

8. Section 33 of this Regulation is amended:

(1) by replacing, in the first paragraph the words “makes a recommendation to the Bureau” by the words “decides whether the candidate must be granted an equivalence or not”;

(2) by replacing in the second paragraph the words “recommend to the Bureau to grant” by the word “recognize”.

9. Section 41 of this Regulation is amended by replacing the words “provides reasons for its decision to the Bureau” by the words “decides whether the candidate must be granted an equivalence or not”.

10. Section 42 of this Regulation is replaced by the following:

“**42.** Within 15 days after the date of its decision, the committee so informs the candidate in writing.

When the committee partially or entirely refuses the requested equivalence, it must notify the candidate in writing of the conditions that must be satisfied in order to obtain this equivalence.”.

11. Section 43 of this Regulation is replaced by the following:

“**43.** The candidate informed of the decision of the committee not to grant the requested equivalence or to grant it only partially may ask for this decision to be reviewed on condition that the review is requested in writing to the secretary of the committee within 30 days of receipt of this decision.

The Executive Committee, at the first regular meeting after receipt of such a request, must examine the request for review. Before reaching a decision, it must allow the candidate to submit observations to this meeting.

For this purpose, the secretary of the committee informs the candidate of the date, place and time of the meeting during which the request will be reviewed by means of written notice sent by registered mail at least 15 days before the meeting is held.

A candidate who wishes to be present to make observations must so inform the secretary of the committee at least 5 days before the date planned for the meeting. The candidate may however send written observations to the secretary of the committee before the date planned for the meeting.”.

12. Section 44 of this Regulation is replaced by the following:

“**44.** The decision of the Executive Committee is final and must be sent to the candidate by registered mail within 30 days after the date of the decision.”.

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

8113

Draft Regulation

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

Physiotherapists and physical rehabilitation therapists — Standards for 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 or a physical rehabilitation therapist’s permit, made by the Bureau of the Ordre professionnel de la physiothérapie du Québec, may be submitted to the Government which may approve it, with or without amendment, on the expiry of 45 days following this publication.

According to the Order, the purpose of the draft Regulation, which replaces the Regulation currently in force, is to update the standards for equivalence of diplomas according to the training program offered by the educational institutions that issue the diplomas giving access to a physiotherapist’s permit. The Regulation also takes into account the integration of physical rehabilitation therapists into the Order by establishing the standards for equivalence of diplomas giving access to the permit. An additional purpose is to modify the procedure for recognizing an equivalence so that a decision may be the subject of a review by persons other than those who made it.

The Regulation has no impact on enterprises, including small and medium-sized businesses.

Further information may be obtained by contacting Julie Martin, Ordre professionnel de la physiothérapie du Québec, 7151, rue Jean-Talon Est, bureau 1000,

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Any interested person having comments to make is asked to send them before the expiry of the 45-day period, to the Chair of the Office des professions du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 10^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5Z3. The comments will be forwarded by the Office to the Minister responsible for the administration of legislation respecting the professions; they may also be sent to the professional order that made the Regulation and to the persons, departments and other bodies concerned.

GAÉTAN LEMOYNE,
*Chair 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 or a physical rehabilitation therapist's permit

Professional Code
(R.S.Q., c. C-26, s. 93, pars. c, c.1)

DIVISION I GENERAL

1. This Regulation applies to every candidate for the practise of the profession who does not hold a diploma giving access to the physiotherapist's permit or physical rehabilitation therapist's permit determined by a regulation made under the first paragraph of section 184 of the Professional Code (R.S.Q., c. C-26) and who, for the purpose of obtaining a permit, applies to have a diploma issued by an educational institution outside Québec, or training received in Québec or outside Québec, recognized as equivalent.

2. In this Regulation,

“diploma equivalence” means recognition by the Bureau of the Order that a diploma issued by an educational institution outside Québec certifies that the level of competence of the diploma holder is equivalent to the level attained by the holder of a diploma giving access to the physiotherapist's permit or physical rehabilitation therapist's permit, as the case may be;

“training equivalence” means recognition by the Bureau of the Order that a candidate's training has enabled the candidate to attain a level of competence equivalent

to the level attained by the holder of a diploma recognized as giving access to a physiotherapist's permit or physical rehabilitation therapist's permit, as the case may be.

DIVISION II DIPLOMA EQUIVALENCE STANDARDS

§1. *Diploma giving access to a physiotherapist's permit*

3. The holder of a diploma issued by an educational institution outside Québec is granted a diploma equivalence if the diploma was obtained upon completion of university studies comprising a minimum of 105 credits. A credit represents 15 hours of theory and 30 hours of practice or 45 hours of clinical training. The credits must be apportioned as follows:

- (1) at least 17 credits in biological sciences;
- (2) at least 5 credits in psychosocial sciences and communication;
- (3) at least 45 credits in physiotherapy sciences;
- (4) at least 6 credits in administration and research; and
- (5) at least 19 credits in clinical professional training.

