

Policy

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Background

Under the College's General Regulation¹, an applicant for registration as a member of the College must either

- i. have graduated from a program in kinesiology that was offered at the bachelor level at an Ontario university and which was at least four years in duration, or
- ii. have successfully completed a program which a panel of the Registration Committee considers to be substantially equivalent to a program referred to in (i).

This is a non-exemptible requirement. Experience, continuing professional development, and advanced degrees cannot be substituted to meet this requirement. All applicants who did not qualify for exemption under the transitional provisions (grandparenting) must satisfy the education requirement prior to attempting the entry to practice examination approved by Council.

An applicant who does not meet the non-exemptible education requirements cannot be issued a certificate of registration.

Through an extensive research and consultative process, the Council determined the core program of courses which must be completed within an individual university degree program in order for that program to be considered substantially equivalent to a four- or five-year bachelor's degree in kinesiology from an Ontario university.

The Council approved an assessment tool for use by applicants and the College in evaluating academic programs to determine whether an applicant has completed an education program which is substantially equivalent to a four or five year bachelor's degree in kinesiology from an Ontario university.

All applicants who have completed a degree that is not a four or five-year bachelor's degree in kinesiology at an Ontario university must complete and submit the Academic Assessment Form in addition to requiring their university to forward an official transcript to the College.

¹ O. Reg. 401/12 "General", s. 5(1)(a)

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to explain the minimum kinesiology-related core course requirements which must be satisfied in order for a university program to be deemed substantially equivalent to a four- or five-year bachelor's degree in kinesiology from an Ontario university, and to describe the evaluation process.

The College has identified only those courses which are relevant to the practice of kinesiology. The College understands that in order for an individual to graduate with a bachelor's degree at the honours level (four years); additional courses are required by the educational institution.

Referral of an Application to the Registration Committee

The College reviews the academic transcript of every applicant to the College. Where an applicant has submitted an Academic Assessment Form, the College assesses course materials to determine whether the courses completed by the applicant meet the core requirements defined by Council. Applicants who do not have a four or five-year bachelor's degree in kinesiology from an Ontario university are required to submit evidence of equivalency. Such evidence includes course descriptions, syllabi, learning outcomes, grading system, etc.

In some instances, the College has accumulated significant information about degree programs in Ontario which are not bachelor's degrees in kinesiology but which have been determined as meeting the substantial equivalency requirement, depending upon electives selected by students. Applicants may check with the College to determine whether submission of course syllabi is required to support the evaluation of information submitted on the Academic Assessment Form.

In evaluating the educational program information submitted by an applicant, the College considers whether previous graduates from the same program have been granted equivalency and whether the applicant has completed all of the courses described in the core requirements for substantial equivalency.

If the Registrar has doubts as to whether the education program submitted by the applicant is substantially equivalent to a four or five-year kinesiology degree from an Ontario university, the Registrar will refer the application to the Registration Committee.

When an application is referred by the Registrar to the Registration Committee, the applicant will be provided with 30 days' notice to make a submission and any additional information for consideration by a Panel of the Committee. The obligation is on the applicant to provide complete documentation concerning education.

Registration Committee Review Process

In reviewing an application referred by the Registrar because of doubts that the applicant's education program meets the requirements set out in Section 5 and described above, the Panel of the Registration Committee will consider the following:

- Official transcripts provided by post-secondary educational institutions directly to the College. Transcripts must list any credits transferred from other post-secondary institutions with the credits allowed.
- Course outlines are required and should be in the form of a course syllabus obtained directly from the educational institution. At a minimum, the following should be provided: course outline, learning outcomes, texts used, teaching methodologies (did the course include labs,

for example), grading criteria and mechanisms. These materials should be accessed directly from the educational institution. In some instances, the College will already have such course outlines from other applicants. Please check with the College to see if one has previously been provided.

- A letter from an academic department head outlining course equivalency. If the applicant took courses at a community college and an articulation agreement exists between the degree granting university and that community college, a letter should be submitted from the university outlining the equivalency of any college courses to university courses as specified in the articulation agreement.

An articulation agreement is a contract between institutions of higher learning that allow applicants who have completed a specific program at one institution to be considered for admission and assigned transfer credits in a specific program at another institution.

