

Program Description: The Practice Establishment Grant Program for Employed Physicians will provide \$10,000 to eligible family physicians that establish a practice for a minimum of eighteen months in a rural or regional community.

I. Program Parameters

Program parameters vary according to where the applicant received their medical training.

Canadian-Trained Physicians

This grant is available to Canadian-trained physicians meeting the following criteria:

- 1) have not practiced in Saskatchewan during the past twelve months¹;
- 2) are family physicians who agree to establish a practice in rural or regional Saskatchewan²;
- 3) have full licensure under Section 28 or provisional licensure under Section 29 of *The Medical Profession Act* at the time of application; and
- 4) apply for the grant within 6 months prior to commencement of practice or up to 12 months after practice has commenced.

Foreign-Trained Physicians

This grant is available to foreign-trained physicians meeting the following criteria:

- 1) are family physicians who agree to establish a practice in rural or regional Saskatchewan²;
- 2) are foreign-trained with the intention of practicing long-term in Saskatchewan;
- 3) have been in practice in the community in which they are establishing and applying for the grant for the past 18 months but not longer than 24 months; and
- 4) have provisional registration under Section 29 of *The Medical Profession Act* on the date of their application to the program.

II. Eligible Communities

Eligible communities include:

- rural and regional centers as identified in Appendix A; and
- centers having three or more physicians in a group practice or a shared call arrangement within the same community.

¹ Providing short-term locum coverage (in one community for less than three months) with total locum coverage for up to one year is not considered practice in this definition.

² For excluded communities, see Appendix A.

III. Application Process

The attached application is to be submitted to the Committee on Rural & Regional Practice, SMA, 402 - 321A 21st Street East, Saskatoon, SK S7K 0C1. It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain all necessary signatures.

IV. Adjudication and Start Date

Canadian-Trained Physicians

Adjudication of the applications will be made by CORRP. Applicants and employers will be notified once the adjudication process is complete. In cases where the applicant applies within the first 12 months of practicing in the community, the 18 month service commitment will be calculated from the initial date of practice.

Foreign-Trained Physicians

Adjudication of the applications will be made by CORRP. Applicants and employers will be notified once the adjudication process is complete.

The adjudication criteria for applications by foreign-trained physicians will include, but not be restricted to, a demonstration of the applicant's commitment to Saskatchewan as evidenced through:

- application for landed immigrant status (including successful completion of Qualifying and Evaluating Examinations);
- signed commitments to a community/health region/College of Physicians and Surgeons of Saskatchewan; and
- practice arrangements with physician colleagues.

The return-in-service commitment for foreign-trained physicians will be calculated from the 19th month of practicing in the community.

V. Disbursement of Grant:

Disbursement of the Practice Establishment Grant will be made in three installments.

First Installment: \$5,000 to be paid to the physician upon commencing work in the community and signing the grant contract.

Second Installment: \$2,500 to be paid to the physician upon completion of 9 months of satisfactory service to the community.

Third Installment: \$2,500 to be paid to the physician upon completion of 18 months of satisfactory service to the community.

Special Circumstances: Physicians who have received other assistance through the Committee on Rural & Regional Practice will be required to provide 18 months of service in addition to the requirements of previous agreements. They will, however, receive the initial payment of \$5,000 upon commencing work in the community and signing the contract. **All grant funding will be repayable in full if the service commitment made under the Practice Establishment Grant Program for Employed Physicians is not fulfilled.**

VI. Relocation and Repayment Appeals Mechanism:

Requests to relocate before the completion of the service commitment are to be submitted to CORRP. On compassionate grounds, the Committee may choose to amend a grant contract.

For more information, please contact:

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APPENDIX A

Rural is defined as those communities in which there are approximately 10,000 people or less¹.

Regional is defined as those communities which have populations greater than 10,000 people, excluding Saskatoon and Regina. Therefore, regional communities include:

Prince Albert	Moose Jaw
Yorkton	Lloydminster
North Battleford	Swift Current

The following “bedroom” communities are excluded from both definitions because of their close proximity to Saskatoon and Regina:

Lumsden	Pilot Butte
Balgonie	White City
Pense	Martensville
Warman	Langham
Clavet	Dalmeny
Delisle	Battleford

¹ The communities of Estevan and Weyburn are categorized as rural due to their fluctuating populations around the 10,000 mark.