Emergency Class Policy

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Background

In August 2023, the College's registration regulation, <u>Ontario Regulation 830/93</u>, was amended to include an Emergency Class of registration. The Emergency Class exists for the sole purpose of allowing qualified registrants to provide care during an emergency.

The ability to open the Emergency Class comes into effect when the Government of Ontario or Council determines that it is in the public interest to register qualified chiropodists¹ to address emergency circumstances.² This policy outlines the circumstances in which Council, or the Executive Committee acting as Council, may open the Emergency Class.

Opening the Emergency Class

For Council, or the Executive Committee acting as Council, to open the Emergency Class, it must be satisfied that all the below criteria are met.

- 1. There must be a current or imminent public health threat that requires an urgent increased supply of qualified registrants to serve the needs of the public.
- 2. The public and/or healthcare system is negatively impacted by the emergency circumstances.
- 3. Immediate action is required to remedy the emergency circumstances.
- 4. Council, or the Executive Committee acting as Council, must be satisfied, after considering possible solutions, that opening the Emergency Class is appropriate in the circumstances.
- 5. It would be in the public interest to open Emergency Class registration.

If the Emergency Class is opened, the College must take appropriate measures to inform the public about the emergency circumstances.

Continuous Assessment

Once the Emergency Class is activated, the Registration Committee will monitor the situation and provide regular updates to Council. An assessment of the emergency circumstances will be made at each Council and Executive Committee meeting while the Emergency Class is in effect.

Closing the Emergency Class

If it is determined that the criteria which justified the opening of the Emergency Class are no longer met, the Registration Committee will recommend that Council, or the Executive Committee acting as Council, pass a motion to close the Emergency Class.

All Emergency Class certificates are automatically revoked 60 days after Council, or the Executive Committee acting as Council, determines the circumstances that led to opening the Emergency Class have ended.³

¹ Note that individuals trained as podiatrists in jurisdictions approved by Council would be eligible to be registered in the Emergency Class. These individuals would be registered as chiropodists. See O. Reg. 830/93, s. 6.1(3).

² O. Reg. 830/93, s. 6.1(1)(1).

³ O. Reg. 830/93, s. 10.1(1)(3).