

## Draft Regulation

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

### Respiratory therapists — Standards for diploma or training equivalence for the issuance of a permit by the Ordre

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sections 10 and 11 of the Regulations Act (R.S.Q., c. R-18.1), that the Bureau of the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec made the Regulation respecting the standards for diploma or training equivalence for the issuance of a permit by the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec at its meeting of 10 December 1999.

The Office des professions du Québec, pursuant to section 95 of the Professional Code, will examine the Regulation, the text of which appears below. Pursuant to the same section, it will then be submitted to the Government, with the recommendation of the Office. The Government may approve it, with or without amendment, upon the expiry of a 45-day period following the date of this publication.

The Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec proposes the Regulation, pursuant to paragraph c of section 93 of the Professional Code, to determine equivalence standards for diplomas conferred by teaching institutions outside Québec, for the issuance of a permit by the Ordre, and standards of training equivalence for a person who does not hold the required diploma. The Regulation will also uphold the quality of the services provided by respiratory therapists. It will have no impact on businesses, including small businesses.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Ms. Andrée Lacoursière, Assistant Director, Direction générale of the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes, 1610, rue Sainte-Catherine Ouest, bureau 409, Montréal (Québec) H3H 2S2; tel. (514) 931-2900 or 1 800 561-0029; fax (514) 931-3621.

Any interested person having comments to make on the matter is asked to send them, before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the Chairman of the Office des professions du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 10<sup>e</sup> étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5Z3. The Office will forward these comments to the Minister responsible for the ad-

ministration of legislation respecting the professions; they may also be sent to the professional order that made the Regulation, as well as to interested citizens, departments and bodies.

JEAN-K. SAMSON,  
*Chairman of the Office  
des professions du Québec*

### Regulation respecting the standards for diploma or training equivalence for the issuance of a permit by the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec

(R.S.Q., c. C-26, s. 93, par. c)

#### DIVISION I GENERAL

1. The secretary of the Order shall forward a copy of this regulation to a candidate who wishes to obtain recognition of the equivalence of a diploma awarded by an educational establishment outside Quebec or the equivalence of training for the purpose of obtaining a permit from the Order.

2. In this regulation,

1) “diploma equivalence”: means recognition by the Bureau of the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec that a diploma awarded by an educational establishment outside Québec certifies that the candidate’s level of knowledge and skills is equivalent to that of the holder of a diploma recognized as giving access to a permit issued by the Order;

2) “training equivalence”: means recognition by the Bureau of the Ordre professionnel des inhalothérapeutes du Québec that a candidate’s training has permitted the candidate to attain a level of knowledge and skills equivalent to that of the holder of a diploma recognized as giving access to a permit issued by the Order.

#### DIVISION II DIPLOMA EQUIVALENCE STANDARDS

3. Subject to section 4, a candidate who holds a diploma awarded by an educational establishment outside Québec is granted diploma equivalence if the diploma was obtained upon completion of college – or university

– level studies comprising at least 2,775 hours, or the equivalent, of learning activities, including 2,115 hours of training specific to this area of specialization and apportioned as follows:

1) at least 360 hours in subjects dealing with human biology, human anatomy, chemistry, biochemistry, and physiology;

2) at least 795 hours in subjects directly relating to professional training in respiratory therapy;

3) supervised clinical training sessions in respiratory therapy, including at least 270 hours in anaesthesia assistance.

The candidate must also have passed a program synthesis test at the end of the study program demonstrating the integration of knowledge acquired.

4. The studies must result in mastery of the following skills:

1) analysing the working dimension;

2) adopting health, safety, and asepsis measures;

3) using respiratory therapy equipment;

4) communicating with the patient, the patient's family, and the health care team;

5) combining the proper therapeutic method with a given cardiopulmonary disorder or cardiopulmonary-related disorder in an adult, child, or newborn;

6) combining the proper medication with clinical respiratory therapy and anaesthesia situations;

7) giving respiratory therapy to adults, children, and newborns;

8) recording and analysing electrocardiograms;

9) carrying out tests of pulmonary and cardiopulmonary function;

10) ensuring technical support in the case of adult and child anaesthesia;

11) evaluating the quality of mechanical ventilation in the case of adults, children, and newborns;

12) administering cardiopulmonary treatment and technique to adults, children, and newborns;

13) organizing work.

