



# INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION GUIDE

For a person applying for registration who has completed an educational program in medical imaging and radiation therapy and/or practised as a medical imaging and radiation therapy professional outside of Canada

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# **INTRODUCTION**

The Nova Scotia College of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals (NSCMIRTP) welcomes your application for registration as a medical imaging and radiation therapy professional (MIRTP) in the discipline of Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Nuclear Medicine Technology, Radiation Therapy, or Radiological Technology.

To legally practise medical imaging or radiation therapy in Nova Scotia, you must be registered with the NSCMIRTP. Registering with the regulatory body demonstrates that the individual respects the public's right to safe, competent, and ethical care, and recognizes the NSCMIRTP's role in supporting and monitoring professional practice.

In order to be eligible for a licence, you must meet the requirements for registration set out in the <u>registration regulations</u> made under the <u>Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals</u> <u>Act</u> (NSCMIRTP Act).

The scope of practice of medical imaging and radiation therapy, as defined under the NSCMIRTP Act, is the application of professional medical imaging technology knowledge, skills, and judgement in the use of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation, magnetic fields, high-frequency sound waves, and other energy forms, in the provision of diagnostic and therapeutic modalities, in collaboration with other health care professionals, to achieve optimal health, wellness, and functional performance, and includes the practice of: (i) diagnostic medical sonography, (ii) magnetic resonance technology, (iii) nuclear medicine technology, (iv) radiological technology, and (v) the practice of any other medical imaging technology discipline set out in the regulations.

The Act recognizes practice includes not only the delivery of clinical services, but also research, education, consultation, management, administration, information technology, regulation, policy, or system development relevant to the foregoing, and other practices as taught in MIRTP programs in Nova Scotia.

Further information about the application and registration process can be found in this application guide.

# WHO CAN APPLY?

Any individual who has completed an educational program (or equivalent education) in medical imaging and radiation therapy (MIRT) in one or more of the following specialties: diagnostic medical sonography, magnetic resonance technology, nuclear medicine technology, radiological technology, or radiation therapy, within the last five years, or who has practised the profession within the last five years, and now wishes to practise as a medical imaging and radiation therapy professional in Nova Scotia, can apply for registration with NSCMIRTP.

This application guidebook is for those individuals who have successfully completed an

educational program in medical imaging and radiation therapy and/or practised outside of Canada. An individual who has successfully completed an educational program in medical imaging or radiation therapy outside of Canada is considered an internationally educated applicant. To work as a medical imaging or radiation therapy professional (MIRTP) in Nova Scotia, you must be registered with the Nova Scotia College of Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy Professionals (NSCMIRTP). The path to successful registration for international applicants differs from Canadian Educated applicants as an individual assessment of education and skills must be done to ensure all registrants meet the entrance to practise standards set out in Canada.

# **PATHWAYS**

Internationally educated applicants seeking to become registered in Nova Scotia will follow one of the three pathways below. For a visual flow chart of pathways, see

## APPENDIX A - VISUAL FLOW CHART (page 15).

# Pathway #1

If you are currently working as an MIRTP in a regulated Canadian province (see <u>link</u> for currently regulated provinces), you are eligible for registration under the labour mobility provisions of the Regulated Health Professions Act, 1991. Please have your current MIRTP regulator send NSCMIRTP a completed <u>CFTA form</u> and follow this link to the application process for an MIRTP registered in a regulated Canadian jurisdiction.

## Pathway #2

If you are currently working as an MIRTP in an unregulated Canadian province or territory and meet the following criteria:

- Are able to demonstrate that you have been successfully assessed by either the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) or Sonography Canada (SC);
- Have successfully written the National Certification Exam in your chosen area of practice.

Then please follow the standard registration process.

