



## PGME COVID-19 UPDATE

April 29, 2020

### CERTIFICATION EXAMINATION

The following is a summary of the status of the certification examination based on most recent information received from RCPS and CFPC (**please note important deadlines are bolded**)

#### CFPC:

- The written short answer examination will be delivered on October 13,14,15 and 16 2020
- Certification will be based on the written examination only for this exam cycle
- CFPC continues deliberations to determine a policy for candidates who are retaking this examination.
- Examination for FM EM Added Competence: the written exam is scheduled for September 14, 2020. The oral component is cancelled for this exam cycle. The exam fee has accordingly been reduced to \$1,675.00
- Applications for FM EM examination will be accepted until **June 15, 2020**

#### RCPS

- Spring examinations have been moved to the fall 2020 with hope to have these delivered in September but no date yet finalized. These will be written only exams and usual format (either MCQ/SAQ) will be preserved. No change in length of exam is anticipated.
- For unsuccessful attempt RCPS will grant an extra year of exam eligibility
- RCPS will require re-affirmation from Program Director that resident has met all required competencies and is prepared to sit the exam. This will be coordinated by RCPS directly with the universities and individual Program Directors.
- Fall examinations: there will be no change for examinations that are typically written-only format. There are 11 subspecialty examination that usually have an applied/OSCE component that is now cancelled for the 2020 exam cycle
- For unsuccessful attempt RCPS will grant an extra year of exam eligibility
- Attestation is required for this examination as well and is due back at RCPC by **July 1 2020**. RCPS will communicate directly with the university and programs regarding this documentation.
- Candidates must register for this examination no later than **June 15 2020**
- For candidates who registered for an exam that traditionally has an applied component, RCPS will refund \$2,215.00
- RCPS is anticipating being able to provide 6 weeks notice of exam dates once sites are confirmed.

## **REDEPLOYMENT**

Redeployment decisions are finalized for Block 12. Many thanks to the residents who volunteered and the Program Directors who facilitated this process. I will need to review predictions for surge planning with Critical Care to determine if this process will need to continue for Block 13.

## **RESIDENT SAFETY**

A number of resources are available to support resident safety in the midst of this pandemic. These include:

- A new document uploaded to PGME website entitled *Hospital Info: call rooms, lockers, shower, food for Calgary physicians*. Click on Covid-19 on the landing page and go to “Related Documents” You will find a detailed description of services and resources in each of the hospitals related to showering and locker facilities, nutrition options and places to rest.
- The Infectious Disease team has produced 3 outstanding instructional videos that will be uploaded to this website in next few days under Resident Safety. These were prepared by experts in the field and are intended to reduce transmission both at home and in the workplace. They address the following topics:
  - Safety before and after work
  - Continuous masking do’s and don’t
  - Living with a healthcare worker---this includes very valuable information on protecting household contacts, grocery shopping, take out food etc.

I can let you know as soon as they are available on the website and I would encourage you to review. Also want to express my appreciation to the ID faculty and residents for preparing these so quickly to assist the PGME community.

- Alternative accommodation: I previously circulated a list of hotels etc offering reduced rates for health care workers. The plan to provide financial support for those who wish to take advantage of this opportunity is confirmed. The university/PGME has received a generous donation from the **Arthur A. E. Child Foundation** to support alternate housing. Funding will be administered through PGME. Please refer to the attached documents for additional details and instructions for reimbursement of expenses.

I appreciate that the landscape of postgraduate medical education continues to change as a result of this pandemic. We will work closely with all partners to help trainees navigate these challenging times. A reminder to attend to wellness and access supports and resources as needed. Dr. Mannerfeldt continues to hold weekly Tuesday evening wellness sessions for anyone who wishes to attend.

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**UNIVERSITY OF CALGARY**  
CUMMING SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION**