



# Evidence of CURRENCY

## Guide for Members in the General Class (RRTs)

The Registration Regulation ([s. 55.1](#)) imposes a condition on every General Certificate of Registration prohibiting a Member from providing direct patient care or supervising the practice of the profession, unless, at the end of every three-year period, the Member has:

1. provided evidence to the Registrar that they have practised respiratory therapy for at least 1,125 hours during the preceding three-year period; or
2. provided evidence satisfactory to the Registration Committee through some other means that the Member could meet the current standards of practice in Ontario; or
3. provided evidence of successful completion of a refresher course approved by the Registrar within the three-year period.

The purpose of this guide is to assist Members when providing evidence of currency to the CRTO.

### CRITERIA FOR CURRENCY

#### CRITERION 1

**Provide evidence to the Registrar that the Member has practised Respiratory Therapy for at least 1,125 hours during the preceding three-year period.**

Members in the General Class are required to declare on their annual renewal form whether they meet the currency requirement. There are many different ways you can meet the practice requirement. Practising Respiratory Therapy isn't limited to providing direct patient care — it can include a wide range of clinical and non-clinical activities that use your RT knowledge, skills, and judgment. This could mean teaching, managing or leading teams, doing research, developing policies, or working on quality improvement projects. What matters most is that your work supports safe, competent, and ethical care. We encourage you to review the "[Am I Practising](#)" [Fact Sheet](#) to help you determine if your practice hours can count toward meeting the currency condition.

It is important to note that 1,125 hours can be accumulated in several different ways. For example, this may translate to approximately:

- 375 hours per year (over three years); or
- 32 twelve-hour shifts per year (over three years); or
- 3 twelve-hour shifts per month (over three years); or
- 95 twelve-hour shifts (in one year).

Taking the above into consideration, if you find that you do not have the minimum practice hours, please proceed to [CRITERION 2](#) below.

## **CRITERION 2**

**Provide evidence satisfactory to the Registration Committee through some other means.**

In this scenario, you will be required to submit evidence to the Registration Committee that you can meet the current standards of practice in Ontario. This includes activities that demonstrate maintenance of competence and support the delivery of safe, ethical care. Examples of this are:

- Continuing professional development and quality improvement activities\* that you have engaged in within the past three years. This may include, but is not limited to:
  - Copies of your learning logs
  - Conference/workshop attendance (e.g., CSRT and RTSO conferences)
- Advanced Life Support Workshops (e.g., ACLS, NRP, PALS)
- Post-graduate education relevant to your Respiratory Therapy practice
- RT related research projects
- Return to work re-orientation schedules.

Members submitting evidence under CRITERION 2 will be referred to the Registration Committee. The Committee will consider, on a case-by-case basis, whether the Member could meet the current standards of practice in Ontario. For the Registration Committee's approval framework, please see Appendix A.

If the Registration Committee determines that the Member does not meet the currency condition, the Committee may permit the Member to continue to provide direct patient care subject to a term, condition or limitation on the Member's certificate of registration requiring them to practice under supervision. This condition will remain on the Member's certificate (and be noted on the public register) until they are able to provide satisfactory evidence that they meet the currency condition. A Member who does not meet the currency condition is not authorized to supervise the practice of the profession.

**\*Additional Considerations - If you are considering taking a continuing professional development and/or quality improvement activity as a means of demonstrating that you**

**meet the current standards of practice in Ontario, we strongly recommend you contact the CRTO first to determine if it is likely to be accepted.**

If you are unable to provide evidence that will be satisfactory to the Registration Committee of being able to meet the current standards of practice in Ontario, please proceed to **CRITERION 3** below.

### **CRITERION 3**

**Provide evidence of successful completion of a refresher course approved by the Registrar within the three-year period.**

Refresher courses that can be used to meet the currency condition may be delivered in-person, online, or through a hybrid format. These courses may include continuing education certificate programs, micro-credentials, or components of an academic program pathway, such as a degree or diploma. For details on the Registrar's refresher course approval framework, please refer to Appendix B.

Refresher courses that may be approved by the Registrar include, but are not limited to the following:

- **[Michener Institute of Education at UHN – Continuing Education](#)**, for example:
  - [Core Principles in Ultrasound](#)
  - [Ultrasound Guided Arterial Line Insertion](#)
  - [Certificate in Clinical Leadership and Management](#)
  - [12-Lead ECG Interpretation](#)
  - [Pediatric Physical Assessment](#)
  - [IV Insertion and Maintenance](#)
- **[Campus OPIQ](#)** (for information on how to register, please contact [OPIQ](#) at [info@opiq.qc.ca](mailto:info@opiq.qc.ca))
  - RT in the ICU (OPIQ-702)
  - Advanced Airway Management in Adults (OPIQ-701)
- **[Thompson Rivers University](#)**, for example:
  - [Cardiopulmonary Anatomy, Physiology and Introduction to Mechanical Ventilation](#)
  - [Principles and Applications of Respiratory Therapy Equipment I & II](#)
  - [Mechanical Ventilation](#)
- **[RespTrec Online Courses](#)**

The above courses are provided as examples only. Approval of the refresher courses will be determined by the Registrar on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the approval framework (see Appendix B)

**Additional Considerations - If you are considering taking a refresher course to meet the currency condition, it is strongly recommended that you contact the CRTO in advance to determine whether the course is likely to be approved.**

Members who submit evidence under **CRITERION 3** that is acceptable to the Registrar will be advised that they are again permitted to provide direct patient care or supervise the profession.

