



Expanding Ontario's Health Workforce

Ontario is facing a shortage of family physicians. This impacts both healthcare providers as they shoulder the burden of care and patients seeking a primary care provider.

Practice Ready Ontario is part of a Government of Ontario initiative to expand the healthcare workforce and connect people to care. It is breaking down barriers for experienced internationally trained physicians so they can get to work faster in high need, rural communities.

Help build capacity in family medicine by joining the practice Ready Ontario program as an assessor. Family physician assessors with significant experience delivering care in rural and remote communities are needed for the 12-week field assessment.

Join us as an Assessor

Practice Ready Ontario assessors:

- ✓ Contribute to a health human resource strategy to help alleviate physician shortages.
- ✓ Receive training and competitive remuneration for the role.
- ✓ Participate in a growing network of rural and remote communities addressing underserved populations.
- ✓ Develop as a mentor and support development of future practicing Ontario physicians.
- ✓ Earn continuing professional development (MainPro+) credits from the College of Family Physicians of Canada.

☞ **To sign up as an assessor or host a clinical field assessment site, fill out the [expression of interest form](#)**

☞ **For information about Practice Ready Ontario, please visit [Touchstone Institute](#)**

☞ **For information on becoming a Return of Service site, please contact Ontario Health at practiceontario@ontariohealth.ca**

Touchstone Institute is working with the Government of Ontario, College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario and others to put in place a practice ready assessment program for internationally trained family physicians in Ontario.



Program Details

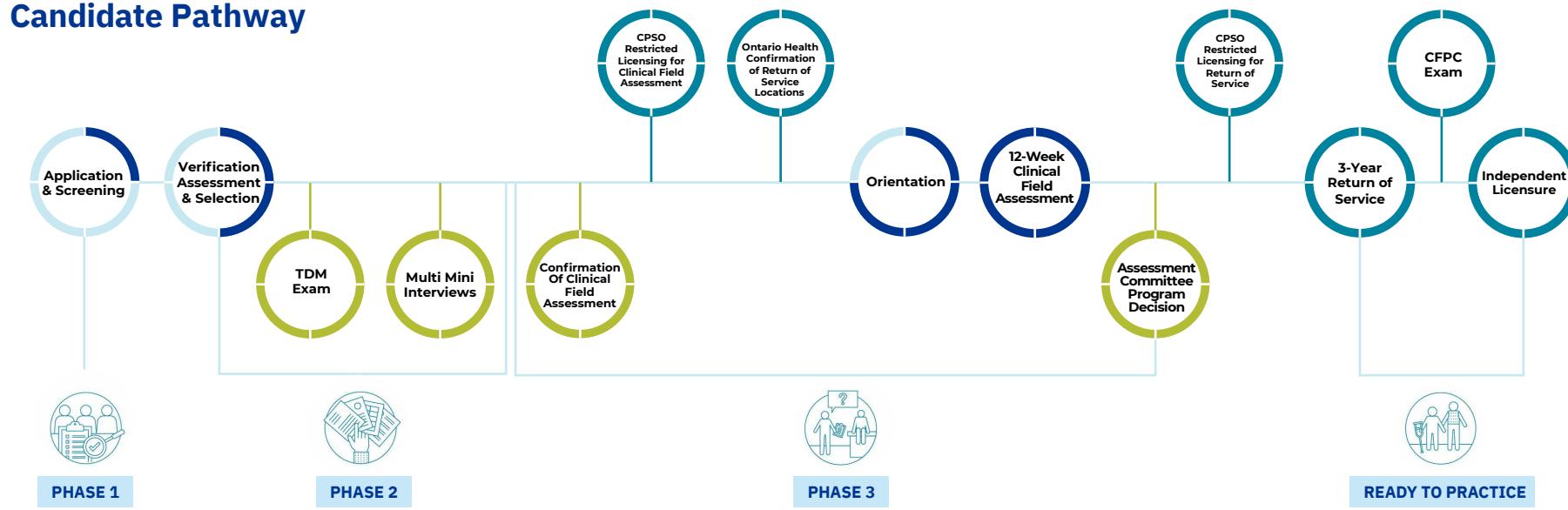
Practice Ready Ontario is a streamlined pathway to licensure for eligible internationally trained physicians who have completed postgraduate training and practiced independently as a family physician or general practitioner outside Canada.

Candidates are identified through a thorough application, selection and verification process and assessed for competence and suitability during a rigorous 12-week clinical field assessment in a designated Ontario community.

Successful candidates then complete a three-year return of service as a family physician in a designated high needs rural Ontario community.

- ➡ Candidates work under direct supervision of physician assessors, who observe, assess, and provide feedback on a candidate's clinical and non-clinical skills related to family medicine.
- ➡ Each candidate has one primary assessor with oversight responsibility of the 12-week clinical field assessment and is supported by secondary assessors.
- ➡ Assessors observe and evaluate a candidate according to structured assessment processes that also provides flexibility to suit an individual's practice, assessors, and candidates.
- ➡ Assessment data are submitted for review to the Practice Ready Ontario Assessment Committee for final determination of a candidate's readiness for independent practice.

Candidate Pathway



Assessor and Clinical Field Assessment Site Criteria

- ✓ In clinical practice with privileges in an Ontario community that can confirm competencies necessary to work in the specified return of service communities. Return of service areas have [Rurality Index of Ontario](#) scores of 40 or higher or are within a Northern Urban Referral Centre (Timmins, North Bay, Sudbury, Sault Ste. Marie, and Thunder Bay).
- ✓ A full license in good standing from College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario.
- ✓ In active clinical practice for at least three years, with at least one year in Ontario.

- ✓ MainPro+ accredited practice ready assessment training completed prior to clinical field assessment start date.
- ✓ Available on-site or assigning a delegate when the candidate is caring for patients.
- ✓ Exposes candidates to all relevant aspects of generalist family medicine in a rural context across a variety of practice settings, including office, hospital, emergency room, long-term care, and home care.
- ✓ Provides appropriate workspace to host candidate(s).