

Fair Registration Practices Report

Medical Radiation Technologists (2017)

The answers seen below were submitted to the OFC by the regulated professions.

This Fair Registration Practices Report was produced as required by:

- the Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act (FARPACTA) s. 20 and 23(1), for regulated professions named in Schedule 1 of FARPACTA
- the Health Professions Procedural Code set out in Schedule 2 of the Regulated Health Professions Act (RHPA) s. 22.7 (1) and 22.9(1), for health colleges.

Index

1. [Qualitative Information](#)
2. [Quantitative Information](#)
3. [Submission](#)

1. Qualitative Information

a) Requirements for registration, including acceptable alternatives

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

The CMRTO this year has continued to increase the use of email communications with applicants to provide information on the requirements for registration.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

The increased use of email for many communications with applicants has continued to improved the timeliness of CMRTO responses. For applicants who are not resident in Canada, using email for communications has improved the service we provide as they are able to easily obtain answers to their questions.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

The CMRTO has experienced operational efficiencies through the increased use of email communications.

b) Assessment of qualifications

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

c) Provision of timely decisions, responses, and reasons

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

In 2017, the Registration Committee has continued to focus on improving the turnaround time for an applicant to receive their decision, order and reasons, by issuing some decisions for applicants by teleconference call and expediting decisions for applicants where appropriate.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

Some applicants were again this year, when appropriate, able to receive their decision, order and reasons in less time than the normal process.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

This process has continued to increase the workload of registration staff when adding the additional meetings for this purpose.

d) Fees

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

e) Timelines

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

The changes discussed in section D around expediting some of the decisions, orders and reasons for applicants, when appropriate, have improved the timelines for some applicants.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

The changes discussed in section D around expediting the decisions, orders and reasons for applicants when appropriate have shortened the timelines for some applicants.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

f) Policies, procedures and/or processes, including by-laws

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

In October 2017, the Council of the College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO) consulted on a proposed amendment to the registration regulation made under the Medical Radiation Technology Act, 1991. The amending regulation enables the CMRTO to register diagnostic medical sonographers as a fifth specialty. It also set out the registration requirements for an applicant to be issued a certificate of registration in the new specialty. The Registration Regulation came into effect at the beginning of 2018.

In November 2017, the Council of the College of Medical Radiation Technologists of Ontario (CMRTO) consulted on proposed revisions to the CMRTO Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics in preparation for the regulation of diagnostic medical sonographers with the CMRTO. One of the key objects of the CMRTO is to develop, establish and maintain standards of practice to assure the quality of the practice of the profession. The Standards of Practice set out the minimum requirements for professional practice and conduct for members of CMRTO, and apply at all times and in all practice settings.

The CMRTO circulated a survey to all medical radiation technologists, diagnostic medical sonographers, other health professionals and members of the public to get feedback regarding the proposed revisions. Prior to finalizing the changes to the Standards of Practice and Code of Ethics, Council considered all the feedback, keeping in mind the CMRTO's mandate to protect the public interest.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

The changes, which took effect on January 1, 2018, will affect future applicants to the CMRTO in the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography. As of January 1, 2019, it will be mandatory for diagnostic medical sonographers to be registered with the CMRTO in order to practice in this specialty in Ontario.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

The registration of diagnostic medical sonographers, as a fifth specialty with the CMRTO will have significant impact on the operations of the CMRTO. The CMRTO has planned for the registration of approximately 3000 new members in the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography in 2018.

g) Resources for applicants

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

h) Review or appeal processes

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

i) Access to applicant records

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

The CMRTO in the latter part of 2017, has been transitioning to increasing use of electronic platforms for managing the applications from applicants and for facilitating Registration Committee processes. As part of this process the CMRTO has been working to move to an electronic application process for all applicants, which will become available in 2018. All records provided by the applicant are now scanned to an electronic copy. As the project further develops in 2018, it is planned that the CMRTO will return all original and notarized copies to applicants once their documents have been validated and authenticated. The CMRTO will therefore not retain any paper copies on file and will return all documents provided by applicants.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

The changes will be positive for applicants as their original or notarised copies will be returned to them.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

The Registration Committee are still becoming familiar with the new processes but have already seen some productivity improvements in reviewing information provided by applicants. The new format facilitates collaboration and is environmentally friendly as there is less printing and copying of material for circulation at meetings.

j) Training and resources for registration staff, Council, and committee members

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

All Registration Committee members participated in a general orientation to the regulatory responsibilities and requirements for self-regulation of the practice of medical radiation technology in the public interest, provided by CMRTO senior management and legal counsel.

