

## **Psychiatry Fellowship Q & A**

### **What is a clinical fellow?**

Clinical Fellows are Psychiatrists who have attained specialist status from their country of origin. Clinical Fellow refers to medical doctors who have successfully completed a residency training program in Canada or elsewhere and who are pursuing short term specialized fellowship training beyond the requirements of residency certification.

The University of Calgary provides up to one year of mentored, advanced training for the purpose of enhancing the skills of medical doctors who have successfully completed residency training and Board certified. Clinical Fellows train under the general supervision of a clinical supervisor at a recognized Alberta Health Services (AHS) hospital.

### **Am I eligible to apply for a clinical fellowship?**

To be eligible for a clinical fellowship, applicants must:

- Have been awarded a medical degree.
- Have successfully completed a Residency Training Program in Canada or elsewhere recently and successfully completed their countries certifying examinations.
- Be pursuing specialized training beyond the requirements of residency certification.
- Meet all College of Physicians and Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA) requirements.

### Conditions

Clinical Fellows train under the general supervision of a Clinical Supervisor at a recognized Alberta Health Services (AHS) hospital or satellite community sites.

Clinical Fellowship Training periods are temporary. Extension of the training period beyond one year must be approved by the Fellowship Committee in conjunction with the Department Head. For Clinical Fellows who are not Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada, extension of the training period is subject to approval by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC).

All Clinical Fellows must be registered through the Office of Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) and must pay all required administrative fees. Tuition fees are assessed by the University of Calgary.

### **Do I need to take the International English Language Testing System (IELTS)?**

Unless exempt, candidates must provide evidence of English Language Proficiency. Unless exempt, candidates are required to have completed the IELTS within 24 months of their application to the CPSA and achieve a minimum of 7.0 in each of the components of the academic version.

## Exemptions

A candidate is exempt from the English Language Proficiency Testing Standards if:

- The candidate's undergraduate medical education was in a Canadian university faculty of medicine where English is the language of instruction (excludes Université de Montreal, Université de Sherbrooke, Université Laval, and the University of Ottawa French programme), or
- The candidate's undergraduate medical education was in a country other than Canada where English is a first and native language (listed below):

Countries where English is a first and native language: Australia, Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada (Quebec and New Brunswick may be exceptions), Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America, US Virgin Islands, Caribbean Islands (Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Grenadines, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, and Trinidad and Tobago).

Please check the [CPSA link](#) to confirm this is the most up to date listing.

### **How do I obtain licensure in Alberta?**

Upon successful acceptance from the Psychiatry Fellowship Committee, The Postgraduate Medical Education Office (PGME) will initiate your registration with our provincial professional college; the College of Physicians & Surgeons of Alberta (CPSA). Once complete, you will be emailed a copy of your temporary practice permit. Registration is mandatory.

### **Is Professional Liability Coverage mandatory and if so, how do I obtain it?**

As a postgraduate trainee you will be required to carry professional liability coverage (Code 13) through the Canadian Medical Protective Association (CMPA).

### **Am I required to satisfy a security check?**

Under the Alberta Protection for Persons in Care Act and AHS policy, you are required to provide an original police information check (criminal record check) and vulnerable sector search obtained from your local police service prior to commencing training.

### **Are there additional requirements if I am an International Medical Graduate (IMG)?**

If you are not a Canadian citizen or permanent resident you, will be required to satisfy Canada's immigration laws and obtain a "Work Permit".

For applicants trained outside of Canada, identity and credential verification must be completed through [physiciansapply.ca](http://physiciansapply.ca). Failure to complete the credential verification process will automatically cancel the fellowship.

All Clinical Fellows must be registered through the Office of Postgraduate Medical Education (PGME) and must pay all required administrative fees. Tuition fees are assessed by the University of Calgary.

**Are there any professional start-up expenses that I should be aware of?**

All start-up expenses are the responsibility of the fellow and include but are not limited to:

U of C Tuition

PGME Administration Fee

CPSA licensing and registration fees

CMPA fee

Work Permit fees

Police/Security clearance fees

Health Insurance

All other living expenses

**Will I be provided health insurance?**

There is no health coverage benefits provided to the trainees. This is the responsibility of the trainee to obtain. Alberta Health Care Insurance is available to trainees through

<http://www.health.alberta.ca/health-care-insurance-plan.html>

**Who do I contact for more information regarding the application and registration process?**

Please contact the fellowship co-ordinator at:

[psychiatry.fellowships@ucalgary.ca](mailto:psychiatry.fellowships@ucalgary.ca)