

Associate Physician Class – Eligible Clinical Programs

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to articulate what programs are eligible, once accredited by the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC (CPSBC), to use a physician registered in the associate physician class to deliver patient care as a physician working with their program.

Background

The associate physician class allows physicians with specialty medical training or family medical training, acceptable to CPSBC, to work under supervision in structured team-based care to increase capacity and service delivery.

This class of licensure supports an employment environment for physicians in British Columbia who do not meet the criteria for licensure as independent medical practitioners.

Section 2-25 of CPSBC Bylaws under the *Health Professions Act* states:

Associate physician – acute care

- 2-25 (1) Associate physician registration may be granted to physicians, who are not otherwise eligible for registration in the provisional or full class as determined by the registration committee, and who are practicing under the direction and supervision of an attending physician. An associate physician may not be the most responsible physician.
- (2) For the purposes of section 20(2) of the Act, to be granted registration in the associate physician class, an applicant must
- (a) have a medical degree,
 - (b) submit with the application a sponsorship letter from a Health Authority, satisfactory to the registration committee, that
 - (i) identifies the applicant's sponsor,
 - (ii) describes how the applicant will engage in the practise of medicine, and
 - (iii) notes that the applicant will be working under the direction and supervision of an attending physician,

