Part Time (Fractional) Residency Training
(Based on RCPSC and CFPC Policies)

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The Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) and the College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) will consider modification to residency training. Fractional residency training must be approved by the PME office and applicable certifying college in advance of fractional component of residency training. Any resident considering fractional residency should start by having a discussion with his/her program director.

Excerpts of the policies from the 2 certifying colleges are included below.

**RCPSC:**

The Royal College Credential Committee will consider, through a confidential process, all attempts to achieve a reasonable accommodation for a resident who is seeking permission to take a modified residency training program, with the intent of seeking admission to certification examinations. The Royal College will permit modified residency training programs for residents where such modifications are necessary to prevent discrimination against residents with personal characteristics enumerated under applicable human rights legislation, except where such accommodation would impose on the Royal College. Undue hardship as used throughout includes, amongst other things, any compromise to the validity, reliability and/or integrity of the Royal College certification and examination process and outcome. Any requests for modified training must be accompanied with supporting documentation from the applicant’s program director.

Fractional residency training must be approved by the Royal College Credentials Committee. Consideration will only be given to applicants who meet all of the following conditions:
1. the Royal College Credential Committee approval must be obtained in advance of the fractional component of the residency training,

2. the reason for the fractional residency training (e.g. family responsibilities) is approved by the program director and postgraduate dean, and the Royal College Credentials Committee. Ordinarily, fractional residency training will not be approved to accommodate gainful employment,

3. the Royal College Credentials Committee will review, on a case-by-case basis, the maximum number of fractional years allowable to complete residency training,

4. within any block of residency training, the fractional commitment must equal at least 50 percent of that of a full-time resident,

5. the program director must provide a syllabus for the applicant’s entire residency program, including both fractional and full-time components, and

6. the program director must certify that the supervision and assessment of the fractional resident is at least equivalent to that of other residents in the residency program and that the total educational experience is fully equivalent to normal full-time residency.

**CFPC:**

Residents in family medicine would normally complete 24 consecutive months of training. There may be residents who will require their training schedule to be modified, interrupted or extended in order to accommodate illness, disability or other unforeseen circumstance. The postgraduate dean, on recommendation of the postgraduate director of the Department of Family Medicine, may grant modifications to training schedules under the following conditions:

1. That any part-time commitment be equal to 50 percent or more of that of a full-time resident.

2. That the overall length of the training program not exceed four years from the date the program commenced*. 

In the event that an interruption in training or a circumstance requires a resident’s schedule to extend beyond the limits outlined above, that resident must have his or her modified training schedule reviewed by the CFPC Board of Examiners to determine their eligibility for certification. It is the responsibility of the postgraduate director of the program in question to initiate this review on behalf of the resident. The CFPC Board of Examiners will review, on a case-by-case basis, the maximum number of years allowable to complete the family medicine residency training program.

*The above guidelines will apply to family medicine residents registered in enhanced skills programs of one year or less in duration, provided that the overall length of the training program does not exceed double the normal duration of training