§2. *Diploma giving access to a physical rehabilitation therapist's permit*

4. The holder of a diploma issued by an educational institution outside Québec is granted a diploma equivalence if the diploma was obtained upon completion of college studies comprising a minimum of 2,745 hours of training, of which 2,085 hours must be apportioned as follows:

- (1) at least 465 hours in biology, physiology and pathophysiology;
- (2) at least 405 hours in technical intervention and electrotherapy;
- (3) at least 300 hours in rehabilitation, apportioned as follows:
 - (a) 150 hours in orthopedics and rheumatology;
 - (b) 60 hours in neurology;
 - (c) 45 hours in peripheral vascular disorders and respiratory disease; and

(d) 45 hours in geriatrics ;

(4) at least 120 hours in clinical approach and patient-practitioner relationship; and

(5) at least 750 hours in clinical training.

5. Despite sections 3 and 4, if the diploma for which an equivalence application is made was obtained three years or more before the application and, considering the developments in the profession, the knowledge certified by the diploma no longer corresponds to the knowledge currently being taught, the candidate is granted a training equivalence pursuant to section 6 if the candidate has attained the level of competence since obtaining the diploma.

DIVISION III TRAINING EQUIVALENCE STANDARDS

6. A candidate is granted a training equivalence if the candidate demonstrates, to the Bureau's satisfaction, having a level of competence equivalent to that acquired by the holder of a diploma recognized as giving access to a physiotherapist's permit or physical rehabilitation therapist's permit, as the case may be.

In assessing the training equivalence of a candidate, the Bureau must take into account the following factors:

(1) total years of education ;

(2) diplomas obtained ;

(3) the nature, content and quality of courses taken and marks obtained and the number of credits related thereto ;

(4) training periods and other training activities ; and

(5) the nature and length of relevant clinical experience.

DIVISION IV EQUIVALENCE RECOGNITION PROCEDURE

7. The secretary of the Order must send a copy of this Regulation to every person who applies or intends to apply for a diploma or training equivalence.

8. A candidate who wishes to have an equivalence recognized must apply in writing and provide the secretary with the following documents required to support the candidate's application, together with the application examination fees required by paragraph 8 of section 86.0.1 of the Professional Code:

(1) a certified true copy of all diplomas in support of the candidate's application ;

(2) a certified true copy of the transcript ;

(3) a detailed description of the program of study taken, including courses, practice and clinical training ;

(4) if applicable, a certified true copy of the permit to practise the profession issued outside Québec or proof of membership in a professional association outside Québec ;

(5) a detailed summary and a document attesting to the candidate's relevant work experience ; and

(6) a document attesting to the candidate's participation in training or upgrading activities since the diploma was obtained.

9. The candidate must provide a French or English translation of any document submitted in support of the candidate's application and written in a language other than French or English. The translation must be certified as true to the original by a member of the Ordre professionnel des traducteurs, terminologues et interprètes agréés du Québec or by an authorized consular or diplomatic representative.

10. The secretary must send the documents referred to in section 8 to a committee established by the Bureau to examine applications for a diploma or training equivalence and make a recommendation to the Bureau.

For the purpose of making an appropriate recommendation, the committee may require the candidate who applied for a diploma or training equivalence to come to an interview, to pass an examination or to complete a training period.

11. After receiving a recommendation, the Bureau must decide whether to

(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 either one or both of the following conditions must be met for the equivalence to be granted :

(a) successful completion of training courses ;

(b) successful completion of training or upgrading sessions ; or

(3) refuse to recognize the diploma or training equivalence.

12. The Bureau must inform the candidate of its decision by mail within 30 days of its decision.

13. A candidate who is informed of the Bureau's decision not to recognize the diploma or training equivalence or to recognize the equivalence in part may apply to the Bureau for a review, provided that the candidate applies to the secretary in writing within 30 days of receiving the decision.

14. The Bureau must establish a committee to decide an application for review. The Bureau is to appoint members who are not members of the Bureau or of the committee referred to in section 10.

15. The committee must, before making its decision, inform the candidate of the date on which the meeting on the application will be held and of the candidate's right to make submissions.

16. A candidate who wishes make submissions in person at the meeting must notify the secretary at least 15 days before the date scheduled for the meeting. A candidate who wishes to make written submissions must send them to the secretary within that period.

The decision of the committee is final and must be sent to the candidate by registered mail within 30 days following the date of the decision.

17. This Regulation replaces the Regulation respecting the standards for equivalence of diplomas and training for the issue of a physiotherapist's permit, approved by Order in Council 1257-96 dated 2 October 1996.

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