

# CURRENCY HOURS REQUIREMENTS

POLICY NUMBER: CR-013-01

DATE APPROVED: November 13, 2020

DATE TO BE REVIEWED: November 13, 2023

DISTRIBUTION: NSCMIRTP Registrants

COMMITTEE: Credentials Committee

DATE(S) REVIEWED (REVISED):

ISSUING AUTHORITY: NSCMIRTP Board

APPROVAL  

## BACKGROUND

The NSCMIRTP recognizes five separate disciplines of practice. A registrant may be licensed in more than one discipline but must remain current in all disciplines for which they are licensed.

## POLICY

As a MIRTP, you must meet one of the following currencies of practice options to be eligible for registration and/or licensure in Nova Scotia:

1. **Meet the minimum number of MIRTP practice hours:**

- a. 400 practice hours in each of the disciplines seeking license for plus an additional 400 hours of practice hours across any discipline/s for which an individual is licensed in the past five licensure years (example: for your 2020 license, you worked required hours between January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2019).

or

- b. 180 practice hours in each of the disciplines seeking license for plus an additional 180 hours of practice hours across any discipline/s for which an individual is licensed in the last licensure year (example: for your 2020 license, you worked required hours between January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019)

or

2. Completed all program requirements in one of the following:

- a. Nova Scotia MIRTP program in the past 5 years
- b. an accredited Canadian MIRTP program in the past 5 years
- c. an approved MIRTP re-entry program within 18 months of application or
- d. an international MIRTP program assessed as substantially equivalent and any NSCMIRTP required competency assessment

\*Note: you are required to retain a record of your MIRTP practice hours for the past five licensure years.

For individuals that have not met the minimum practice hours qualifications, a formalized refresher program is required prior to being eligible for registration in the discipline.

Council policy provides that practice involves both clinical and technical aspects of the discipline and



the College treats hours of practice the same regardless of whether they are accrued during clinical or non-clinical work so long as the hours are related to the discipline.

Practice can be based in research, education, consultation, management, administration, information technology, industry, regulation and policy or system development that is relevant to the practices of the discipline as described in the sections of the NSCMIRTP Act as listed below:

- diagnostic medical sonography - section 2(k)
- magnetic resonance technology - section 2(z)
- nuclear medicine technology - section 2(ze)
- radiation therapy - section 2(zt)
- radiological technology - section 2(zY)

## RATIONALE

This policy provides clarity for registered MIRTTPs on expectations concerning minimum hours of practice and maintenance of licensure in one or more discipline/s. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that practicing health care providers are competent in their field/s in order to protect the public and uphold the standards of the profession (1).

## PROCEDURE

NSCMIRTP reviews registrant files annually to ensure practice hour requirements are being met for all disciplines of registration.

### Rules for Calculating Practice Hours

1. The following rules apply when calculating practice hours:
2. The hour requirements can only be met if the practice hours fall within the definition of MIRTTP services. If you are unsure whether your position meets the definition of MIRTTP services, you can send your job description to [info@nscmirtp.ca](mailto:info@nscmirtp.ca) attention registrar.
3. Hours accumulated during the orientation period are considered MIRTTP practice hours and should be included in your calculations.
4. You can only count actual hours worked as a MIRTTP and not the hours you are paid while off on vacation, sick leave, long term sickness/injury or maternity leave.
5. When counting your overtime hours worked, one overtime hour is only counted as one MIRTTP practice hour, regardless of how you were paid.
6. Hours worked in one MIRTTP designation cannot be counted toward another MIRTTP designation (e.g., hours counted toward MRI practice hours cannot be counted toward X-ray practice hours);
7. Practice hours are calculated based on the NSCMIRTP licensure year (between Jan 1 and December 31).



### How to Change My Reported Practice Hours

- If there is a miscalculation of your hours for the previous licensure year, you can call the NSCMIRTP office with the corrected hours.
- If you are requesting to adjust your practice hours for a year other than the previous licensing year, you must have your employer submit a letter confirming your MIRTTP practice hours directly to the College at [info@nscmirtp.ca](mailto:info@nscmirtp.ca).

### How to Re-Establish Currency of Practice

- If you do not meet one of the currencies of practice options listed above, you must re-establish your currency of practice to become licensed in Nova Scotia. There are two ways this can be accomplished:
  - Successfully complete a MIRTTP re-entry program
  - If an individual can demonstrate proof of inability to obtain access to required practice hours, you can apply to the credentials committee for an exception and determination of an alternative method to prove currency. Please see policy on alternative proof of currency,

## REFERENCES

1. Alliance of Medical Radiation Technologist Regulators of Canada (2018) <https://www.amrtrc.ca/amrtrc-members.html>
2. Health & Care Professionals Council. (2011). Returning to Practice. Retrieved from [http://www.hpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10001364returning\\_to\\_practice.pdf](http://www.hpc-uk.org/assets/documents/10001364returning_to_practice.pdf)
3. NS College of Nursing (2019) Currency of Practice <https://www.nscn.ca/registration-licensing/general-licensing-information/currency-practice>
4. The Nova Scotia College of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals Act (2013)