GUIDELINES FOR RENEWAL OF RESTRICTIVE PERMITS

In order to practice in Quebec a physician must be eligible for a full or restrictive permit from the Collège des médecins du Québec (CMQ). This document is meant to further clarify the process of renewal and to guide new recruits in successfully completing the requirements as set by the Collège des médecins.

Renewal of a Restrictive Permit

By definition, a Restrictive Permit limits the practice of medical acts in a given specialty to one or more specific hospitals, as listed on the Restrictive Permit. The permit is issued for one year only, renewable if judged to be in the public interest.

In order to renew the restrictive permit the following conditions must be successfully completed:

1. **FRENCH LANGUAGE EXAM**: Examination on knowledge of the French language of the Collège des médecins du Québec or of the Office québécois de la langue française.
2. Completion of the required forms and payment of fees.

The Collège des médecins du Québec (CMQ) sends documentation regarding renewal and the French exam along with the initial letter of confirmation of the permit and sends reminders approximately 3 months before the expiration of the permit. It is the permit holder’s responsibility to make sure that they fulfill ALL requirements to renew. The Faculty of Medicine cannot intervene in this aspect.

An early start on the examination is strongly recommended as there are NO EXTENSIONS to the permit if this exam is not successfully passed by the required date, no matter how strong the academic dossier might be.
Anyone practicing medicine in Quebec with a restrictive permit is required to prove proficiency in the French language. They are required to pass an examination on knowledge of the French language of the Collège des médecins du Québec or of the Office québécois de la langue française.

This exam must be successfully completed before the 4th renewal of the restrictive permit however, you are required to have registered and written the exam at least once every year starting from the 1st year. There are waiting lists (as long as 4-5 months in some instances) to get an appointment to write the exam, therefore we strongly suggest that you register as early as possible. The exam has 4 components and can be written as many times as necessary to pass all 4 components within the 4 year time frame.

Please remember that during the 4 year period you MUST have written the exam at least ONCE per year until it is successfully completed.

You will have to sit for the French test held at the Office québécois de la langue française (OLF). In order to obtain the required application form to register for the test, you have to contact the Collège des médecins du Québec. You have to complete the application form and send it back to the Collège des médecins du Québec. Then, to take an appointment for the test, you will have to contact the Office québécois de la langue française. If you are successful, an attestation will be sent to the Collège and kept in your file.

For information and application forms for either of the above exams, please call the Collège at:

(514) 933-4441, ext. 5291 or 5220

EXCEPTIONS:

To be exempted from the exam, one of the following proofs is required:

- An attestation issued by the Office québécois de la langue française proving that he or she successfully passed the French test.
- A doctor in medicine diploma from a university where the language of learning was French.
- An official document attesting to having received (3) years of full-time secondary or post-secondary instruction provided in French*.
- An official document (Transcript of marks from the Ministère de l’Éducation) proving that he or she has successfully passed the fourth and fifth secondary level examinations in French as the first language.*
- An official document (transcript of marks from the Ministère de l’Éducation) proving that he or she holds a certificate of secondary school studies in Québec from and after 1985-1986.

* Charter of the French language (R.S.Q., c. C-11, s. 35)
In order to prepare for the French Language exam, the following resources are available:

**French courses:**

  Professor Hervé de Fontenay, Program Director
  French as a Second Language, Department of Languages and Translation
  688 Sherbrooke Street West, 11th floor, Suite 1181
  Montreal, Quebec   H3A 3R1
  Tel.: (514) 398-1212 / Fax: (514) 398-1769
  Email: french.conted@mcgill.ca

- **Université de Montréal** ([http://www.fep.umontreal.ca/langues/](http://www.fep.umontreal.ca/langues/))
  Faculté de l’éducation permanente
  Pavillon 3744, rue Jean-Brillant
  3e étage, local 320
  Montréal (Québec) H3T 1P1
  Tél.: (514) 343-6090, 1 800 363-8876 / Fax : (514) 343-5984
  Email: infolang@fep.umontreal.ca

- **Berlitz Language School** ([http://www.berlitz.com/](http://www.berlitz.com/))
  2020, rue University, bureau 102
  Montreal, QC   H3A 2A5 Canada
  Phone: 1.514.288.3111 / Fax: 1.514.288.9423
  Email: montreal1.lc@berlitz.ca

**Tutoring: Pass the "Office de la langue Française" exam :**

- **Taylor made French courses at your office or home**
  Flexible schedule
  Competitive Rates
  Highly Qualified teacher: 25 years teaching adults (4 years at McGill at 15 years with health professionals at the MUHC)

  *Sylvie Noe*
  (514) 259-0296
  [www.sylvienoeprofrancais.com](http://www.sylvienoeprofrancais.com)

Most universities and cegeps offer courses in French in the evenings or weekends, the above are just a few suggestions.
Converting the Restrictive Permit into a Full License

Physicians who hold a restrictive permit may convert this into a regular permit, after completion of the CMQ’s requirements. These are:

1. Have worked in the Province of Quebec for 5 consecutive years;
2. Have completed the ALDO;
3. Have passed the French exam of the Office de la langue française;
4. Have completed the necessary forms and paid the appropriate fees to the CMQ.

Eligible candidates must apply directly to the CMQ. A full permit can only be issued if the Specialty/Family Medicine Exam, the French exam and the ALDO Exam have been passed.

The CMQ’s web address is: http://www.cmq.org.

For further information you may contact us at:

Faculty of Medicine, Academic Affairs
3605 de la Montagne
Montreal, QC H3G 2M1
http://www.mcgill.ca/medicine-academic/

Angela Karkatsoulis
Program Administrator
Immigration & Professional Affairs, Office of the Dean
Tel: (514) 398-5718 / Fax: 398-4423
e-mail: immigrprof.med@mcgill.ca