

## General Psychiatry Residency Program Guidelines for Royal College Exam Eligibility

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### Background and Purpose

The Department of Psychiatry is committed to supporting residents in completing Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada (RCPSC) requirements as an essential part of training, including the successful completion of the Royal College exam. According to the RCPSC, Royal College examinations are offered annually for each specialty and subspecialty. There are a few important actions that must be taken well in advance of the exam date to confirm the resident's eligibility to sit the exam: 1) The resident must apply to the Royal College one year in advance of the exam for a training assessment to confirm they have met specialty-specific training requirements. 2) Approximately eight months in advance of the exam, the residency program confirms to the Royal College that the resident has met the specialty-specific training requirements and is expected to be able to sit the exam that year. 3) The Royal College issues the resident a ruling letter, sent by the online credentials registration system, confirming that the resident meets the training requirements to register for the examination.

As the Royal College exam for Psychiatry is moved from PGY5 to PGY4, the residency must re-define exam eligibility per this process, and in the context of Competence-By-Design.

This document reviews the University of Toronto General Psychiatry Residency Program's guidelines for eligibility to take the Royal College exam. Our aim is to meet Royal College requirements, maximize potential for resident success, and minimize burden to residents.

### Reference Documents

[CBD Technical Guide for exam readiness](#)

### University of Toronto Requirements for RC exam eligibility:

1. Having entrustments in some of the COD EPAs (Residents should aim for >50%)

The May PCS will review how current PGY3s are progressing in COD EPAs while taking into consideration other assessment data. The benchmark provided is to support residents in planning their learning.

2. Be in good standing, i.e. not in formal or informal remediation

"Informal" remediation occurs when a resident is "not progressing as expected" and referred to the Resident Assessment and Support Subcommittee (RASC); "formal" remediation occurs when resident is referred to Board of Examiners (BOE).

3. Decoupling Exit STACERs from the RC Exams

Previously residents had to successfully pass 2 Exit STACERs before sitting for the RC exams. Now residents will be required to pass 1 Exit STACER in the Fall/Winter of PGY4 and a second after their RC exam (after May).

4. Residents accepted into a subspecialty program will be required to pass 2 Exit STACERs in PGY4 –

This is because the general program cannot delegate an COD training experiences to the subspecialty program. The Exit STACERs are not required prior to the RC exam.

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