

Proposed Emergency Class of Registration

| Existing Provision | Proposed Provision | Rationale |
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| <p>33. The following are prescribed as classes of certificate of registration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General practising certificate 2. Provisional practising certificate 3. Temporary certificate | <p>33. The following are prescribed as classes of certificate of registration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. General practising certificate 2. Provisional practising certificate 3. Temporary certificate 4. Emergency certificate | <p>An additional class of registration is added as per the <i>Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness Act, 2022</i> requirements (See clause 16.3 (1) of the <i>Pandemic and Emergency Preparedness Act, 2022</i>)</p> |
| <p>New</p> | <p>38.1 (1) The following are non-exemptible requirements for an emergency certificate of registration:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Emergency circumstances must exist such that in the opinion of the Council it is in the public interest to issue certificates of registration in the emergency class. 2. The applicant must meet the registration requirements of subsections 36 (1) to (3)ⁱ with the exception of the currency requirement in paragraph 3 of subsection 36(1)ⁱⁱ and the examination requirement in paragraph 1 of subsection 36(3)ⁱⁱⁱ. | <p>It is not intended that this class of registration be available all the time. The regulation specifies emergency circumstances that will cause the class to be open for issuance and renewal of certificates of registration. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 1.)</p> |

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| | <p>3. The applicant must provide evidence of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. completion of at least 300 hours of service within the scope of practise of the profession in the five years before the date of application, or ii. successful completion within the previous 18 months of a refresher course accepted by the Registration committee. | <p>The requirement to have passed the entry-to-practise exam has been removed.</p> <p>As per the legislation provisions, currency requirements are reduced and exam requirement shelved to enable applicants who would otherwise not qualify for a general or provisional practising certificate to be registered in the emergency class and to permit emergency class certificate holders to apply to the general or provisional class of registration if they have not successfully completed the exam. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 3.)</p> <p>The period has been increased from three to five years and the currency requirements have been reduced by half. These changes in addition to exam exception will permit applicants to be registered in the emergency class when they would not meet the currency or exam requirements of the general or provisional practising class. Ultimately, the changes will enable emergency class of registration holders to apply to the general or provisional class given that they will accumulate more hours and time to sit for the exam while working under the emergency class of registration. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 3.)</p> |

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| New | <p>(2) Every certificate of registration in the emergency class is subject to the following terms, conditions and limitations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The member shall practise the profession only within the scope of their emergency certificate. 2. The member shall at all times when providing occupational therapy services identify themselves as an emergency certificate member. 3. The member shall only practise the profession while under the supervision of a member in the general class. 4. The member shall be restricted to the use of the title Occupational Therapist (Emergency Class) or “OT (Emerg.)” | <p>This class of registration will accept applicants who do not meet all the core registration requirements. It is important to have these safeguards in place to protect the public and support the applicant as they begin practise. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 1.)</p> <p>Clients, colleagues and the public must be made aware that the member is practising under the emergency class to ensure public safety. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 1.)</p> <p>A member holding an emergency class of registration is not fully qualified to practice independently and must practise under the supervision of another member in the general class to enhance public protection (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 1.)</p> <p>The public, clients and other professional must know the member is registered under the Emergency class which places certain limitations on the member in order to protect the public (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 3.)</p> |

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| <p>New</p> | <p>(3) An emergency certificate of registration expires:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Unless stated otherwise on the certificate, six months after it is issued, unless it is renewed. 2. Unless stated otherwise on the certificate, a renewed emergency certificate of registration expires six months after it is renewed, unless it is renewed again. <p>3 Despite subsections 1 and 2 above, an emergency certificate expires on the earlier of any of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Three months after the date the Council declares that the emergency circumstances in which it is in the interest of the public to issue and renew emergency certificates of registration have ended. (ii) The date the member is issued a general practising certificate of registration. (iii) the date the member is issued a provisional practising certificate of registration. | <p>The legislation allows up to one year expiration period. Six months is an appropriate length of time to allow respective planning and adjustments. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 2.)</p> <p>The Registrar may extend the emergency certificate if they are of the opinion that the emergency situation is still prevalent and the public will better be served by extending the certificate (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 2.)</p> <p>A member holding an emergency class of registration, is eligible to transition to a provisional or general class of registration if they meet the currency and examination requirements provided under this regulation. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 3.)</p> |

