Regulating Chiropodists and Podiatrists in Ontario

Policy: Returning to Practice **Date Created**: December 2023

Review Dates:

Approved By: Registration Committee

Purpose of the Policy:

The College of Chiropodists of Ontario ("College") issues certificates of registration to those who meet the qualifications set out in its Registration Regulation, made under the *Chiropody Act*, 1991.

Currency of Practice requirements for obtaining and maintaining a General Certificate of registration require that Registrants "must have engaged in clinical practice for a total of at least three months during the two years immediately preceding" the date of application or renewal ("Currency of Practice"). Criteria related to assessing Currency of Practice can be found in the College's Declaring Clinical Practice Hours Guideline.

When individuals do not meet the Currency of Practice requirement and wish to return to practice, they must satisfy the Registration Committee that they are competent to return to practice.

It is in the public interest to ensure that current or former Registrants who wish to return to practice demonstrate the knowledge, skill and judgement required to practice chiropody in a safe and effective manner.

Authority for the Policy:

Section 4(1)3 of Ontario Regulation 830/93 under the *Chiropody Act, 1991*, S.O. 1991 c. 20 ("Chiropody Act") states that to obtain a General certificate of registration, an applicant "must have engaged in clinical practice for a total of at least three months during the two years immediately preceding" the date of application.

Section 8(1)(1) of Ontario Regulation 830/93 requires that Registrants who have not engaged in clinical practice as a Chiropodist for a period or periods of at least three months during the previous two years shall not engage in the practice of chiropody until the Registrant satisfies the Registration Committee that they are competent to do so.

Section 15.1 of Ontario Regulation 830/93 outlines that former Registrants, who at the time of resignation held a General certificate of registration, may be reinstated if they meet the clinical practice requirement in section 4(1)3, among other things.

Requirements related to an application to return to practice:

In addition to the other qualifications set out in the Registration Regulation, made under the *Chiropody Act, 1991*, the Currency of Practice requirements for those applying to return to practice are outlined below.

Current Registrants:

For <u>current</u> Registrants of the College, the Registration Committee will consider the successful completion of the following requirements to establish competence:

Years absent from practice	Requirements
Under 2 years	None (Currency of Practice requirements are met)
2 – 5 years	200 hours of Supervised Clinical Practice
5 – 10 years*	Successfully complete the College's OSCE Examination, and 200 hours of Supervised Clinical Practice
10 – 15 years*	Successfully complete all components of the College's Registration Examination, and 200 hours of Supervised Clinical Practice

^{*}Successful completion of applicable examinations is required prior to completion of the Supervised Clinical Practice requirement.

Former Registrants:

For <u>former</u> Registrants of the College, the Registration Committee will consider the successful completion of the following requirements to establish competence:

Years absent from practice	Requirements
Under 2 years	None (Currency of Practice requirements are met)
2 – 5 years	200 hours of Supervised Clinical Practice
5 – 7 years*	Successfully complete the College's OSCE Examination, and 200 hours of Supervised Clinical Practice
7 – 15 years*	Successfully complete all components of the College's Registration Examination, and 200 hours of Supervised Clinical Practice

^{*}Successful completion of applicable examinations is required prior to completion of the Supervised Clinical Practice requirement.

Finding a suitable Supervisor:

Those who are required to complete hours of Supervised Clinical Practice are responsible for finding a suitable Supervisor, to be approved by the College.

The general requirements for those acting as a Supervisor are as follows:

- Meets the Currency of Practice requirements;
- Is up-to-date with College requirements, including fees and applicable Quality Assurance Program requirements;
- Has never been charged with an offence in any jurisdiction under a federal, provincial, or municipal law;
- Has never been found guilty of any offence relevant to the suitability to practice the profession;
- Is not the subject of any current investigation, inquiry or proceeding for professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity or any similar investigation or proceeding in relation to any profession in any jurisdiction;
- Has never been found guilty of professional misconduct or been found to be incompetent or incapacitated or any similar finding in relation to any profession in any jurisdiction; and,
- Does not have any current Terms, Conditions, or Limitations placed on their certificate that would impact their ability to fulfil a supervisory role.

The Supervisor will be required to submit reports to the College attesting to the competence and suitability of the supervised individual returning to practice.

Completing the College's Examinations

To better understand what is required to successfully complete components of the College's Registration Examinations, please refer to the College's <u>Registration Examination webpage</u> and it's applicable resources.

Financial Considerations

Individuals applying to return to practice are responsible for the payment of any related application fees, examination fees, or fees that may be incurred with respect to Supervised Clinical Practice.

Current and former Registrants with 15+ years absent from practice

Individuals who have not been engaged in clinical practice as a Chiropodist for over 15 years should contact the College for information about making a submission to the Registration Committee related to the requirements that they must complete to be eligible for a General Certificate. The Registration Committee may determine that new Chiropody/Podiatry education must be completed.

References:

O. Reg. 830/93: Registration Regulation

Related Policies:

Related Guidelines: <u>Declaring Clinical Practice Hours</u>