

## ALTERNATIVE ASSESSMENT OF CURRENCY HOURS

POLICY NUMBER: CR-19-02

COMMITTEE: Credentials Committee

DATE APPROVED: March 14, 2023

DATE(S) REVIEWED (REVISED):

DATE TO BE REVIEWED: March 14, 2026

ISSUING AUTHORITY: NSCMIRTP Executive Council

DISTRIBUTION: NSCMIRTP Registrants and Employers

APPROVAL: 

### POLICY STATEMENT

Registrants or applicants who do not meet currency requirements, as stated in NSCMIRTP Currency Hours Requirements Policy #CR-013, must demonstrate current competence to the satisfaction of the Registrar. To demonstrate current competence, a registrant or applicant must complete a period of supervised practice in accordance with the criteria outlined in this policy or must otherwise satisfy the Registrar that they are currently competent to practice.

### RATIONALE

The NSCMIRTP recognizes there will be occasions when a registrant may not meet currency requirements but are confident, they are competent to practice. This policy allows for an alternative to currency hours to assess practice requirements allowing the College to ensure public interest is served and competent MIRTPs are given the opportunity to continue practicing.

Registrants or applicants who have not practiced at all within the five-year period prior to their renewal or a application will be expected to complete a full refresher program, as prescribed by the NSCMIRTP, and will not be eligible for the alternative assessment process. Registrants or applicants who have completed some practice within the past five years will be required to complete a supervised practice period based on the extent of the deficiency, as reported over the past five years. The number of hours will be determined using the following formula where “x” is the number of hours of supervised practice required.


$$\frac{\text{deficiency in hours}}{800 \text{ hrs}} = \frac{X}{420 \text{ hrs}}$$

Where 420 hours refers to the length of supervised practice period that is typically required of registrants or applicants who have not accrued any practice hours over the preceding five-year period (the typical “maximum” supervised practice period).

Registrants or applicants who are less than 50 hours short of the 800-hour threshold will be given the option of either completing a supervised practice period of a minimum of 21 hours duration, or obtaining an attestation of competence, in a form prescribed by the Registrar, from their employer.

To be considered acceptable to the Registrar, a period of supervised practice must include the following features:

- a. A supervisor who:
  - i. is a practicing registrant of the NSCMIRTP,
  - ii. has a minimum of five years of clinical experience in their respective profession,
  - iii. is of good character and reputation,
  - iv. is in good standing with the NSCMIRTP and not be subject to any complaints or investigations at the time of the supervision, and
  - v. is approved as a supervisor by the Registrar.

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- b. a supervised practice plan must be developed and accepted by the Registrar, the supervisor, and the registrant or applicant prior to the commencement of the supervised practice period,
  - c. the completed supervised practice plan and any other information requested by the Registrar must be submitted upon completion of the supervised practice,
  - d. the Registrar must be satisfied that the registrant or applicant has demonstrated that they are currently competent to practice as an MIRTP in the specified discipline.,

The duration of supervised practice may be extended beyond 420 hours if the Registrar is not satisfied that the registrant or applicant has demonstrated competence to practice. The Registrar may refer any matter requiring a decision by the Registrar to the Credentials Committee for advice prior to making a final decision.

When issuing a license to allow the registrant or applicant to gain the required experience, the Registrar shall apply the following conditions:

- a. the registrant must practice only under the supervision of a regulated registrant,
- b. the registrant must complete their supervised practice within a time limit set by the Registrar, and
- c. any other conditions set by the Registrar, if appropriate in the circumstances.

## REFERENCES

Alberta College of Speech-Language Pathologists and Audiologists Profession. (2019). Policy on Failure to meet Currency Hours.

NSCMIRTP (2023) Currency Hours Requirements Policy # CR-013-02