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| New | <p>(4) A member who holds, or held within the previous six months, a certificate of registration in the emergency class may be issued a certificate of registration in the general practising class despite not having met the currency requirement set out in paragraph 3 of subsection 36(1), if the member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) applies for a certificate of registration in the general practising class, b) satisfies all other requirements for the certificate of registration in the general practising class, and c) provides satisfactory evidence based on their practice for a period of at least six months in the emergency class that the member will practise competently and ethically even though practising without supervision. | <p>This provision creates a pathway for emergency certificate of registration holders to transition to general class of registration by exempting them from currency requirement that usually apply to applicants for that class. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 3.)</p> |

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| New | <p>(5) A member who holds, or held within the previous six months, a certificate of registration in the emergency class and who has not met the examination requirement in paragraph 1 of subsection 36(3) may be issued a certificate of registration in the provisional practising class if the member:</p> <p>a) applies for a certificate in the provisional practising class, and</p> <p>b) satisfies all requirements for the certificate of registration in the provisional practising class</p> | <p>This provision allows a pathway for emergency certificate holders who have not passed the entry to practise examination to transition to the provisional practising class. (See: O. Reg. 508/22, s. 5(1) 3.)</p> |

FOOTNOTES

ⁱ GENERAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

36. (1) The following are non-exemptible registration requirements for a general practising certificate of registration:

1. The applicant must have,

- i. a Bachelor of Science degree or Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy obtained in Ontario,
- ii. an academic qualification considered by the Registration Committee to be equivalent to a degree described in subparagraph i, or
- iii. a diploma in Occupational Therapy granted not later than 1973 by the University of Toronto or a diploma in Occupational Therapy granted not later than 1968 by the Canadian Association of Occupational Therapists.

2. The applicant must have completed a minimum of 1000 hours of fieldwork or clinical practicum accepted by the Registration Committee.

3. Where the applicant completes the requirements in paragraphs 1 and 2 more than 18 months before the date the application for a certificate is made, evidence of one of the following must be provided:

- i. completion of at least 600 hours of service within the scope of practice of the profession in the three years before the date of application, or
- ii. successful completion within the previous 18 months of a refresher program accepted by the Registration Committee.
- iii. REVOKED: O. Reg. 19/12, s. 2 (2).

(2) For the purpose of subparagraph 1 ii of subsection (1) an academic qualification is not equivalent unless,

- (a) the curriculum includes courses within the basic sciences, the behavioural sciences, the clinical sciences, the managerial sciences and occupational therapy theory, practice and fieldwork; and
- (b) the nature, extent and scope of those courses are substantially equivalent to a Bachelor of Science degree or Master of Science degree in Occupational Therapy obtained in Ontario. O. Reg. 122/01, s. 1; O. Reg. 19/12, s. 2 (3, 4).

(3) The following are the registration requirements for a general practising certificate of registration:

1. The applicant must have successfully completed an examination set or approved by the College that assesses entry level competence.
2. The applicant must provide evidence satisfactory to the Registrar that he or she has either professional liability insurance or protection against professional liability, in accordance with the by-laws. O. Reg. 122/01, s. 1; O. Reg. 19/12, s. 2 (5).

ii GENERAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

36. (1) The following are non-exemptible registration requirements for a general practising certificate of registration:

3. Where the applicant completes the requirements in paragraphs 1 and 2 more than 18 months before the date the application for a certificate is made, evidence of one of the following must be provided:

- i. completion of at least 600 hours of service within the scope of practice of the profession in the three years before the date of application, or
- ii. successful completion within the previous 18 months of a refresher program accepted by the Registration Committee.
- iii. REVOKED: O. Reg. 19/12, s. 2 (2).

iii GENERAL PRACTISING CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION

36. (3) The following are the registration requirements for a general practising certificate of registration:

1. The applicant must have successfully completed an examination set or approved by the College that assesses entry level competence.
2. The applicant must provide evidence satisfactory to the Registrar that he or she has either professional liability insurance or protection against professional liability, in accordance with the by-laws. O. Reg. 122/01, s. 1; O. Reg. 19/12, s. 2 (5).