Members of the Registration Committee and CMRTO staff involved in registration processes continue to attend the Ontario Regulators for Access Consortium (ORAC) Cultural Differences workshops, Part 1 and 2.

Members of the Registration Committee are kept abreast of issues, opportunities, changes and advances in regulation and credential evaluation through the distribution of a number of publications throughout the year including such items as WES News and Reviews, Grey Areas and other related articles.

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

Ensuring that everyone involved in the registration process is educated about registration requirements and understands the established policies and processes, helps ensure compliance to our legislative responsibilities.

In this manner the CMRTO ensures that the registration processes are transparent, objective, impartial and fair for all applicants.

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

Providing training and information to the Registration Committee and staff involved in registration, ensures that all engaged in registration processes are aware of their responsibilities and roles.

k) Mutual recognition agreements

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

l) Other (include as many items as applicable)

i. Describe any improvements / changes implemented in the last year.

No changes this year

ii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on applicants.

No changes this year

iii. Describe the impact of the improvements / changes on your organization.

No changes this year

Describe any registration-related improvements/changes to your enabling legislation and/or regulations in the last year

CMRTO's President, Wendy Rabbie, received a letter from Denise Cole, Assistant Deputy Minister, Health Workforce Planning and Regulatory Affairs Division, Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care, dated August 1, 2017 directing the CMRTO to regulate diagnostic medical sonographers under the CMRTO. CMRTO also received direction to begin the registration of diagnostic medical sonographers by January 2018.

The Registration Regulation was amended in 2017 to enable the CMRTO to regulate diagnostic medical sonographers as a fifth specialty. The Registration Regulation sets out the registration requirements for an applicant to be issued a certificate of registration in the new specialty. The regulation came into effect at the beginning of 2018. By the end of the one-year grandparenting period at the end of 2018, all individuals practising as a DMS are required to be registered as a member of the CMRTO in order to be authorized to practise diagnostic medical sonography in Ontario.

Summary of the amendments to the Registration Regulation made under the *Medical Radiation Technology Act, 1991*

Following is a summary of the changes made to the CMRTO registration regulation in order to regulate diagnostic medical sonographers with CMRTO as a fifth specialty.

1. Registration requirements during grandparenting period

Initially, there is a one-year grandparenting period starting in January 2018. The purpose of this provision is to permit those individuals working competently in diagnostic medical sonography currently or within the last three years to apply for registration as a DMS. These individuals may not have completed an approved educational program or an approved examination. Under the grandparenting provision an applicant must be, or must have been, engaged in practice in Canada within the scope of practice:

- on the day the regulation comes into force, or
- for at least 400 hours in the prior year, or
- for at least 1200 hours in the prior three years.

The applicant must also provide satisfactory evidence of their competence to practise in diagnostic medical sonography. All applicants must pay the application fee and the fee for registration required by the CMRTO by-law.

The scope of practice is the use of soundwaves for diagnostic ultrasound for the purpose of diagnostic procedures, the evaluation of images and data relating to the procedures and the assessment of an individual before, during and after the procedures.