5. Notwithstanding sections 3 and 4, where the diploma that is the subject of the application for equivalence was obtained more than 3 years prior to the application and the candidate has not practised or has ceased to practise during this period, the equivalence shall be refused if the knowledge acquired by the candidate no longer corresponds, taking into account developments in the profession, to the knowledge that is imparted, at the time of the application, in a program of studies leading to a diploma recognized under government regulations as giving access to a permit.

However, equivalence shall be granted if the candidate's relevant work experience and training acquired since the diploma was awarded have allowed the candidate to reach the required level of knowledge.

### **DIVISION III** **TRAINING EQUIVALENCE STANDARDS**

6. A candidate is granted training equivalence where the candidate demonstrates theoretical and practical knowledge and skills equivalent to those acquired by the holder of a diploma recognized under the first paragraph of section 184 of the Professional Code (R.S.Q., c. C-26).

7. Notwithstanding section 6, where the training that is the subject of the application for equivalence was completed more than 3 years before the application and the candidate has not practised or has ceased to practise during this period, the equivalence shall be refused if the knowledge and skills acquired by the candidate no longer correspond, taking into account developments in the profession, to the knowledge and skills that, at the time of the application, are accumulated following a program of studies leading to a diploma recognized by government regulation as giving access to a permit.

8. In assessing the training equivalence of a candidate, the Bureau of the Order shall take into account all the following factors:

1) the nature and the number of years of the candidate's experience;

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

3) the nature and content of courses taken;

4) completed supervised clinical training sessions in respiratory therapy;

5) total number of years of schooling.

**DIVISION IV  
EQUIVALENCE OR TRAINING RECOGNITION  
PROCEDURE**

9. A candidate who wishes to obtain the recognition of diploma or training equivalence must apply in writing and provide the secretary with the following supporting documents and information, together with the fees required under paragraph 8 of section 86.0.1 of the Professional Code (R.S.Q., c. C-26):

- 1) academic record, including a description of courses taken, the number of credits or units and related hours, and results obtained;
- 2) certified true copies of diplomas awarded;
- 3) a document attesting to participation in and successful completion of all clinical training sessions in respiratory therapy;
- 4) a document attesting to and describing relevant work experience in the field of respiratory therapy;
- 5) if applicable, a document attesting to participation in continuing training or refresher activities in the field of respiratory therapy since graduation.

10. Documents in a language other than English or French submitted in support of an application must be accompanied by a translation into English or French that is certified by a sworn statement by the translator and attached to the original.

11. The person designated by the Bureau to apply this regulation shall examine applications for recognition of diploma or training equivalence and shall make the appropriate recommendations to the Bureau.

12. In deciding on a candidate's application for equivalence, the Bureau may, at its first meeting following receipt of a recommendation,

- 1) recognize the candidate's diploma or training equivalence;
- 2) recognize the candidate's diploma or training equivalence in part and inform the candidate that to obtain equivalence, one or more of the following conditions must be met;
  - a) passing of an examination set by the Bureau;

b) successful completion of a program of studies determined by the Bureau;

c) successful completion of training sessions;

3) refuse to recognize the candidate's diploma or training equivalence.

13. If the Bureau recognizes the equivalence, it shall inform the candidate, in writing, within 15 days following its decision.

If the Bureau recognizes the equivalence in part, or rejects it, it shall inform the candidate, in writing, within 15 days following its decision, indicating the number of hours and the learning activities that are missing or do not meet the requirements of section 3 and, as the case may be, the possibility of study programs, training sessions, or examinations, the successful completion of which, given the candidate's level of knowledge, would allow the candidate to receive the equivalence.

14. A candidate who is informed of the Bureau's decision not to recognize the equivalence requested may apply to the Bureau for a hearing, provided that the candidate applies to the secretary in writing within 30 days after the date on which decision is mailed.

The Bureau shall hear the candidate at the next regular meeting following the date of receipt of such application. It must summon the candidate by notice in writing sent by registered mail not less than 10 days before the date of the hearing.

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

15. This regulation replaces the Regulation respecting the standards for equivalence of diplomas awarded by educational establishments outside Québec for the issue of a permit of the Corporation professionnelle des inhalothérapeutes du Québec, approved by Order in Council 1145-93 dated August 18, 1993.

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