

Draft Regulation

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

Podiatrists

— Diploma and training equivalence standards for the issue of a permit

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 diploma and training equivalence standards for the issue of a permit by the Ordre des podiatres du Québec, made by the Bureau of the Ordre des podiatres 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.

The purpose of the Regulation is to determine, pursuant to paragraph *c* of section 93 of the Professional Code (R.S.Q., c. C-26), the equivalence standards for diplomas issued by educational institutions outside Québec that will apply for the purposes of the issuance of a permit by the Ordre des podiatres du Québec, and to determine the equivalence standards that will apply to the training of a person who does not hold the requisite permit.

The Regulation also establishes, pursuant to paragraph *c.1* of section 93 of the Professional Code, the equivalence recognition procedure whereby any review of a decision must be made by persons other than those who originally made it.

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

Further information may be obtained by contacting Jean Tanguay, Director General and Secretary, Ordre des podiatres du Québec, 300, rue du Saint-Sacrement, bureau 324, Montréal (Québec) H2Y 1X4; telephone: 514 288-0019 or 1 888 514-7433; fax: 514 288-5463; e-mail: podiatres@ordredespodiatres.qc.ca

Any person wishing to comment on the draft Regulation may submit written comments to the Chair of the Office des professions du Québec, 800, place D'Youville, 10^e étage, Québec (Québec) G1R 5Z3, within the 45-day period. The comments will be sent by the Office to the Minister responsible for the administration of legisla-

tion respecting the professions. They may also be sent to the professional order that made the Regulation and to interested persons, departments and bodies.

JEAN PAUL DUTRISAC,
*Chair of the Office
des professions du Québec*

Regulation respecting diploma and training equivalence standards for the issue of a permit by the Ordre des podiatres du Québec

Professional Code
(R.S.Q., c. C-26, s. 93, pars. *c* and *c.1* and s. 94, pars. *h* and *i*)

DIVISION I GENERAL

1. The secretary of the Ordre des podiatres du Québec must forward a copy of this Regulation to a candidate who, for the purpose of obtaining a permit from the Order, applies to have a diploma or training recognized as equivalent.

2. In this Regulation,

“credit” means the quantitative value attributed to a student’s work-load, one credit representing 45 hours of training or learning activities spent in a classroom or laboratory as part of a training period or as personal work;

“diploma equivalence” means recognition, pursuant to the Professional Code (R.S.Q., c. C-26), that a diploma issued by an educational institution outside Québec certifies that a candidate’s level of knowledge and skills is equivalent to the level attained by the holder of a diploma recognized as giving access to the permit issued by the Order;

“diploma giving access to the permit” means a diploma recognized pursuant to a regulation of the Government made under the first paragraph of section 184 of the Professional Code as giving access to the permit issued by the Order;

“training equivalence” means recognition, pursuant to the Professional Code, that a candidate’s training has enabled the candidate to attain a level of knowledge and skills equivalent to the level attained by the holder of a diploma giving access to the permit issued by the Order.

DIVISION II DIPLOMA EQUIVALENCE STANDARDS

3. A candidate who holds a diploma awarded by an educational institution outside Québec is granted a diploma equivalence if the diploma was obtained upon completion of studies at a level equivalent to university comprising a minimum of 195 credits. At least 192 of the 195 credits must be apportioned as follows:

(1) **basic sciences:** a minimum of 37 credits in anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, microbiology and histology, and at least 6 credits in community health and research methodology;

(2) **clinical sciences and podiatry:** at least 80 credits apportioned as follows:

(a) pathologies	16 credits;
(b) biomechanics	4 credits;
(c) radiology	7 credits;
(d) podiatric orthopedics	8 credits;
(e) pharmacology	5 credits;
(f) emergency care / traumatology	3 credits;
(g) podiatric surgery	10 credits;
(h) ethics and deontology	3 credits;
(i) clinical podiatry	24 credits;

(3) **clinical practicums in podiatry:** a minimum of 69 credits apportioned as follows:

(a) podiatry	18 credits;
(b) podiatric orthopedics	22 credits;
(c) podiatric surgery	20 credits;
(d) podiatric radiology	9 credits.