2. Ongoing registration requirements

After the grandparenting period, the following registration requirements will apply to all individuals wishing to practise diagnostic medical sonography in Ontario:

1. An applicant must have successfully completed an approved program in the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography or a program considered by the Council to be equivalent. The approved programs are set out in Schedule 1.3 of the proposed regulation and consist of the programs currently accredited by the Canadian Medical Association Conjoint Accreditation Services Committee.
2. An applicant must have successfully completed one or more of the examinations approved by the Council.
3. An applicant must have engaged in clinical practice, or completed the approved program, within the last five years.
4. An applicant must meet all of the above requirements in the same area of practice within the specialty (ie. general sonography, cardiac sonography or vascular sonography).

If an applicant has not successfully completed an approved program or equivalent (for example, an internationally educated applicant), the applicant must satisfy the CMRTO Registration Committee that their educational program is substantially similar to an approved program and that the applicant is competent to practise diagnostic medical sonography. The requirements in the above paragraphs 2, 3 and 4 also apply.

All applicants must pay the application fee and the fee for registration required by the CMRTO by-law.

3. Specialty Certificate

The Registration Regulation provides that there will be one specialty certificate for diagnostic medical sonography. Applicants must meet all of the requirements for registration in the same area of practice within diagnostic medical sonography (general sonography, cardiac sonography or vascular sonography each being considered an area of practice) in order to be registered in the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography.

4. Title

The title assures the public that the regulated professional is legally authorized to practise the profession in Ontario.

The Registration Regulation provides that a member who is registered in the specialty of diagnostic medical sonography may use the title “medical radiation technologist – diagnostic medical sonographer” or “diagnostic medical sonographer” and the associated abbreviations, MRT(DMS) or DMS.

There is one title for all the areas of practice of diagnostic medical sonography, whether the individual has met the registration requirements in general, cardiac, and/or vascular sonography.

5. Conditions of registration

The current registration regulation requires all MRTs to engage in competent practice within every five year period in at least one of the specialties in which the member holds a certificate of registration. This provision will also apply to DMSs.

A new condition in the Registration Regulation applies to all CMRTO members: the member shall practise only in the areas in which the member is educated and experienced.

[BACK TO INDEX](#)

2. Quantitative Information

a) Languages

Indicate the languages in which application information materials were available in the reporting year.

Language	Yes/No
English	Yes
French	No

Other (please specify)

Additional comments:

b) Gender of applicants

Indicate the number of applicants in each category as applicable.

Gender	Number of Applicants
Male	0
Female	0
None of the above	0

Additional comments:

The CMRTO does not collect statistics on the gender of applicants.

c) Gender of members

Indicate the number of members in each category as applicable. Select the option that best corresponds to the terminology used by your organization.

Gender	Number of Members
Male	1698
Female	5343
None of the above	0

Additional comments:

Clarification note:
The CMRTO membership is composed of 25% male members and 75% female members.

d) Jurisdiction where applicants obtained their initial education

Indicate the number of applicants by the jurisdiction where they obtained their initial education¹ in the profession or trade.

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
			Australia 2		
			Congo, The Democratic Republic 2		
			Denmark 1		
			Germany 1		
			Finland 1		
			Egypt 1		
			India 9		
			Iran 7		
			Ireland 1		
			Israel 3		
			Kuwait 1		
			Lebanon 2		
			Nepal 1		
318	23	7	Netherlands 1	0	419
			Nigeria 2		
			Pakistan 6		
			Philippines 13		
			Portugal 1		
			Poland 1		
			Romania 1		
			Sri Lanka 1		
			Taiwan, Province Of China 1		
			Sudan 1		
			United Arab Emirates 1		
			U.K. 9		
			Zaire 1		
			Total 71		

¹ Recognizing that applicants may receive their education in multiple jurisdictions, for the purpose of this question, include only the jurisdiction in which an entry-level degree, diploma or other certification required to practice the profession or trade was obtained.

Additional comments:

e) Jurisdiction where applicants who became registered members obtained their initial education

Indicate the number of applicants who became registered members in the reporting year by the jurisdiction where they obtained their initial education¹ in the profession or trade.

