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| **Department** | Registration |
| **Title** | Ontario Clinical Exam - Eligibility Policy |
| **Date Approved:** | May 27, 2025 |
| **Approved By:** | Registration Committee |
| **Dates Reviewed:** | April 27, 2025  May 27, 2025 |
| **Date of Next Review** | As required |
| **Version** | Replaces - Exam Eligibility Policy 2.0 effective July 20, 2022  To be archived after the OCE has been discontinued in 2026/2027 |

The Ontario Clinical Exam (OCE) was first launched in October 2022, and it continues to be offered. The Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators (CAPR) will be launching the Canadian Physiotherapy Exam (CPTE) in January 2026. The College’s Board of Directors has confirmed that successful completion this national exam will meet the College’s “examination” requirement for an Independent Practice Certificate of Registration. The other Independent Practice Certificate of Registration (IPC) eligibility requirements are outlined in [Ontario Regulation 532/98](https://www.ontario.ca/laws/regulation/980532).

Applicants seeking to register in the Provisional Practice class in Ontario and who register no later than January 31, 2026 (with possible extension) will have two options to complete their pathway to licensure:

1. Attempt and successful complete the OCE, or
2. Attempt and successfully complete the CPTE

Out of province candidates must verify that the OCE results will be accepted in their home jurisdiction, and for how long. All applications for registration with the CPO where the applicant is not eligible to work in Ontario will be referred to the Registration Committee.

**To be eligible to attempt the Ontario Clinical Exam, the individual must meet the following criteria:**

1. The exam applicant must have successfully completed the Physiotherapy Competency Exam (written) within the last five years of the date of applying for the Ontario Clinical Exam
2. The exam applicant must have Canadian citizenship, permanent resident status or an authorization under the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada) to work in Canada
3. The exam applicant must have submitted an application for a Provisional Practice certificate of registration in Ontario no later than January 31, 2026 (the date of which may be extended by the College if required), or
4. The exam applicant previously held a Provisional Practice certificate of registration in Ontario and has exam attempts available to them, meaning that they have not attempted the Physiotherapy Competency Exam – Clinical, Ontario Clinical Exam or a clinical exam alternative available in any Canadian jurisdiction more than two times. A maximum of three attempts is permitted.
5. The Registration Committee has directed that the individual attempt the OCE, or
6. The individual holds an Independent Practice certificate of registration issued by CPO which has a term, condition or limitation that requires the individual to successfully complete the OCE, or
7. The individual is the subject of an Undertaking or Agreement with the College which requires the successful completion of the OCE.

Candidates with PCE—Written results that are older than five years are required to attempt and successfully complete the national written exam again in order to be eligible for the OCE

**The following individuals will not be eligible to attempt the OCE**

1. Individuals who have attempted and been unsuccessful on 3 or more occasions at
2. the Physiotherapy Competency Exam (clinical) administered by CAPR,
3. the Ontario Clinical Exam (OCE)
4. the Canadian Physiotherapy Examination (CPTE)
5. any clinical examination or alternative pathway to registration recognized for licensure/registration in another Canadian province in a class equivalent to CPO’s Independent Practice Class and which has a pass / fail component, or
6. any combination of the above
7. Individuals who currently hold a Provisional Practice certificate (or equivalent) in another Canadian jurisdiction without also being registered in Ontario in the Provisional practice class
8. The application to attempt the OCE is received after January 31, 2026 (the date of which may be extended by the College if required)

**Managing the Transition to Practice When Not Eligible for the Ontario Clinical Exam**

Individuals who are not eligible to attempt the Ontario Clinical Exam may be eligible to take the Canadian Physiotherapy Exam (CPTE). This exam will be offered by the Canadian Alliance of Physiotherapy Regulators starting in 2026. Details about the exam eligibility criteria and registration is available on [CAPR’s website](https://alliancept.org/canadian-physiotherapy-examination/) [www.alliancept.org](https://www.alliancept.org).