- The completed Academic Assessment Form.
- Any other relevant documents that the applicant feels may help to demonstrate that their education in total is substantially equivalent to a four or five-year degree in kinesiology from an Ontario university.

In addition, the Panel will consider all other information provided by the applicant in support of their application.

Registration Committee Review of the Applicant's Education Program

Applicants without a four or five-year degree in kinesiology from an Ontario university must complete the Academic Assessment Form listing courses at the university level which they feel meet the requirements stated by the College. The Panel of the Registration Committee will evaluate all materials and course descriptions and award points.

One full university course in a given subject area will comprise a minimum of 36 classroom hours (in many universities this would be 3 credits) and be awarded a point score of 2. Partial points may be awarded if the required subject matter has been included in another course. The total points awarded for any course cannot exceed 2 points. The College uses this point scoring system because not all academic institutions use the same 36 hours/3 credits system.

One full course from a public community college (CAAT) in a given subject area will be scored at 0.5. Community College courses tend to focus more on practical skills and lack the scientific depth and breadth of university-level courses. A diploma from a public community college or a private college does not satisfy the education requirement.

The College has provided brief descriptions on the Academic Assessment Form of the minimum content for each course that it requires. The form also explains the minimum courses required and the maximum that can be counted in any one area of study. An academically equivalent program includes required courses in specific areas of study and also acceptable elective courses selected from a broader group of specific areas of study related to kinesiology.

Required Courses Group A:

A minimum of one full course in each of the following core areas of kinesiology study.

- Human anatomy
- Human physiology
- Human biomechanics
- Human psychomotor learning/neuroscience
- Exercise physiology

The Panel can only award an applicant a maximum score of ten (10) points with a two (2) point maximum for each course.

Required Courses Group B:

At least two university level courses covering Assessment and Exercise Prescription.

The Panel can only award an applicant a total of three (3) points in Group B with a 2 point maximum for each course.

Required Courses Group C:

A total of two full courses from among the following:

- Health or sport psychology
- Pathology
- Ergonomics
- Principles of nutrition
- Research design, methodology, and/or statistics

The Panel can only award a maximum of four (4) points in Group C, two (2) points for each course.

Elective Courses

In addition to the minimum ten required core courses described above, applicants must have an additional five courses in kinesiology and kinesiology related areas of study. Courses used to satisfy the core requirements cannot be used again. For each area of study covered in the core courses, only one full additional course may be used to satisfy the course requirements in the electives area.

In addition to the core areas of study, elective courses may be included from the following areas of study:

- Introduction to kinesiology
- Health and physical activity
- Human growth and development
- Gerontology/physical activity/aging
- Sociology of movement/exercise/sport
- Sports medicine and rehabilitative techniques
- Individual/independent study in kinesiology
- Practicum/internship in kinesiology
- Thesis/independent research project in kinesiology
- Other kinesiology-related elective.

The Panel can only award a maximum of 10 points in this area (five courses, two points per course).

To be deemed substantially equivalent by the Panel, an applicant must achieve a minimum total of 27 points.

Possible Outcomes of the Panel's Review

Where an application has been referred because the Registrar had doubts as to whether the applicant meets the education requirements set out in the General Regulation, the Panel may make an order doing any one or more of the following:

- Directing the Registrar to issue a certificate of registration if the applicant successfully completes examinations set or approved by the panel.
- Directing the Registrar to issue a certificate of registration if the applicant successfully completes additional training specified by the panel.
- Directing the Registrar to impose specified terms, conditions and limitations on a certificate of registration of the applicant and specifying a limitation on the applicant's right to apply for a variation of those terms, conditions, or limitations.
- Directing the Registrar to refuse to issue a certificate of registration. In this instance, the applicant will not be permitted to take the examinations approved by Council and their application will be rejected.

The applicant is informed in writing of the decisions and reasons of the Panel of the Registration Committee.

Appeal of the Panel's decision

An applicant may appeal the decision of the Panel of the Registration Committee to the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board.

The applicant has 30 days in which to request a review of the decision from the Health Professions Appeal and Review Board (HPARB).