

Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) and the Practice Eligibility Route Subspecialty Examination Affiliate Program (PER-SEAP)

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the acceptability of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) Practice Eligibility Route for the Subspecialty Examination Affiliate Program (PER-SEAP) for registrants in the provisional - specialty class.

Background

The RCPSC PER-SEAP was developed by the RCPSC for internationally trained subspecialists in Canada who are not Royal College certified in their primary specialty. The PER-SEAP will allow registrants to proceed directly to sit the examination in their subspecialty, without first having obtained RCPSC certification in their primary specialty. Upon successful completion of the subspecialty examination, the registrant will be provided with RCPSC certification as a "Royal College Subspecialist Affiliate."

The RCPSC states that an internationally trained subspecialist who does not hold RCPSC certification in their primary specialty but is licensed and practising as a subspecialist in Canada may apply to the RCPSC for an assessment through PER-SEAP. The assessment of eligibility for the RCPSC PER-SEAP is conducted by the RCPSC and not the College.

Section 1-15(3) of the College Bylaws (the Bylaws) under the *Health Professions Act (HPA)* provides the Registration Committee with the discretion to consider whether a registrant's knowledge, skills and abilities are substantially equivalent to the standards expected of registrants in British Columbia (BC):

Registration Committee

- 1-15 (3) The committee is empowered, but is in no circumstance required, to consider whether a person's knowledge, skills and abilities are substantially equivalent to the standards of academic achievement, competencies or other qualifications established in Part 2 of the Bylaws and to grant registration on that basis. If the committee proceeds to consider the substantial equivalence of a person's knowledge, skills and abilities, the committee has discretion with

apply for the RCPSC to determine eligibility for the RCPSC PER-SEAP which allows the registrant to sit the subspecialty certification examination.

A registrant may request that the Registration Committee consider whether eligibility for the RCPSC PER-SEAP and successful award of subspecialist affiliate status, in addition to the totality of the registrant's knowledge, skills and abilities, would be substantially equivalent to the expected standards pursuant to section 1-15(3) of the College Bylaws. The committee will also consider whether the subspecialist affiliate status is acceptable in lieu of RCPSC certification in their primary specialty. If deemed acceptable in lieu of RCPSC certification in their primary specialty, the registrant will be recognized by the College as holding subspecialty certification as a "PER-SEAP Candidate" and may be eligible for a transfer to the full - specialty class of registration if all other requirements for registration are met.

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