# Pathway #3

International applicants who are seeking registration as an MIRTP in Canada for the first time will need to have their English language proficiency and legal eligibility to work in Canada assessed. This can be done by emailing NSCMIRTP at info@nscmirtp.ca. Once NSCMIRTP confirms the applicant has met the criteria, and have signed an acknowledgement letter outlining requirements, they will be referred to CAMRT or SC to complete a good character assessment, and have their academic and clinical credentials assessed for Canadian equivalency. A successful assessment by the National body (CAMRT or SC) will be followed by the applicant gaining access to write the national competency exam in their chosen area of practice. These exams are currently offered three times a year in January, May, and September. Upon successfully challenging the national competency exam, the applicant can then return to the NSCMIRTP to complete the application for licensing as an MIRTP in Nova Scotia by following the standard registration process.

# TIMELINES IN THE APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION PROCESS

For international applicants that have been employed as an MIRTP in another Canadian province or territory and have already successfully written the Canadian Association of Medical Radiation Technologists (CAMRT) or Sonography Canada (SC) entrance to practise exam, the registration process usually only takes 1-2 weeks (Pathways #1 & #2).

For those seeking to license for the first time in Canada (Pathway #3), the process can be much

longer. Applicants should contact NSCMIRTP at <u>info@nscmirtp.ca</u> to begin the process as soon as possible. The initial assessment through NSCMIRTP typically takes 1-4 weeks if adequate documentation is received. Once NSCMIRTP approves the initial criteria, they will refer the applicant to CAMRT or SC for academic and clinical assessment. Typically, it takes 1-3 months for CAMRT or SC assessment and for the arrangement to write at the next available exam sitting.

Those who are seeking a licence as an MRT using pathway #3 (radiological technology, nuclear medicine, magnetic resonance imaging, radiation therapy) should follow Step 3 - Begin CAMRT Assessment Process for MRTS (page 5). For those who are seeking a licence as a Sonographer, please follow Step 4 - Begin Sonography Canada Assessment Process for Sonographers (page 7).

# **STEPS TO LICENSING**

# Step 1 - Contact NSCMIRTP

The first step is to contact the NSCMIRTP at <u>info@nscmirtp.com</u> for the initial assessment. Documents required for initial assessment of NSCMIRTP:

- IEMIRTP Acknowledgment or IEDMS Acknowledgement;
- Evidence of NSCMIRTP English language requirements (Refer to the English Language Proficiency policy).

# **Step 2 - Review Assessment Process**

Begin the process of assessment with SC or CAMRT. For MRTs following CAMRT process, go to CAMRT process in Step 3 (page 5). For those following SC process, go to Step 4 (page 7).

# **Step 3 - Begin CAMRT Assessment Process for MRTS**

Applicants are encouraged to review the assessment process and timelines in detail on the <u>CAMRT website</u>. CAMRT also has an extensive collection of resources for the assessment of credentials and to help applicants prepare for writing the national certification exam. Applicants can write the exam **up to 4 times** in total. This number of maximum writing attempts is set by the respective national body.

Application and required documents must be submitted a minimum of 3 months prior to the date of writing the national exam to allow time for assessment. MRT applicants must fill out an application form and submit the required documents to CAMRT. CAMRT's Manager of Certification and Assessment Committee reviews submitted documents to determine if they demonstrate substantially similar content and expectations in comparison to the <u>entrance to</u> <u>practice competency profile</u> for Canadian graduates. If proper documentation is submitted, the process of assessment is expected to take less than 3 months.

Documents that must be submitted include:

