How to Become a Doctor in Ontario
Information for International Medical Graduates
Opportunities and Challenges for International Medical Graduates

Introduction
The Government of Ontario recognizes the valuable contribution that qualified International Medical Graduates (IMGs) make to our healthcare system.

There are up to 200 training and assessment opportunities available in Ontario each year for IMGs seeking to practice medicine in Ontario. Specialties may vary from year to year.

To be selected for one of the 200 training and assessment positions, IMGs must go through a tough competition process. Only the most qualified candidates will be selected, based on:

• Performance on exams
• Medical experience
• Past performance in medical school
• Skills and strengths that stand out on the application

It is important to understand that because of the large number of IMGs who apply each year, and the very competitive selection process, not all candidates will be selected for a position.

Is This The Path For You?
As a physician considering immigrating to or recently arrived in Ontario, you must learn how to obtain a license to practice medicine in this province. This is called “registration.” You will need to look at your circumstances honestly and take the following factors into consideration.

• There is no guarantee that you will receive registration to practice in Ontario.
• The process for obtaining a training or assessment position and receiving registration to practice is complex, and will take time.
• You will have to be very committed, personally and financially.
• You will have to sign a Return-of-Service Commitment. This means you will have to promise to practice in an underserviced community in Ontario, where there is a shortage of doctors.

Here is a website that can help you understand how the selection and registration process works. It will also help you realistically evaluate your options: www.imginfo.ca

To find out about costs involved with this process, contact IMG-Ontario. (You will find the address and phone number on page x of this document.)
Licensing Paths for International Medical Graduates

Getting Ready
- Immigration and Settlement
- Preparing Yourself

IMG-Ontario Application and Selection
- Choose Family Medicine or Specialist Stream
- Choose Entry Level/Levels to Apply to Within Stream
- Practice Ready Assessment, Post Graduate Year 2 (PGY2)
- Post Graduate Year 1 (PGY1), Clerkship
- Apply to IMG-Ontario
- Screened for Eligibility

Eligibility Requirements
- MCCEE Test
- TOEFL Test*
- TSE Test*
* if applicable

Family Medicine
- Written Exam
- Selected candidates proceed to Clinical Exam, Interview, File review
- Selected Candidates enter program at appropriate level

Specialist
- Written Exam
- Selected candidates proceed to Clinical Exam, Interview, File review
- Selected Candidates enter program at appropriate level

Postgraduate Training/Assessment
1. Practice Ready Assessment (PRA) ~6 month assessment in a supervised clinical setting
2. Postgraduate Year 2 (PGY2)
   - Start at year 2 of residency (No PGY2 for Family Medicine Stream)
3. Postgraduate Year 1 (PGY1)
   - Start at year 1 of residency
4. Clerkship
   - 9 month clinical clerkship followed by entrance into postgraduate year 1 of residency Assessment Completion of Training Direct to Practice

Final Steps to Registration for Independent Practice in Ontario
1. First, you must be a Licentiate of the Medical Council of Canada (LMCC). A LMCC is a medical graduate who is registered in the Canadian Medical Register. In order to become a LMCC, you must have completed MCCQE Part I & Part II exams.
2. You must obtain your Certification from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) to practice as a specialist, or the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) to practice as a family physician.
3. You then apply to the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario (CPSO) to be issued a certificate of registration to practice in Ontario.