



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

# Registration Policy

## Educational – Postgraduate (Fellow) Class

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidance for applicants and registrants regarding the requirements for registration and licensure in the educational – postgraduate (fellow) class.

### BACKGROUND

Section 2-28 of the College Bylaws under the *Health Professions Act* states:

#### **Educational – postgraduate (fellow)**

- 2-28 (1) Educational – postgraduate (fellow) registration may be granted to physicians who are pursuing further clinical or research training in his or her specialty and who have successfully completed all of the requirements that would allow him or her to practise as a specialist in his or her home jurisdiction.
- (2) For the purposes of section 20(2) of the Act, to be granted educational – postgraduate (fellow) registration, an applicant must
- (a) have a medical degree,
  - (b) submit with the application a request signed by the applicant, the department head or division head, and the associate dean of postgraduate medical education, UBC,
  - (c) have either
    - (i) completed the educational requirements for certification as a specialist as determined by the RCPSC, or
    - (ii) be recognized as a medical or surgical specialist in the jurisdiction of practice immediately prior to applying for registration, and
  - (d) have Canadian citizenship, be a permanent resident or be legally able to live and work in British Columbia.
- (3) A postgraduate fellow must limit his or her practice of medicine to the provision of services in connection with fulfilling the conditions or requirements of the postgraduate training program in which he or she is enrolled.
- (4) Registration as a postgraduate fellow may be granted for a limited duration not to exceed three years for the purpose of providing the applicant with an opportunity to acquire further postgraduate training in the applicant’s specialty or sub-specialty.

## POLICY

Registration in the educational – postgraduate (fellow) class may be granted to physicians who wish to pursue additional training in an established specialty and meet the requirements set out in section 2-28 of the College Bylaws. Physicians registered in this class will be limited to providing services in connection with fulfilling the conditions or requirements of the postgraduate training program.

### Guidelines

- The primary purpose of a fellowship is to provide an opportunity for education and training, not to fill a roster for clinical services.
- Registration in this class is generally granted to international medical graduates (IMGs) who intend to return to their respective countries of origin after completion of their postgraduate training program.
- Fellowships do not qualify towards establishing eligibility for Canadian licensure, certification by the College of Family Physicians of Canada, or specialty or subspecialty certification by the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada.
- The training program may involve secondary aspects such as the following:
  - research for the applicant’s supervisor or department head
  - the teaching of medical students and postgraduate residents in clinical rotation
  - provision of clinical work in the context of being a member of a clinical team, which includes attending physicians, postgraduate fellows, residents and medical students
  - limited administrative duties ancillary to the above three components

### UBC application form

It is acknowledged that the constituent parts of the fellowship program are within the purview of UBC to design. However, applicants along with UBC are urged to address the component parts at the design stage of the fellowship program in order to maximize the likelihood of successful completion of the program within three years. The form appended to the policy is intended to clarify the program design at the application stage, which will best meet the needs of the primary and secondary purposes of a fellowship.

### Effective August 31, 2020