

Draft Regulations

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Professional Code
(R.S.Q., c. C-26; 1994, c. 40)

Physiotherapists — Equivalence of diplomas and training

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Regulation respecting the standards for equivalence of diplomas and training for the issue of a physiotherapist's permit, the text of which appears below, may be submitted to the Government for approval, with or without amendment, upon the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

In accordance with paragraph *c* of section 93 of the Professional Code (R.S.Q., c. C-26), amended by section 80 of Chapter 40 of the Statutes of 1994, the Regulation provides standards to be used by the Bureau of the Order to recognize that a person's diploma or training certifies that the level of knowledge attained is equivalent to the level attained by the holder of a diploma recognized as meeting permit requirements.

According to the Order, the impact of the Regulation will be to allow the issue of a physiotherapist's permit to a person who has received a diploma issued by a teaching establishment outside Québec or who has received training that demonstrates that he has attained a level of knowledge equivalent to the level of a physiotherapist who is a member of the Order.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Mr. Paul Marcoux, syndic of the Ordre des physiothérapeutes du Québec, 1100, avenue Beaumont, bureau 530, Ville Mont-Royal (Québec), H3P 3H5, tel.: (514) 737-2770; fax: (514) 737-6431.

Any interested person having comments to make is asked to send them in writing, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the Chairman of the Office des professions du Québec, complexe de la place Jacques-Cartier, 320, rue Saint-Joseph Est, 1^{er} étage, Québec (Québec), G1K 8G5. Comments will be forwarded by the Office to the Minister responsible for the application of legislation respecting the professions; they may also be for-

warded to the professional order that has made the regulation, as well as to the persons, departments and agencies concerned.

ROBERT DIAMANT,
*Chairman of the Office
des professions du Québec*

Regulation respecting the standards for equivalence of diplomas and training for the issue of a physiotherapist's permit

Professional Code
(R.S.Q., c. C-26, s. 93, par. *c*; 1994, c. 40, s. 80)

DIVISION I EQUIVALENCE RECOGNITION PROCEDURE

1. The secretary of the Ordre professionnel des physiothérapeutes du Québec shall forward a copy of this Regulation to a candidate wishing to have his training or a diploma recognized as equivalent.

In this Regulation, "diploma equivalence" means the recognition by the Bureau of the Order that a diploma issued by a teaching establishment outside Québec certifies that a candidate's level of knowledge is equivalent, according to the standards provided for in section 6, to the level attained by the holder of a diploma recognized as meeting permit requirements.

In this Regulation, "training equivalence" means the recognition by the Bureau of the Order that a candidate's training demonstrates that he has attained a level of knowledge equivalent, according to the standards provided for in section 8, to the level attained by the holder of a diploma recognized as meeting permit requirements.

2. A candidate applying for a diploma or training equivalence shall

(1) send an application in writing to the secretary of the Order, together with the dues required for the examination of his application, which are prescribed by the Bureau of the Order, pursuant to paragraph 8 of section 86.01 of the Professional Code, enacted by section 73 of Chapter 40 of the Statutes of 1994;

(2) provide the secretary of the Order with

(a) a copy of the diploma that the candidate holds and wishes to have recognized as equivalent;

(b) a true copy of his act of birth or, failing that, of his passport or of a certificate of Canadian citizenship or proof that the candidate was legally admitted to Canada to reside there permanently;

(c) where applicable, a document attesting to the candidate's relevant work experience; and

(3) where applicable, provide an attestation of schooling, completed by the teaching establishment that issued the diploma in respect of which a diploma equivalence is applied for or by a competent authority, describing the program of study taken, particularly the courses, practical work and clinical training sessions, and forward that attestation of schooling to the secretary of the Order.

Documents provided in support of an application for a diploma or training equivalence that are written in a language other than French or English shall be accompanied by a French or English translation, attested to by a declaration made under oath by the person who did the translation.

3. The secretary shall forward to the Bureau the documents referred to in section 2. At the first meeting following the date of receipt of those documents, the Bureau shall decide whether to grant a diploma or training equivalence, in accordance with this Regulation.

4. Within 30 days following the date of its decision, the Bureau shall inform the candidate thereof in writing and, where the decision is not to grant an equivalence, shall indicate to the candidate the programs of study, the training sessions or the examinations that must be successfully completed for the equivalence to be granted.

5. A candidate who is informed of the Bureau's decision not to grant the equivalence may apply to the Bureau for a hearing, provided that he applies therefor in writing to the secretary within 30 days of the mailing of the decision.

The Bureau shall grant a hearing within 60 days following the date of receipt of an application for a hearing and, where expedient, shall revise its decision. To that end, the secretary shall convene the candidate by means of a notice in writing sent by registered mail not less than 10 days before the date of the hearing.

The Bureau's decision is final and shall be sent to the candidate in writing within 30 days following the date of the hearing.

DIVISION II STANDARDS OF EQUIVALENCE

6. A candidate holding a diploma issued by a teaching establishment outside Québec shall be granted a diploma equivalence if the diploma was issued upon completion of university studies comprising the equivalent of at least 100 credits. Each credit shall represent 15 hours of attendance in a theoretical course and 30 hours of practical work or 45 hours of clinical training, broken down as follows:

(1) between 15 and 21 credits in basic sciences;

(2) between 4 and 8 credits in behavioural sciences;

(3) between 45 and 50 credits in physiotherapy sciences;

(4) between 6 and 10 credits in administration and research;

(5) between 18 and 24 credits in clinical professional training.

7. Notwithstanding section 6, where the diploma in respect of which an equivalence application has been filed was issued 5 or more years prior to the application, a diploma equivalence shall be denied if the knowledge acquired by the candidate no longer corresponds to the knowledge currently being taught, taking into account developments in the profession.

In such case, a training equivalence may be granted in accordance with section 8 if the training and relevant work experience acquired by the candidate since being awarded the diploma have enabled him to acquire the required level of knowledge.

8. A training equivalence shall be granted if the candidate demonstrates that he has

(1) knowledge equivalent to that acquired by the holder of the diploma recognized by the Government under the first paragraph of section 184 of the Code; and

(2) relevant work experience of at least 5 years, particularly in the practice of physiotherapy.

9. To determine whether a candidate may be granted a training equivalence, the Bureau shall take all the following factors into account:

(1) the fact that the candidate holds one or more diplomas awarded in Québec or elsewhere;

(2) the courses taken, the number of credits related thereto and the results obtained, each of the credits representing 15 hours of theoretical courses and 30 hours of practical work or 45 hours of clinical training;

(3) the professional training sessions completed and other continuing or upgrading training activities;

(4) the total number of years of schooling; and

(5) the relevant work experience.

10. Where assessing a candidate's training or work experience presents such difficulties that a judgment cannot be made on his level of knowledge, the Bureau may invite that person to take an examination or to complete a training session, or both.

11. Notwithstanding section 6 and until 1 January 1999, a person who holds a diploma issued by a teaching establishment outside Québec may be granted an equivalence where the diploma comprises only 96 credits, including only 12 credits in clinical professional training.

12. This Regulation comes into force on the fifteenth day following the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.