- Completed application for <u>assessment form</u>.
- Non-refundable assessment fee of \$300.00 CAD.
- Verification of completion of a medical radiation technology program in one of the following disciplines: radiological technology, nuclear medicine technology, magnetic resonance, radiation therapy. A diploma or degree certificate (notarized copy) is required.
- An official transcript of marks from your education program in medical radiation technology (notarized copy).
- Curriculum or course outline of your medical radiation technology program indicating the amount of time spent in both the theoretical and clinical components of your program. The curriculum or course outline must provide a:
  - Detailed list of courses and a description of the content of each course (photocopy of education institution syllabus).
  - Description of how you were evaluated on both the theory and clinical components of the program.
- Clinical Assessment Checklist of work experience following graduation from your education program. Work experience must be within the past five (5) years in the discipline in which you are applying.
  - o Magnetic Resonance
  - o Nuclear Medicine
  - o Radiation Therapy
  - o Radiological Technology
- Confirmation of employment letter from your most recent or current employer. This letter
  must be written on the letterhead used by the institution and must confirm your last date of
  employment, number of practice hours and a reference regarding your practice as a
  medical radiation technologist, and must include the employer's contact information (email
  or paper accepted). If you are a recent graduate with little or no work experience, and you
  cannot provide an employment letter, your credentials will be considered for assessment
  and eligibility to write the CAMRT exam within 5 years from the date of your graduation.
- Evidence of registration with an association/society/regulatory body for the specific discipline, if you are or were registered in the past.
- Letter of reference attesting your good character from someone who has known you for a

minimum of two (2) years. The referee must sign the letter, print their name, and provide contact information. Email or paper accepted.

- Evidence of English language proficiency, if entire medical radiation technology education program (both theory and clinical components) were not conducted in English or French. (Original copy of language test results required.)
  - o See language fluency requirements
- Relevant evidence of continuing professional development activities.

# **Step 4 - Begin Sonography Canada Assessment Process for Sonographers**

The national competency/certification exam is offered 3 times a year in January, May, and September. Applicants can write the exam **up to 4 times** in total. Applications to write the exam must be submitted a minimum of 3 months prior to the date of writing the national exam to allow time for assessment.

Applicants must fill out an application form and submit required documents to NSCMIRTP. NSCMIRTP then hires an assessor from SC to review submitted documents to determine if they demonstrate substantially similar content and expectations in comparison to the national competency profile for Canadian graduates. If proper documentation is submitted, the process of assessment is expected to take less than 3 months.

Documents that must be submitted include:

- Completed application for assessment form.
- Non-refundable assessment fee of \$300.00 CAD.
- Verification of completion of a sonography program (or equivalent). A diploma or degree certificate (notarized copy) is required.
- An official transcript of marks from your education program in diagnostic medical ultrasound (notarized copy).
- Curriculum or course outline of your sonography program indicating the amount of time spent in both the theoretical and clinical components of your program. The curriculum or course outline must provide a:
  - Detailed list of courses and a description of the content of each course (photocopy of education institution syllabus).
  - Description of how you were evaluated on both the theory and clinical components of the program.
- Clinical Assessment Checklist of work experience following graduation from your education program. Work experience must be within the past five (5) years in the discipline in which

you are applying.

- Confirmation of employment letter from your most recent or current employer. This letter
  must be written on the letterhead used by the institution and must confirm your last date of
  employment, number of practice hours and a reference regarding your practice as a medical
  radiation technologist. The letter must supply employer's contact information; (email or
  paper accepted). If you are a recent graduate with little or no work experience and you
  cannot provide an employment letter, your credentials will be considered for assessment
  and eligibility to write the SC exam within 5 years from the date of your graduation.
- Evidence of registration with an association/society/regulatory body for the specific discipline, if you are or were registered in the past.
- Letter of reference attesting your good character from someone who has known you for a minimum of two (2) years. The referee must sign the letter, print their name, and provide contact information.
- Evidence of language fluency if entire medical radiation technology education program (both theory and clinical components) were not conducted in English or French. (Original copy of language test results required.)
  - o See language fluency requirements
- Relevant evidence of continuing professional development activities.
- Additionally, if all documents requested (or suitable equivalent evidence) can be provided the SC Canadian Clinical Skills Assessment (CCSA) is not required to gain licensing.

## Step 5 - Fill Gaps or Register for Exam

If not equivalent, CAMRT/ SC or NSCMIRTP will send information outlining possible options to fill deficiencies to allow you to re-apply.