4. Despite section 3, if the diploma for which an equivalence application is made was obtained more than three years before the date of the application and, considering the developments in the profession, the knowledge and skills certified by the diploma no longer correspond to what is currently being taught in a program of studies leading to the issue of a diploma giving access to the permit issued by the Order, the candidate is granted a training equivalence pursuant to section 5 if the candidate has attained the required level of knowledge and skills since being awarded the diploma.

DIVISION III TRAINING EQUIVALENCE STANDARDS

5. A candidate is granted a training equivalence if the candidate demonstrates having a level of knowledge and skills equivalent to the level attained by the holder of a diploma giving access to the permit issued by the Order.

6. In assessing the training submitted in support of a training equivalence application, the Bureau is to take particular account of the following factors:

(1) the fact that the candidate holds one or more diplomas;

(2) the nature of courses taken, their content and duration in hours or number of credits earned for them;

(3) the total number of years of schooling;

(4) supervised practicums completed by the candidate in podiatric practice, and any other training or upgrading activities;

(5) the nature and duration of the candidate's experience in podiatric practice; and

(6) any contribution to the advancement of the profession of podiatry.

DIVISION IV EQUIVALENCE RECOGNITION PROCEDURE

7. A candidate wishing to have an equivalence recognized must provide the secretary with the following documents and information:

(1) a written equivalence application accompanied by the application examination fees required pursuant to paragraph 8 of section 86.0.1 of the Professional Code;

(2) the candidate's complete academic record, including a description of the courses taken, their duration in hours or the number of credits earned for them, and the corresponding transcript;

(3) a certified true copy of all diplomas held;

(4) where applicable, proof that the candidate is or was a member of an order or recognized association of podiatrists or a true copy of any permit to practice held by the candidate;

(5) where applicable, an attestation and a description of the candidate's relevant work experience in the practice of podiatry;

(6) where applicable, an attestation of successful completion of a supervised practicum or of satisfactory participation in any other training or upgrading activity relating to the practice of podiatry, and a detailed description of the content of the activity; and

(7) where applicable, any information relating to other factors the Bureau may take into account pursuant to section 6.

8. Documents in a language other than French or English submitted in support of an equivalence application must be accompanied by a French or English translation certified under oath by the translator.

9. The committee formed by the Bureau to examine equivalence applications is to make the appropriate recommendations to the Bureau.

For the purposes of an appropriate recommendation, the committee may require the candidate to sit for an interview, pass an examination or serve a practicum.

10. At the first regular meeting following the date of receipt of the committee's recommendation, the Bureau must decide

(1) to grant the diploma or training equivalence;

(2) to grant the training equivalence in part; or

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

11. The secretary must inform the candidate in writing of the Bureau's decision by registered mail within 15 days after the date of the decision.

If the Bureau refuses to grant the equivalence or grants a training equivalence in part, it must at the same time inform the candidate in writing of any programs of study, bridging programs, practicums or examinations which if successfully completed within the allotted time would enable the candidate to be granted the training equivalence. The Bureau must also inform the candidate of the candidate's right to apply for a review of the decision in accordance with section 12.

12. A candidate who is informed of the Bureau's decision not to grant the equivalence or to grant the equivalence in part may apply for review of the decision subject, however, to the review application being made to the secretary in writing within 30 days of receiving the decision.

The committee formed by the Bureau to examine review applications is composed of persons other than members of the Bureau or of the committee referred to in section 9.

Before disposing of the review application, the committee must inform the candidate of the date of the meeting at which the review application will be examined and of the candidate's right to make submissions.

A candidate who wishes to be present at the meeting to make submissions must notify the secretary at least five days before the date set for the meeting. The candidate may, however, send written submissions to the secretary at any time before the date set for the meeting.

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

13. The Provisional regulation respecting terms and conditions for issuing permits in podiatry (R.R.Q., 1981, c. P-12, r.4) is revoked.

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

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