# Update on Royal College Areas of Focused Competence (Diploma) Programs

## AFC (Diploma) Program

### 1. Acute Care Point of Care Ultrasonography (Acute Care POCUS)

- **Eligibility Requirements**
  - Emergency Medicine
  - Paediatric Emergency Medicine

- **Application Sponsor**
  - Canadian Society of Point-of-care Ultrasonography EM Fellowships

- **Status of Consultation Process**
  - Approved by Committee on Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2016 after national consultation (May 2015 – July 2015) and a targeted consultation (September 2016) regarding a revised scope of practice

- **Implementation**
  - Accreditation, credentialing and evaluation standards will be posted on the Royal College website once the discipline specific documents have been finalized and approved by the Royal College

### 2. Addiction Medicine

- **Eligibility Requirements**
  - Adolescent Medicine
  - Anesthesiology
  - Emergency Medicine
  - Gastroenterology
  - Internal Medicine
  - Obstetrics & Gynecology
  - Pain Medicine
  - Public Health & Preventive Medicine
  - Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
  - Psychiatry
  - Palliative Medicine
  - Rheumatology

- **Application Sponsor**
  - Canadian Society of Addiction Medicine

- **Status of Consultation Process**
  - Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2015 after national consultation (January 2015 – February 2015)
  - Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Spring 2015

- **Implementation**
  - Accreditation, credentialing and evaluation standards will be posted on the Royal College website once the discipline specific documents have been finalized and approved by the Royal College

### 3. Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology

- **Eligibility Requirements**
  - Adult Hematology
  - Medical Oncology
  - Paediatric Hematology/Oncology
  - Radiation Oncology

- **Application Sponsor**
  - Canadian Task Force on Adolescents and Young Adults with Cancer

- **Status of Consultation Process**
  - Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in April 2013 after national consultation (December 2012 – February 2013)
  - Approved by Education Committee (EdC) April 2013

- **Implementation**
  - Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (February 2016):
    - Standards of Accreditation
    - Competency Training Requirements
    - Competency Portfolio for Educators
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AFC (Diploma) Program</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adult Cardiac Electrophysiology</td>
<td>• Adult Cardiology (Royal College or equivalent certification)</td>
<td>• Canadian Cardiovascular Society</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2011 after national consultation (September – October 2011)</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2012): - Standards of Accreditation - Competency Training Requirements - Competency Portfolio for Educators</td>
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<tr>
<td>★ Recognized AFC Discipline</td>
<td>★ Accredited AFC Programs</td>
<td>• Canadian Heart Rhythm Society</td>
<td>• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Fall 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adult Echocardiography</td>
<td>• Adult Cardiology (Royal College or equivalent certification)</td>
<td>• Canadian Cardiovascular Society</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2012 after national consultation (September – October 2011)</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2013): - Standards of Accreditation - Competency Training Requirements - Competency Portfolio for Educators</td>
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<td>★ Recognized AFC Discipline</td>
<td>★ Accredited AFC Programs</td>
<td>• Anesthesiology • Cardiac Surgery • Critical Care Medicine • Diagnostic Radiology • Internal Medicine (Royal College or equivalent certification plus at least 2 blocks of Adult Cardiology)</td>
<td>• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Spring 2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accredited Programs:</td>
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<td>- McMaster University - Université de Montréal - University of Alberta - University of Ottawa</td>
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| **Adult Hepatology**  | • Gastroenterology (Royal College or equivalent certification)  
• Internal Medicine (Royal College certification plus at least 12 months of clinical rotations in Hepatology within Internal Medicine) | • Canadian Association for the Study of Liver | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in April 2013 after national consultation (December 2012 – February 2013)  
• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) April 2013 | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (March 2015):  
- Standards of Accreditation  
- Competency Training Requirements  
- Competency Portfolio for Educators  
- Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio  