If deemed equivalent, you can now proceed to register to write the national entry to practice exam.

#### Step 6 - Exam Prep

Prepare/Study for the national exam.

#### Step 7 - Write Exam

Write the national exam.

#### Step 8 - Pass/Fail Exam Next Steps

If you fail, you can register to rewrite the exam at the next sitting. We would also encourage you to seek additional resources to help prepare to rewrite the exam. Please reach out to

info@nscmirtp.ca for options.

If you pass, you can continue following the <u>standard registration process</u> to license with NSCMIRTP as in Step 9 below.

## Step 9 - Apply for Licensing with NSCMIRTP

After successfully completing the assessment from CAMRT or SC, and passing the National Exam, the final step is to register with NSCMIRTP through the registrant and applicant online portal.

It is recommended that you use a computer with a scanner, to complete your online application rather than a mobile device. It is also recommended that you use Google Chrome as your browser when completing your online application.

To start your online application, you must create an account in the Registrant and Applicant portal by clicking on the "Apply now" button at this <u>link</u>. Once you have submitted your initial application, you will be able to return to it using the Registrant "Login" button from the NSCMIRTP website.

After selecting apply, read the instructions, and then check the box stating that you are ready to proceed. Please follow these steps for your registration:

#### **1. Create your account**

- Enter an email address that you monitor regularly. All correspondence from NSCMIRTP will be sent via email. This email address will also serve as your username. If you are using a work email as your primary email, please ensure you also included a non-work email as a secondary email as if you are on leave from work, your primary email becomes non-accessible.
- Choose a password and enter it.

#### 2. Registration details

- Choose your primary discipline of practice. This is the discipline you practise the majority of your hours in.
- Choose your secondary discipline (if applicable). This is only required if you are licensing in two disciplines.
- Application category: choose **Out of country applicant**.

#### 3. Demographics

These questions ask about your aboriginal status and if you identify as member of a visible minority. The data will be used by the Department of Health and Wellness in efforts to work

towards achieving greater diversity of the healthcare workforce. The questions in this section are optional. If you prefer not to answer, simply select "Prefer Not to Answer" and proceed to the next section.

#### 4. Registrant's data

Enter your name, date of birth, gender, address, phone number, and professional liability insurance (PLI) policy number.

Your full legal name must be provided on your application. If you have a preferred name used in practice, please fill this in. Both names will appear on the NSCMIRTP's public registry, but all documents from NSCMIRTP will be issued in your legal name.

#### 5. Volunteer questions

Choose if you are interested in being contacted about volunteering opportunities with NSCMIRTP. This will not obligate you to volunteer. It will simply identify those who may have an interest so we can reach out with volunteer opportunities.

#### 6. Citizenship status

Choose among Canadian citizen, Permanent Resident, or Work Visa.

## 7. Language proficiency

The NSCMIRTP registration regulation requires that applicants are able to speak and write English with reasonable fluency. You will be required to answer the questions below:

- Your Primary Language (at home).
- Your MIRTP Educational Program training language.

If neither of these is English, you may be required to provide proof of English proficiency. Please see Language Policy <u>here</u>.

#### 8. Basic MIRTP education

Enter your Institution, Education Category, Education Level, Year Completed, Province, and Country. This is where you received your education to become an MIRTP.

#### 9. Other education

Enter information in this field if you have additional education other than MIRTP. You can add more by clicking "Other Education" button. This may include additional certifications such as

Mammography, MSK Ultrasound, Dosimetry, 2<sup>nd</sup> disciplines, or higher education such as a Master's degree.

## 10. National exam

- "Have you written the national exam?"
- If you answer "Yes" to this question, you will need to enter "Number of attempts" and "Date of written."
- If your answer is "No," you will need to enter "Date to be written." If you are applying for licences in two disciplines, enter the date of the discipline you first wrote the exam in.

## **11. Professional registrations (other than NSCMIRTP)**

Complete the attached Registration/Licensure Data Verification Form to support your status or registration with a regulatory/licensing organization other than the NSCMIRTP. This means only regulatory bodies, including <u>NBAMRT</u>, <u>SAMRT</u>, <u>ACMDTT</u>, <u>CMIRTO</u>, <u>OTIMROEPMQ</u>. It does not include associations such as NLAMRT, CAMRT, Sonography Canada, MAMRT, etc.

#### 12. Employment

You will need to enter the past 5 years of work history, including:

- Initial MIRTP Employment Year
- Initial MIRTP Employment Province or Country
- Your current employment status
- Have you ever been employed in the practice of MIRTP in any other jurisdiction at any time in the past? If "Yes," please provide details of your past MIRTP employment.
- Have you recently been offered a position as an MIRTP in Nova Scotia? If your answer is "Yes," please complete the Pending Employment section. Please note once you begin this job, you should update this information to reflect current employment.

## 13. Declaration and disclosure of information

You are required to answer the following questions. If your answer is YES to any of the following questions, you MUST provide details in the text area provided.

• Have you been the subject of a finding by any regulatory body for professional misconduct, conduct unbecoming, incompetence, incapacity, or lack of fitness to practise, or any similar finding, in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada that you have not previously disclosed to NSCMIRTP?

- Have you been convicted or found guilty of an offense in any jurisdiction in Canada under the Criminal Code, the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (formerly the Narcotics Control Act) or the Food and Drugs Act for which a pardon has not been granted that you have not previously disclosed to NSCMIRTP?
- Have you been convicted or found guilty of an offense under a criminal or penal statute of a jurisdiction outside of Canada for which a pardon has not been granted that you have not previously disclosed to NSCMIRTP?
- Are criminal charges pending or outstanding against you, whether in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada?
- Are you the subject of any current proceeding by a professional regulatory body in relation to professional misconduct, conduct unbecoming, incompetence, incapacity, or lack of fitness to practise, or any similar finding, whether in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada?
- Have you been denied registration by a professional regulatory body, whether in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada?
- Have you been terminated, or forced to resign from employment as a health professional for incompetence, unprofessional behaviour, incapacity or lack of fitness to practise, or any similar reason, whether in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada that you have not previously disclosed to NSCMIRTP?
- Are you listed on any child abuse registry or adult abuse registry, whether in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada?
- Have you been found liable in any civil proceedings?

#### **14. Supporting documents**

Upload required files. If you are missing a required file, it will not save the application. To save your application in this situation, please upload a blank or duplicate file. This will allow the saving of your application, and missing documents can be uploaded later.

#### 15. Payment of fees

The initial application fee is \$100.00. You can choose to pay by credit card (Visa, Mastercard, American Express), by cheque, or by money order.

If you application is approved, you will then be charged the annual fees of \$450. If you license as May 1<sup>st</sup> then fees are prorated to \$225.

#### **16. Acknowledgement**

Check the box for your declaration:

I certify and solemnly declare that the contents of this Registration Application, including the Declaration and Disclosure of Information and all documents in support of this Registration Application, are true, correct, and complete. I understand and agree that any false or misleading statement in this Registration Application, including within the Declaration and Disclosure of Information, may constitute professional misconduct and may result in disciplinary action by the NSCMIRTP.

# FEES RELATED TO ASSESSMENTS AND LICENSING

Below are fees an international applicant can expect to pay to become a licensed MIRTP in Nova Scotia (all in CAD):

- Non-refundable assessment fee (CAMRT or SC) of approximately \$200-300;
- National Certification Exam fee (CAMRT approximately \$840 and SC approximately \$700; please see their websites for specific amount);
- Exam center fee of approximately \$200;
- NSCMIRTP application fee of \$100.

