PREPARING FOR RESIDENCY REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS
A National Overview

This overview has been developed in collaboration with the Association of Faculties of Medicine of Canada. The purpose is to help you start to think about and action the steps that are needed to facilitate a faster, more efficient registration process given the compressed timelines in 2021.

This is not an exhaustive list of all of the registration requirements at each of the schools. Once you have matched you will want to review the University's specific registration requirements (see page 2).

NB: International Medical Graduates may have other requirements as well (e.g., specific mandated orientation activities, additional documentation to provide to Medical Regulatory Authorities).

Registration Requirements

Immunizations

You will be required to provide proof of updated immunizations before beginning residency. Please note the most common missing or out of date immunizations include: Tuberculin Skin Test, HIV, Hepatitis B, MMR, Tdap or Tdap-Polio. Start early as the pandemic has made it more challenging to get appointments to complete and update your immunizations. You should contact your family doctor, a walk-in clinic, or work through your current academic health centre to update your immunizations.

COVID-19 Immunization status may be required this year. Track your immunizations using CanImmunize!

Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS)

Most new PGY 1 residents will need to have valid ACLS certification to begin training.

Some programs may require ATLS and Pediatric Programs may require PALS.

Most trainees will be reimbursed for taking one of these mandatory courses prior to starting residency. Review the school websites where you think you are most likely to match to determine what courses are required and supported.

Medical Regulatory Authority

Visit the medical regulatory authority websites to learn about what you'll have to do to apply for licensure. Although you may not start the application process until you know your match result, you can become familiar with application requirements and deadlines to plan and organize accordingly. https://fmrac.ca/members/

Criminal Record Check/Vulnerable Sector Screen

Most schools and medical regulatory authorities (MRA) will require a criminal record check including a vulnerable sector screen (VSS). As these checks can take up to two-months, we recommend that you begin the process as soon as you are matched to a program.

*In Manitoba there is a specific requirement for a check through the Adult Abuse Registry.

Mandatory University/Hospital Training Modules

All schools will require the completion of 10 to 50 online training modules. In many cases you won't be able to access these until closer to your start date. Be sure you know what you have to complete and meet all of the identified deadlines.

Mask Fit Tests

As soon to be employees, if you need an updated mask fit test, or need to be fitted for a new mask, there are processes in place to do this. There are exemptions for religious reasons however, this must be reviewed at each school to understand the process, options and implications throughout residency as it varies across the country.

Professional Liability/Medical Protective Coverage

You are responsible for applying for the appropriate coverage. See information here: Canadian Medical Protective Association*

In Québec see Fédération des Médecins Résidents du Québec

University Registration Websites

Memorial University
Dalhousie University
Université de Sherbrooke
Université Laval
Université de Montréal
McGill University
University of Ottawa
Queen's University
University of Toronto
McMaster University
Western University
Northern Ontario School of Medicine
University of Manitoba
University of Saskatchewan
University of Calgary
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia