
CPSO – REQUEST FOR PRACTICE ASSESSMENT

WHAT IS A PRACTICE ASSESSMENT?

After having practiced for 5 years in an academic setting, a physician with an academic license may request to undergo a practice assessment. Upon completion of the assessment, CPSO may modify the terms and conditions on the license and potentially remove the academic restriction.

The assessment is initiated at the request of the physician and takes between 6-9 months to schedule and complete. A standard assessment with a local assessor costs ~ \$3000. If the assessor is not local, and/or if the assessment covers a wide scope of practice, the costs would increase. The physician is responsible working with CPSO to arrange the assessment and for all costs associated with the assessment.

WHY WOULD A PHYSICIAN REQUEST A PRACTICE ASSESSMENT?

A practice assessment is initiated for various reasons. Below are several examples provided by physicians who have undergone the process:

- To receive confirmation that they are practicing at the same level as their colleagues.
- To expand their practice to community sites that are not currently university affiliated.
- To have the option of leaving the university while retaining the ability to practice
- To move to a part time faculty position

WHY DOES THIS PROCESS REQUIRE “SUPPORT” FROM THE DEAN/CHAIR?

CPSO requires letters of support from the Dean and the Department Chair for any requested change to an academically licensed physician’s registration status.

WHAT IS A LETTER OF SUPPORT?

The letter of support is a confirmation that the physician meets the requirements to request a practice assessment as outlined in the CPSO policy. If the Department refused to provide a letter in support of a practice assessment (the purpose of which is to provide independent confirmation of the physician’s capabilities) the action would be seen to contradict the statements made by the Chair in previously submitted annual reports to CPSO.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT ON THE ACADEMIC APPOINTMENT?

Successful completion of the assessment would allow for a physician to potentially change the scope of their practice. Once the physician is no longer restricted to an academic license, s/he would be entitled to the same privileges as any other independently licensed GFT faculty member. For example, if s/he wanted to change their practice location and/or academic involvement, they could initiate a discussion with the Department Chair, the Chief/Division Head and the department manager to determine how the request would fit the needs of the Department and whether the suggested change(s) would fit with the academic appointment of the faculty member.