 - (ii) undergo a review and assessment of skill, knowledge and competency as determined by the registrar,
 - (iii) provide a written report acceptable to the registrar of successful completion of such review and assessment, and
 - (iv) undergo retraining as specified by the registrar, if any, or
 - (c) who wishes to change the focus or scope of his or her clinical practice to an area in which the registrant has not previously practised or demonstrated competence to the satisfaction of the College, must, prior to changing the focus or scope of his or her practice,
 - (i) notify the registrar in writing,
 - (ii) meet the post-graduate training requirements for registration in the area in which the registrant wishes to practise,

- (iii) undergo a review and assessment of skill, knowledge and competency as determined by the registrar,
 - (iv) provide a written report acceptable to the registrar of successful completion of such review and assessment, and
 - (v) undergo retraining as specified by the registrar, if any.
- (2) A registrant may request that the board review any decision made under sections 28(1)(a), (b) or (c), by filing a written request for review with the registrar within 30 days of the registrar's original decision.
- (3) In addition to the applicable conditions and requirements established in Section B of Part 2, an applicant for registration who has previously practised medicine in British Columbia or another jurisdiction and
 - (a) who has been absent from clinical practice for a consecutive period of three years or more, or who has practised less than 24 weeks in the preceding three years, must
 - (i) undergo a review and assessment of skill, knowledge and competency as determined by the registration committee,
 - (ii) provide a written report acceptable to the registration committee of successful completion of such review and assessment, and
 - (iii) undergo retraining as specified by the registration committee, if any,
 - (b) who wishes to change the focus or scope of his or her clinical practice to an area in which he or she has practised less than 24 weeks in the preceding three years, must
 - (i) undergo a review and assessment of skill, knowledge and competency as determined by the registration committee,
 - (ii) provide a written report acceptable to the registration committee of successful completion of such review and assessment, and
 - (iii) undergo retraining as specified by the registration committee, if any, or
 - (c) who wishes to change the focus or scope of his or her clinical practice to an area in which he or she has not previously practised or demonstrated competence to the satisfaction of the College, must
 - (i) meet the post-graduate training requirements for registration in the area in which the registrant wishes to practise,
 - (ii) undergo a review and assessment of skill, knowledge and competency as determined by the registration committee,
 - (iii) provide a written report acceptable to the registration committee of successful completion of such review and assessment, and
 - (iv) undergo retraining as specified by the registration committee, if any.