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
---------	--------------------------	-----	---------------------	---------	-------

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
300	25	0	India 1 Iran 7 Jamaica 3 Pakistan 1 Philippines 6 Trinidad 1 Sri Lanka 1 Total 20	0	345

¹ Recognizing that applicants may receive their education in multiple jurisdictions, for the purpose of this question, include only the jurisdiction in which an entry-level degree, diploma or other certification required to practice the profession or trade was obtained.

Additional comments:

f) Jurisdiction where members were initially trained

Indicate the total number of registered members by jurisdiction where they obtained their initial education¹ in the profession or trade.

Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
5961	460	62	OTHER 558 Total 558	0	7041

¹ Recognizing that applicants may receive their education in multiple jurisdictions, for the purpose of this question, include only the jurisdiction in which an entry-level degree, diploma or other certification required to practice the profession or trade was obtained.

Additional comments:

g) Applications processed

Indicate the number of applications your organization processed in the reporting year:

Jurisdiction where applicants were initially trained in the profession (before they were granted use of the protected title or professional designation in Ontario)

from January 1 st to December 31 st of the reporting year	Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
New applications received	318	23	7	71	0	419
Applicants actively pursuing licensing (applicants who had some contact with your organization in the reporting year)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inactive applicants (applicants who had no contact with your organization in the reporting year)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Applicants who met all requirements and were authorized to become members but did not become members	286	0	0	0	0	286
Applicants who became FULLY registered members	300	25	0	20	0	345
Applicants who were authorized to receive an alternative class of licence³ but were not issued a licence	0	0	0	0	0	0
Applicants who were issued an alternative class of licence³	0	0	0	0	0	0

from January 1 st to December 31 st of the reporting year	Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
---	---------	--------------------------	-----	---------------------	---------	-------

¹ An alternative class of licence enables its holder to practice with limitations, but additional requirements must be met in order for the member to be fully licensed.

Additional comments:

Please note that the number of applicants who met all the requirements and were authorized to become members but did not become members is a cumulative total of all eligible applicants for the last 5 years who have not yet become members.

The rows with 0 values above reflect information that is not available.

h) Classes of certificate/license

Indicate and provide a description of the classes of certificate/license offered by your organization.

You must specify and describe at least one class of certificate/license (on line a) in order for this step to be complete.

#	Certification	Description
a)	Specialty certificate of registration	<p style="text-align: center;">Description (a)</p> <p>In 2017 the CMRTO issued specialty certificates of registration in the specialties of radiography, nuclear medicine, radiation therapy and magnetic resonance.</p>

Additional comments:

i) Reviews and appeals processed

State the number of reviews and appeals your organization processed in the reporting year (use only whole numbers; do not enter commas or decimals).

Jurisdiction where applicants were initially trained in the profession (before they were granted use of the protected title or professional designation in Ontario)

from January 1 st to December 31 st of the reporting year	Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
Applications that were subject to an internal review or that were referred to a statutory committee of your governing council, such as a Registration Committee	2	0	7	71	0	80
Applicants who initiated an appeal of a registration decision	0	0	0	0	0	0
Appeals heard	0	0	0	0	0	0
Registration decisions changed following an appeal	0	0	0	0	0	0

from January 1 st to December 31 st of the reporting year	Ontario	Other Canadian Provinces	USA	Other International	Unknown	Total
---	---------	--------------------------	-----	---------------------	---------	-------

Additional comments:

j) Paid staff

In the table below, enter the number of paid staff employed by your organization in the categories shown, on December 31 of the reporting year.

When providing information for each of the categories in this section, you may want to use decimals if you count your staff using half units. For example, one full-time employee and one part-time employee might be equivalent to 1.5 employees.

You can enter decimals to the tenths position only. For example, you can enter 1.5 or 7.5 but not 1.55 or 7.52.

Category	Staff
Total staff employed by the regulatory body	18
Staff involved in appeals process	2
Staff involved in registration process	5

Additional comments:

[BACK TO INDEX](#)

3. Submission

I hereby certify that:

Name of individual with authority to sign on behalf of the organization:
Linda Gough

Title:
Registrar & CEO

Date:
2018/02/23

[BACK TO INDEX](#)