**Accredited Programs:**  
✓ University of Western Ontario |
| **Adult Interventional Cardiology** | • Cardiology (Royal College or equivalent certification that must include:  
- 8 months of clinical cardiology  
- 3 months of cardiac catheterization  
- 4 months of echocardiography  
- 1 month of electrophysiology  
- 1 month of nuclear cardiology/exercise stress testing  
• Canadian Cardiovascular Society  
• Canadian Association of Interventional Cardiology | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2011 after national consultation (September – October 2011)  
• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Fall 2011 | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2013):  
- Standards of Accreditation  
- Competency Training Requirements  
- Competency Portfolio for Educators  

**Accredited Programs:**  
✓ Dalhousie University  
✓ McMaster University  
✓ Université de Montréal  
✓ University of Alberta  
✓ University of Manitoba  
✓ University of Ottawa  
✓ University of Toronto  
✓ University of Western Ontario |
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| **8** Adult Thrombosis Medicine | • Internal Medicine  
• Emergency Medicine (Royal College or equivalent certification) | • Thrombosis Interest Group of Canada  
• Canadian Society of Hematology  
• Thrombosis Unit, Ottawa Hospital (U of Ottawa) | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2014 after national consultation (January – March 2014)  
• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Spring 2014 | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2016):  
- Standards of Accreditation  
- Competency Training Requirements  
- Competency Portfolio for Educators  
**Accredited Programs:**  
✓ McGill University  
✓ McMaster University  
✓ University of Ottawa |
| **9** Advanced Heart Failure and Cardiac Transplantation | • Cardiology (Adult or Pediatric) (Royal College or equivalent certification) | • Canadian Cardiovascular Society  
• Canadian Heart Failure Society  
• Canadian Cardiac Transplant Network | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2015 after national consultation (January 2015 – February 2015)  
• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Spring 2015 | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (Nov 2016):  
- Standards of Accreditation  
- Competency Training Requirements  
- Competency Portfolio for Educators  
- Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio |
| **10** Aerospace Medicine | • The trainee must be a physician licensed to practice in Canada, with two years of clinical experience post-certification in a primary specialty | • Royal Canadian Air Force Institute of Aviation | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in September 2012 after national consultation (May – August 2012)  
• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) November 2012 | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (June 2014):  
- Standards of Accreditation  
- Competency Training Requirements  
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- Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio |
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| **11** Brachytherapy | • Radiation Oncology *(Royal College or equivalent certification)* | • Canadian Brachytherapy Group | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2014 after national consultation (January – March 2014) | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (May 2015):  
  - Standards of Accreditation  
  - Competency Training Requirements  
  - Competency Portfolio for Educators  
  - Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio  
  
  **Accredited Programs:**  
  ✓ University of Toronto |
| **12** Child Maltreatment Pediatrics | • Pediatrics *(Royal College or equivalent certification)* | • Canadian Paediatric Society | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2012 after national consultation (December 2011 – February 2012) | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (May 2015):  
  - Standards of Accreditation  
  - Competency Training Requirements  
  - Competency Portfolio for Educators  
  - Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio  
  
  **Accredited Programs:**  
  ✓ University of Toronto |
| **13** Clinician Educator | • The trainee must be a physician, currently in practice or enrolled in postgraduate training, with demonstrated proficiency in teaching and engagement or experience in local or national medical education activities | • Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada | • Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2012 after national consultation (December 2011 – February 2012) | • Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2013):  
  - Standards of Accreditation  
  - Competency Training Requirements  
  - Competency Portfolio for Educators  
  - Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio  
  
