

MEMORANDUM

TO: Specialty Committee in Geriatric Psychiatry
Canadian Psychiatric Association (CPA)
Canadian Academy of Geriatric Psychiatrists (CAGP)

From: Kenneth A. Harris, MD, FRCSC, Executive Director, Office of Specialty Education

Subject: Clarification regarding Application Deadline for the Practice Eligibility Route for subspecialists (PER-sub) in Geriatric Psychiatry

Date: October 16, 2013

Concern was recently raised regarding the application deadline for individuals to access the 2014 examination via the Practice Eligibility Route for subspecialists (PER-sub) in Geriatric Psychiatry.

Background

Since Geriatric Psychiatry was a new subspecialty and due to the timing of the creation of the PER-sub documentation, some flexibility was permitted in 2012 for potential applicants to the 2013 examination. The purpose of this flexibility was to allow more time for potential applicants to be aware of the availability of this pathway and prepare their application.

Issue

The deadline applicable to all subspecialties – August 31, 2013 – was applied to Geriatric Psychiatry for the 2014 examination however this has raised some concerns for two reasons: 1) the deadline was much sooner than anticipated by individuals planning to submit an application who had assumed that the extended deadline in 2012 would also be applied in 2013 and 2) although the communication of this change was posted to the Royal College website there is no formal mechanism to identify individuals who are already practicing in newly recognized disciplines such as Geriatric Psychiatry hence there was no personal communication.

Concern was also raised when potential applicants were informed that applications could still be received providing a penalty fee was paid.

Resolution for 2013

The Office of Specialty Education regrets the confusion and frustration among the Geriatric Psychiatry community. To resolve the issue, the Royal College will be extending the application deadline to **November 15, 2013** without penalty for the application cycle for the 2014 examination. Please note that any applications received after November 15, 2013 will be subject to a late fee of \$600.

Anyone wishing to submit an application is requested to complete the application process which is outlined on the Royal College website at:

http://www.royalcollege.ca/portal/page/portal/rc/credentials/start/routes/practice_eligibility_route_subspecialists/per_sub_step_one.

If you have any questions concerning the application process, please contact the Credentials Unit at credentials@royalcollege.ca.

Important Deadlines for Subsequent Examinations:

To ensure consistency with all other subspecialties, the application deadline will be August 31st of the year preceding the examination being applied for. This will be effective for the 2015 examination and onward. Therefore, important deadlines to keep in mind are:

Application Deadline:	Applicable to:
November 15, 2013	2014 examination
August 31, 2014	2015 examination
August 31, 2015	2016 examination
And so on...	

As with all subspecialties of the Royal College, applications received after the above deadlines will be subject to a late fee.