In addition, international applicants may require other services which they must cover costs of. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Translation of documents;
- Language proficiency testing;
- Notarization of documents;
- Bridging programs/courses;
- Once licensed, annual costs to maintain licensing in Nova Scotia include:
  - Professional Liability Insurance (approximately \$250 annually);
  - NSCMIRTP annual registration fee of \$450.

# INTERNATIONALLY EDUCATED NATIONAL EXAM PREP

The NSCMIRTP offers a program that can be used by international applicants to help prepare them to write the national exam. After completing a self-directed study of the academic material required by the national competency profile, individuals can write a low-risk competency-based exam that follows the same blueprint as the national exam. For further information, please reach out to NSCMIRTP at this email address: <u>info@nscmirtp.ca</u>, or go to our <u>website</u> for the program

update.

# MAINTAINING OR REGAINING YOUR REGISTRATION

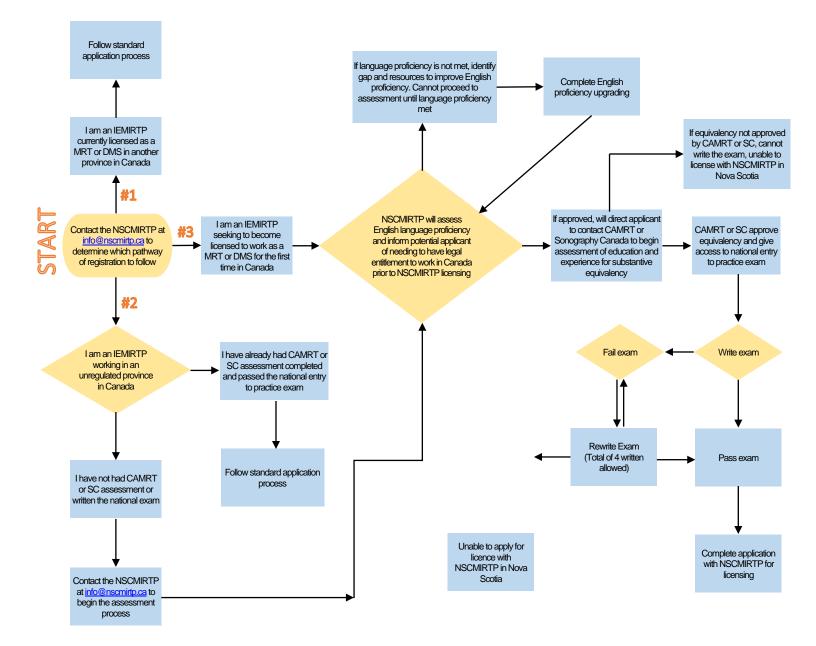
To maintain registration, individuals must be compliant with the <u>Continuing Professional</u> <u>Development (CPD) program</u> and are subject to an audit every two years. Details of the full CPD Program, with a list of approved activities as well as the audit process, can be found <u>here</u>.

It is also a condition of registration that you provide the College with details of any of the following that relates to you and that occurs or arises after your registration:

- A finding of guilt for any offence, including any criminal offence and any offence related to the regulation of the practice of the profession. Offences relate to findings of guilt made by a court that are typically punishable by a fine or jail term.
- A finding of professional misconduct, incompetency, or incapacity, in Nova Scotia in relation to another health profession or in another jurisdiction in relation to the profession or another health profession.
- An investigation or a proceeding involving an allegation of professional misconduct, incompetency, or incapacity, in Nova Scotia in relation to another profession or in another jurisdiction in relation to the profession or another health profession.
- Being terminated or forced to resign from employment as a health professional for incompetence, unprofessional behavior, incapacity or lack of fitness to practise, or any similar reason, whether in Nova Scotia or in any other jurisdiction within Canada or outside Canada that you have not previously disclosed to the NSCMIRTP.

In addition, registrants must maintain professional liability insurance and meet currency requirements in accordance with the College policy. Information on these can be found on the NSCMIRTP <u>website</u>.

# **APPENDIX A – VISUAL FLOW CHART**



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