Members who submit evidence of successful completion of a refresher course that is NOT approved by the Registrar will be referred to the Registration Committee and considered under **CRITERION 2**.

For additional information, please contact the CRTO's [Registration Services](#) department.

#### **RELATED DOCUMENTS**

[General Certificate of Registration - Currency Condition](#)

[Am I Practising? Fact Sheet](#)

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College of Respiratory Therapists of Ontario**

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## APPENDIX A Registration Committee's Approval Framework for the Purpose of Meeting the Currency Condition Imposed on General Certificates of Registration

### Purpose

This framework guides the evaluation and approval of Members' submissions for the purpose of demonstrating to the Registration Committee that the Member can meet the current standards of practice in Ontario. The framework aims to ensure that "other means" submitted in lieu of the minimum practice hours support the maintenance of competence, uphold current standards of practice, and promote safe, ethical care.

### 1. General Considerations:

- Years since graduating from an approved Respiratory Therapy program
- Time and duration of last practice
- Quality and quantity of efforts to maintain currency (if applicable). For example, information about the Member's continuing professional development and quality improvement activities
- The Member's re-entry to practice plan (if applicable)
- Results of an entry-to-practice assessment (if applicable)

### 2. Evaluation of the Submitted Evidence/Activities:

#### a. Relevance of submitted evidence to the Member's area(s) of practice

##### Criteria:

- Content directly relates to the Member's role, responsibilities, or competencies
- Relevant to the scope of Respiratory Therapy practice and/or RT competencies
- Supports safe, competent, ethical, and professional Respiratory Therapy practice
- Addresses current or emerging health system needs (e.g., patient safety, digital health, cultural safety, interprofessional collaboration)

#### b. Other Considerations – where applicable

### 3. Decision Outcomes

- Approved:** The submission demonstrates that the Member can meet the current standards of practice in Ontario. The Member is permitted to provide direct patient care or supervise the profession.
- Not Approved:** The Committee may permit the Member to continue providing direct patient care under a term, condition or limitation on the Member's certificate of registration requiring them to practice under supervision.

## APPENDIX B Registrar's Approval Framework for Refresher Courses

### Purpose

This framework guides the evaluation and approval of refresher courses considered for the purpose of meeting the currency condition imposed on General Certificates of Registration. It ensures that refresher courses completed by Members in lieu of the minimum practice hours support the maintenance of competence, uphold current standards of practice, and promote safe, ethical care.

The framework can be used to assess educational courses offered by:

- Continuing education providers
- Academic institutions
- Professional associations
- Regulatory bodies
- Employers and healthcare organizations

It supports both individual and organizational learning needs, ensuring alignment with the National Competency Framework (NCF) and practice standards.

### Guiding Principles

- **Relevance:** Directly addresses identified gaps in knowledge and competency
- **Evidence Based:** Grounded in current best practices and scientific literature
- **Accessibility:** Available in formats that support diverse learning needs and contexts
- **Quality Assurance:** Designed and delivered by qualified educators with appropriate oversight and established quality improvement processes
- **Outcome Oriented:** Demonstrate measurable achievement of knowledge, competencies, or performance
- **Rigorous Evaluation:** Demonstrate evaluation measures that support the attainment of competency

#### 1. Individual Considerations:

- Years since graduating from an approved Respiratory Therapy program.
- Time and duration of last practice
- Quality and quantity of efforts to maintain currency, if applicable
- The Member's re-entry to practice plan, if applicable
- Results of an entry-to-practice assessment, if applicable

## 2. Evaluation of the Submitted Evidence/Activities:

### a. Relevance of submitted evidence to the Member's area(s) of practice

#### Criteria:

- The content is directly related to the Member's role, responsibilities, or competencies
- Relevant to the scope of Respiratory Therapy practice and/or RT competencies
- It supports safe, competent, ethical, and professional Respiratory Therapy practice
- It addresses current or emerging health system needs (e.g., patient safety, digital health, cultural safety, interprofessional collaboration)

### b. Learning Objectives

#### Criteria:

- Specific, measurable, achievable
- Mapped to targeted competencies as defined in the NCF
- Objectives are at the appropriate level

### c. Curriculum Design

#### Criteria:

- Content accuracy and currency
- Instructional methods / delivery supports learning
- Integration of clinical scenarios or case-based learning as required

### d. Instruction

- Subject matter expertise

### e. Assessment and Evaluation

- Frequent assessments of learning
- Learner feedback mechanisms

## 3. Decision Outcomes

- Approved:** The Member is permitted to provide direct patient care or supervise the profession.
- Not Approved:** The Member is referred to the Registration Committee for consideration under CRITERION 2.