



# POLICY & PROCEDURE

Registration  
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## **TOPIC:      REQUESTS FOR LICENSURE FROM INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

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### **Preamble:**

CPM frequently receives requests from international students seeking physiotherapy licensure to undertake supervised clinical placements in Manitoba as part of their undergraduate education program. These requests may come from people who have already graduated from a physiotherapy education program and are therefore not “physiotherapy students”, or they may attend an unknown or unrecognized physiotherapy program. At other times, the education program is closer to a massage therapy, athletic therapy program or physiotherapy assistant program rather than physiotherapy program because the term “physiotherapy” may be loosely translated from another language. The Council is aware that graduates of some “physiotherapy programs” are rejected by the *Alliance* to write the entry to practice examination for licensure because the applicant’s program of study did not meet the Canadian entry to practice standard.

### **Policy:**

The Council requires that applicants for registration on the “Student Register” must have their physiotherapy education program credentialled to ensure that the program of education is substantially similar to a Canadian university entry level physiotherapy program and that the applicant is therefore qualified to be considered a “student physiotherapist”.

As part of CPM’s mandate to protect the public, the ability of the applicant to communicate in the English/French language in writing and verbally, is required.

### **Procedure:**

At least six months prior to undertaking a clinical affiliation in Manitoba, the applicant must arrange to have official documents submitted from the applicant’s university/college, which describe each course of study in the applicant’s physiotherapy education program, as well as the number of hours of study in each course and the number of clinical practice hours undertaken. Documents not in English/French must be accompanied by a notarized certified literal translation. All translations will be audited for acceptability. Original or notarized certificates, transcripts etc. are required. Photocopies are not acceptable. Documents submitted from the applicant’s university or college must come directly from the

school, not through the applicant. There is a \$50.00 fee for credentialling, which must be paid prior to the credentialling process. The fee can be paid by money order or international cheque, which can be drawn on a Canadian Bank.

The candidate will also be required to submit evidence of English/French language testing at an acceptable level of proficiency if their program of physiotherapy studies is not in the English/French language. Acceptable tests include one of the following:

- Written evidence of total score of at least 585 on the **paper-based** or 239 on the **computer based** Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with at least 50 on each of the three components on the Paper-based TOEFL or with at least 16 on Listening score, at least 18 on Structure/Writing score and at least 17 on Reading score on Computer based TOEFL, plus a score on the Test of SPOKEN ENGLISH (TSE) of at least 45.
- A total score on the MELAB (Michigan English Assessment Battery) of at least 85, plus an oral interview rating of at least 3.
- An average score on the CanTEST of at least 4 with no component lower than 4 with a minimum oral interview rating of at least 4.5.
- A score of at least 7 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).
- French language tests include the Can TEST, tests administered by the University of Ottawa or University of Toronto.

The applicant is also required to submit, in writing, dates and location(s) of the proposed clinical affiliation once successful credentialling has been completed.

This information will be provided to the Board of Assessors, which will compare this information to the physiotherapy education program at the University of Manitoba to determine substantial equivalence. If the applicant's program is substantially similar, a recommendation will be made to the Council to permit licensure on the "Students Register".

The credentialling process must be completed before the applicant arrives in Canada. Prior to commencing the clinical affiliation (including the orientation), the applicant must register with CPM by completing an application form and paying the initial processing fee.

Applicants will be advised that their ability to register with CPM as a physiotherapy student, in no way guarantees them of future licensure in Canada as a graduate physiotherapist. Foreign educated physiotherapists who undertake a clinical affiliation in Manitoba/Canada will be required to fulfil the same requirements as all foreign educated physiotherapists coming to Canada.

#### **Legislative Reference:**

*The Physiotherapists Act* Clause 13(1)(a) and (b)  
Regulations 4(1)(e) and 8