

## COLLEGE OF RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS OF ONTARIO



Title: **Approval of Canadian Education Programs**

Number: **RG-CDN Prog.Approval-408**

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### POLICY

The CRTO is responsible for setting Respiratory Therapy entry to practice requirements in the province of Ontario in the public interest. Ontario Regulation 596/94, Part VIII (Registration (s. 55(2))) sets out the requirements for registration with the College including the requirement that an applicant must:

- (a) **have successfully completed a respiratory therapy program offered in Canada that, at the time of completion, was approved or accredited by the Council or by a body approved by the Council; or**
- (b) have,
  - (i) successfully completed a program offered outside Canada either in respiratory therapy or in a closely related field that is acceptable to the Registration Committee, along with any additional education that is required by the Registration Committee, and
  - (ii) demonstrated through an assessment process acceptable to the Registration Committee that he or she has knowledge, skills and judgment equivalent to those of a person who has successfully completed a program referred to in clause (a).

The approval of Respiratory Therapy education programs is one of the mechanisms that assists the CRTO in ensuring that applicants who wish to enter the profession possess the minimum competencies required for the safe and effective practice of the profession.

This policy sets out the criteria used by the Registration Committee to recommend approval of and for Council to approve Canadian Respiratory Therapy Programs for the purposes of clause 55(2) (a) of the Registration Regulation.

In order to obtain "approved program" status, a Canadian Respiratory Therapy education program must obtain and maintain satisfactory accreditation status with the Council on Accreditation for Respiratory Therapy Education (CoARTE). The criteria applied by CoARTE are viewed by the Council as relevant to the approval of respiratory therapy education programs.

A Respiratory Therapy Program, once approved by Council, will maintain "approved" status unless the College receives information indicating that the accreditation status of the program has changed (see below).

Council reserves the right to refuse or remove approval status where it has information that an "acceptable" accreditation status does not reflect an acceptable educational program.

Graduates of Respiratory Therapy programs offered in Canada that are not accredited by CoARTE will be referred to the CRTO's assessment process. The assessment process provides a mechanism for applicants for registration to demonstrate to the Registration Committee that they have knowledge, skills and judgment equivalent to those of a graduate of an approved Respiratory Therapy program.