  **Accredited Programs:**  
  ✓ McMaster University |
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<td><strong>14</strong> Cytopathology</td>
<td>• General Pathology&lt;br&gt;• Anatomical Pathology <em>(Royal College or equivalent certification)</em></td>
<td>• Canadian Society of Cytopathology&lt;br&gt;• Canadian Association of Pathologists</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2012 after national consultation (December 2011 – February 2012)&lt;br&gt;• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Spring 2012</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2013):&lt;br&gt;- Standards of Accreditation&lt;br&gt;- Competency Training Requirements&lt;br&gt;- Competency Portfolio for Educators</td>
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<td><strong>15</strong> Hematopoietic Stem Cell Transplantation</td>
<td>• Hematology&lt;br&gt;• Pediatric Hematology/Oncology</td>
<td>• Sponsor: Canadian Blood and Marrow Transplant Group (CBMTG) and the Hôpital Maisonneuve-Rosemont&lt;br&gt;• Canadian Hematology Society (CHS)&lt;br&gt;• Canadian Blood and Marrow Transplant Group (CBMTG)</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in November 2017 after national consultation (August 2017 – September 2017)&lt;br&gt;• Approved by Committee on Specialty Education Committee December 2017</td>
<td>• Accreditation, credentialing and evaluation standards will be posted on the Royal College website once the discipline specific documents have been finalized and approved by the Royal College</td>
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<td><strong>16</strong> Hyperbaric Medicine</td>
<td>• The trainee must have Royal College certification in any primary specialty, or CFPC certification, or in a residency program leading to certification by one of these bodies</td>
<td>• Canadian Chapter of the Undersea and Hyperbaric Medical Society</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in April 2013 after national consultation (December 2012 – February 2013)&lt;br&gt;• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) April 2013</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2017):&lt;br&gt;- Standards of Accreditation&lt;br&gt;- Competency Training Requirements&lt;br&gt;- Competency Portfolio</td>
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<td><strong>Medical and Surgical Retina</strong></td>
<td>• Ophthalmology</td>
<td>• Canadian Retina Society</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part I in Fall 2016</td>
<td>• A new national consultation will be issued, following review by relevant Specialty Committees</td>
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<td><strong>Neuromusculoskeletal Ultra Sound</strong></td>
<td>• Rheumatology</td>
<td>• Canadian Rheumatology Association</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part I in Fall 2017</td>
<td>• Subject to Part II review by Committee On Specialties (COS), including the results of the national consultation, at the COS meeting of Fall 2018</td>
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<td><strong>Patient Safety and Quality Improvement</strong></td>
<td>• Any MD (approved training for diploma candidates would likely occur after residency training in completed, but some may choose to integrate advanced patient safety and quality improvement during residency training)</td>
<td>• Advancing Safety for Patients in Residency Education (ASPIRE) • Canadian Patient Safety Institute (CPSI)</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2016 (with minor clarifications requested from the applicant) after national consultation (January 2016 – February 2016) • Approved by Education Committee (EdC)</td>
<td>• Accreditation, credentialing and evaluation standards will be posted on the Royal College website once the discipline specific documents have been finalized and approved by the Royal College</td>
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<td><strong>Pediatric Urology</strong></td>
<td>• Royal College certification in Urology or its equivalent</td>
<td>• Pediatric Urologists of Canada (PUC), an affiliate of the Canadian Urological Association (CUA)</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2017 after national consultation (January 2017 – February 2017)</td>
<td>• Accreditation, credentialing and evaluation standards will be posted on the Royal College website once the discipline specific documents have been finalized and approved by the Royal College</td>
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<td>Prehospital and Transport Medicine (Formerly “Emergency Medical Services”)</td>
<td>• Emergency Medicine • CFPC Special Competence in Emergency Medicine (CCFP-EM) • A nationally recognized Emergency Medicine residency program leading to eligibility to write the certification examinations in Emergency Medicine in that country/region • Royal College certification in a specialty, subspecialty or discipline whose competencies involve knowledge of emergency medical services, prehospital or transport medicine, or formal instruction of health care personnel who provide care in the prehospital or transport setting</td>
