



Practice Ready Assessment (PRA-BC)

Is your practice interested in being considered for participation in the **Practice Ready Assessment (PRA-BC)** Return of Service program?

Four candidate placements are available for the **Fall 2023** intake; candidates from this intake will be practice ready in **Spring 2024**. **These placements have a three (3) year Return of Service.**

What is PRA-BC?

PRA-BC is an assessment program for internationally educated family physicians who have completed family medicine residencies outside of Canada. PRA-BC provides these physicians with an alternative pathway to licensure at a time when many BC communities are experiencing physician shortages. Candidates undergo a 9-day Centralized Orientation followed by a 12-week Clinical Field Assessment (CFA) where their clinical skills are rigorously assessed. Those who successfully complete program requirements go on to fulfill a 3-year Return of Service (ROS) in a BC community of need.

Clinic Eligibility:

Clinics must fully complete and return the application, clearly defining their scope of service (i.e. inpatient and ER coverage, on-call duties, patient load, overhead costs, etc.) and physician compensation model (e.g., fee-for-service or contract).

A clinic that wishes to recruit a PRA-BC candidate must:

- Ensure the PRA-BC physicians can provide full-time, full-scope family practice services for the 3-year ROS with the ability to assume or establish their own patient panel. Not intended for walk-in or rotating locum.
- Be able to supervise their matched IMG physician in their provisional class of registration.
[Guidelines for Supervision of Registrants in the Provisional Class](#)
- Commit to holding the position until the matched IMG physician successfully completes the Clinical Field Assessment.
- Clinics who participate in the program are asked to participate as Clinical Field Assessment sites.

PRA-BC Fall 2023 Applications: **Deadline for clinic applications is March 3, 2023**

- We request all interested clinics review the documents in their entirety, and complete and submit the application form to the Island Health Medical Staff Recruitment office no later than **March 3, 2023** by email to medstaffrecruitment@islandhealth.ca.
- Following receipt of applications, the Island Health ROS working group will meet to review and rank clinics and you will be advised whether or not your clinic is successful prior to March 24, 2023.
- During the week of April 3, 2023 successful clinics will be provided with a list of applicants to their clinic, including CVs and any other documents to consider for shortlisting and interviews.
- Interviews must be completed by Friday May 26, 2023.

- Candidate rankings are to be submitted to medstaffrecruitment@islandhealth.ca no later than 12 p.m. May 31, 2023.
- Successful clinics will be advised of the provincial matching outcome on June 6, 2023.

Please note: A placement/match is not guaranteed. Although your clinic may be selected to participate in the program; your practice/clinic may not match with a candidate or the matched candidate may not pass clinical field assessment.

Clinical Field Assessors

IMG physicians in the PRA-BC program must complete a 12-week Clinical Field Assessment (CFA) period prior to being considered eligible for Provisional registration with the College. The PRA-BC candidate physicians complete their CFA at a different clinic/community than the clinic/community they matched with for their ROS. During the CFA the PRA-BC candidate is required to complete 10 ER shifts (5 ER shifts and 5 UPCC shifts are also possible). The Fall 2023 CFA will run from October 20, 2023 to January 19, 2024. As part of this program, there is an expectation that clinics who benefit from the placement of a PRA-BC program candidate will support the program by becoming a CFA site and identify an assessor. The Fall assessor training session runs October 13 – 14, 2023 either virtually or in Vancouver. If you are able to participate, let us know and we will ensure your information is passed on to the program.

Additional details about the program are found here:

- [PRA-BC Program Website](#)

Please direct questions to: Island Health Medical Staff Recruitment - medstaffrecruitment@islandhealth.ca

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