

SECTION FOUR: REGISTRATION

INTRODUCTION

ACTIVITY: Lecturette and discussion.

TIME: 20 min.

LEARNING OUTCOME: Participants will understand the 6 general steps to registration.

DESCRIPTION:

Review the material on **page 38** of the workbook.

- Who has initiated the registration process?
- What has their experience been so far?

PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION: OVERVIEW

There are 23 self-regulated health professions in Ontario. These professions have governing bodies called “colleges” that set the standards for skills, knowledge and behaviour for their members. Ontario laws administered by the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care set the legal framework for regulated health professions, but the colleges are independent of the Ministry.

In order to become a member of a college, you must be a Canadian citizen, landed immigrant, or, in some cases, have work authorization. Each profession has its own set of additional requirements for becoming a member of the college. All colleges welcome foreign applicants but they may evaluate foreign training and experience differently. In general, the steps to becoming registered will include:

Educational Assessment

Applicants are normally asked to submit **original documents** – transcript, syllabus, degree/diploma, etc. – to the College for evaluation. If your documents are not in English or French, you may be required to have them translated at your own expense. The assessment process can be time-consuming and may involve fees.

Proof of Fluency

Most colleges require some degree of fluency in English or French. If English or French is not your first language, you may be required to meet a specific score on a fluency test.

Training

If the results of the educational assessment determine that you need upgrading, you will be required to complete certain courses. In addition, some colleges (e.g. Pharmacists) require all applicants to complete a period of “in-service” training.

Work Experience

Almost all colleges expect foreign applicants to have work experience in the profession and some require Canadian work experience as a condition of registration.

Examinations

You may be required to write one or more examinations. Normally, you are only eligible to write the exam(s) once you have met the other criteria for registration. Some colleges will permit you to work while you are waiting to write the exam; some colleges also give you more than one opportunity to pass the exam. There are often exam fees imposed.

Payment of Fees

In addition to the fees that must be paid throughout the registration process, there are normally registration fees imposed to become a member of the college. Registration fees may be several hundred dollars