<td>National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP) – Canadian EMS Working Group</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee on Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2016 after national consultation (June 2016 – August 2016) • Approved by Education Committee (EdC)</td>
<td>• Accreditation, credentialing and evaluation standards will be posted on the Royal College website once the discipline specific documents have been finalized and approved by the Royal College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sleep Disorder Medicine</td>
<td>• Developmental Paediatrics • General Internal Medicine • Neurology (Adult or Pediatric) • Otolaryngology • Psychiatry • Respirology (Adult or Pediatric) (Royal College or equivalent certification)</td>
<td>Canadian Sleep Society (CSS)</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Spring 2016 (with minor clarifications requested from the applicant) after national consultation (January 2016 – February 2016) • Approved by Education Committee (EdC)</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (2018): - Standards of Accreditation - Competency Training Requirements - Competency Portfolio for Educators</td>
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<tr>
<td>Solid Organ Transplantation</td>
<td>• Cardiac Surgery&lt;br&gt;• Gastroenterology&lt;br&gt;• General Surgery&lt;br&gt;• Hepatology&lt;br&gt;• Infectious Diseases&lt;br&gt;• Nephrology&lt;br&gt;• Respirology&lt;br&gt;• Thoracic Surgery&lt;br&gt;• Urology (Royal College or equivalent certification)</td>
<td>• Canadian Transplant Society</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2013 after national consultation (June – August 2013)&lt;br&gt;• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Fall 2013</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (March 2015):&lt;br&gt;- Standards of Accreditation&lt;br&gt;- Competency Training Requirements&lt;br&gt;- Competency Portfolio for Educators&lt;br&gt;- Practice Eligibility Route (PER) Competency Portfolio&lt;br&gt;&lt;br&gt;<strong>Accredited Programs:</strong>&lt;br&gt;✓ McMaster University&lt;br&gt;✓ University of Ottawa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sport and Exercise Medicine</td>
<td>• Emergency Medicine&lt;br&gt;• Internal Medicine&lt;br&gt;• Orthopedic Surgery&lt;br&gt;• Pediatrics&lt;br&gt;• Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation&lt;br&gt;• Rheumatology (Royal College or equivalent certification)&lt;br&gt;AFC program may be taken concurrently with residency training in an approved primary specialty or subspecialty, provided at least 2 years of residency education have been successfully completed, requirements for the</td>
<td>• Canadian Academy of Sports and Exercise Medicine</td>
<td>• Approved by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in Fall 2011 after national consultation (August – October 2011)&lt;br&gt;• Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Fall 2011</td>
<td>• Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) includes (January 2018):&lt;br&gt;- Standards of Accreditation&lt;br&gt;- Competency Training Requirements&lt;br&gt;- Competency Portfolio for Educators</td>
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<td>areas of focused competence (AFC-Diploma) programs update – October 21, 2018</td>
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| **transfusion medicine**

- *recognized AFC discipline*
- *accredited AFC programs*

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| primary specialty or subspecialty will be met, and primary specialty/subspecialty and Sport and Exercise Medicine program directors are in agreement. | n/a | Bypassed national consultation process because this formerly AWC specialty chose the diploma route
Approved by Education Committee (EdC) Spring 2011 | Royal College website (“Information by Discipline”) now includes:
- Standards of Accreditation
- Competency Training Requirements
- Competency Portfolio for Educators

Accredited Programs:
- Dalhousie University
- McMaster University
- University of British Columbia
- University of Toronto

* Status of program changed to “New Accredited Program” by the Royal College, effective July 1, 2012 |
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<td>Trauma General Surgery</td>
<td>• General Surgery (Royal College or equivalent certification)</td>
<td>• Trauma Association of Canada • Canadian Association of General Surgeons</td>
<td>• Approved (with revised name, formerly “Trauma Surgery’) by Committee On Specialties (COS) Part II in September 2012 after national consultation (May – August 2012) • Approved by Education Committee (EdC) November 2012</td>
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<td>Accredited Programs: ✓ University of Toronto</td>
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