



Provisional Licence – Family Medicine

Licensing Policy

Discipline appropriate postgraduate training of a minimum duration and a formal Practice Ready Assessment (PRA) is a requirement for a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Scope

This policy applies to applicants for a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine who completed their postgraduate training program outside of Canada. This policy does not apply to the annual renewal of a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine.

Policy

Minimum Postgraduate Training Requirement:

In addition to all other licensing criteria, applicants for Provisional Licence – Family Medicine must satisfy one of the below minimum postgraduate training requirements:

1. Successful completion of a postgraduate training program that is discipline appropriate to Family Medicine and is a minimum of two years in duration; or
2. A minimum of two years of independent unsupervised clinical practice experience following successful completion of a postgraduate training program that includes:
 - a minimum of one year, but less than two years in duration and is the accepted pathway in the jurisdiction of training for Family Medicine/General Medicine; and
 - the following core rotations¹:
 - i. 8 weeks family medicine/general practice
 - ii. 4 weeks in surgery, internal medicine, pediatrics, emergency medicine, obgyn, & psychiatry

¹If there is a gap in any of the listed rotations, CPSNL may accept practice experience instead of training. Each one year of independent practice as a family physician/general practitioner that includes the rotation gap as practice experience will be considered equivalent to four weeks of postgraduate training in that area. This can cover up to three missing rotations.

To be eligible for an exception under this section, evidence of practice experience in the area(s) of postgraduate rotation(s) for which there is a gap must be provided to and accepted by CPSNL.

Practice Ready Assessment (PRA):

If an applicant meets CPSNL's eligibility requirements for a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine in Newfoundland and Labrador, the applicant shall be referred to PRA-NL for its preliminary assessment process. Applicants must successfully complete a PRA to obtain a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine.

Exceptions:

1. An applicant for a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine who is unable to show evidence of the successful completion of a PRA, but who previously held a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine from CPSNL may be issued a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine if they satisfy all other CPSNL requirements and submit an application to CPSNL within **five years** of holding a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine from CPSNL.

Oversight may be a condition of licensure for physicians obtaining a Provisional Licence – Family Medicine via this exception. The requirement of such will be determined based upon full review of the application, evidence of a previous successful oversight program, and practice history.

2. Any applicant who is able to show evidence of a successfully completed PRA from another Canadian jurisdiction to the satisfaction of CPSNL, may be exempt from this policy.
3. An applicant who has completed a Family Medicine postgraduate training program within Canada or has obtained Certification or eligibility for Certification in Family Medicine by the College of Family Physicians of Canada is exempt from having to complete a PRA.

References

[Medical Regulations, 2023](#) – Sections 6(1)(d)(i)(C)(l), 7(c) and 14(1)(j)
[CPSNS - Family Medicine – Practice Ready Assessment](#)

Document History

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