

NEW REGISTRANTS POLICY

Purpose

This policy sets out conditions imposed on a registrant's certificate of registration in their first year of practice after receiving their initial certificate of registration in the General class as outlined in s. 12(1)4 of the Registration Regulation, made under the *Midwifery Act, 1991*.

Scope

This policy applies to all new registrants of the College who received their initial General certificate of registration on or after June 1, 2019.

Definitions

“General Registrant” – a College member that has a certificate of registration in the General class.

“New Registrant” – a member of the College who has conditions imposed on their certificate of registration in their first year of practice after receiving their initial certificate of registration in the General class. For the purposes of this policy, the terms “new registrant” and “midwife” will be used interchangeably.

“Transfer of Care” – the transfer of responsibility from a midwife to another midwife or a physician for some, or all, of the duration of the client's care.

Policy Statement

In accordance with s. 12(1)4. of the Registration Regulation, all midwives in their first year of practice after receiving their initial certificate of registration in the General class, have the following two conditions imposed on their certificate of registration. A new registrant's year begins on the day the midwife becomes registered with the College with a certificate of registration in the General class.

Condition 1: Only work within an established practice for a period of one year

Established practice is a practice in Ontario that has general registrant(s) without new registrant conditions attending births in both home and hospital settings. Established practices must have the capacity to support the orientation and mentorship of new

registrants to the practice and hospital environments. Orientation and mentorship typically include, but is not limited to:

- Orientation to practice protocols
- Orientation to the hospital systems, policies and staff
- Facilitating learning opportunities and advising the new registrant of appropriate resources
- Providing in-person and on-call support, advice for clinical situations and objective feedback
- Regular chart reviews.

Condition 2: Attend a minimum of 30 births as a primary midwife as well as 30 births as a second midwife.

Prior to meeting this condition, a new registrant is permitted to attend births with: either a general registrant who is not subject to new registrant conditions, or a new registrant who has already attended a minimum of 30 births as a primary midwife as well as 30 births as a second midwife.

Once this condition has been met, a new registrant may attend births with another new registrant.

A **primary midwife** is a midwife that is responsible for the prenatal, intrapartum and postpartum care of the client and the newborn such as performing assessments, organizing consultations, and writing orders. The primary midwife is generally present for the labour, at birth to deliver the baby, and the immediate postpartum. A new registrant can count transfers of care toward fulfilling the requirement of attending 30 births as a primary midwife if the transfer of care takes place during labour, birth or in the immediate postpartum.

A **second midwife** normally attends near the end of the first stage of labour or early in the second stage of labour. The second midwife is present for the birth and provides care together with the primary midwife. The second midwife is normally responsible for the assessment and initial care of the newborn at birth and remains after the birth until the client and baby are stable.

When an intrapartum transfer of care occurs and a new registrant acting as the primary midwife takes on the role of the second midwife, they can count the birth towards fulfilling the requirement of attending 30 births as either a primary midwife or a second midwife, but not both.

Removal of New Registrant Conditions

It is only after the new registrant has practised in an established practice for a period of one year and attended a minimum of 30 births as a primary midwife as well as 30 births as a second midwife, they must declare that they have completed the conditions and submit the new registrant's clinical experience reporting form to the College.

The College will process the form and if both conditions have been met, the new registrant conditions will be lifted from the midwife's certificate of registration. The College will notify the midwife by email once the conditions are removed and the College's online public register profile will be updated to reflect the midwife's new status.

References

Registration Regulation (O. Reg. 168/11) under the *Midwifery Act*, S.O. 1991, s. 12(1)4
New Registrant Conditions Reporting Form.

Approved by: Council
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Last reviewed and revised: