



Published: July 16, 2021

Fall Administration of OSCE Examination (September – November 2021)

Dear Qualifying Examination Candidates,

The College is pleased to announce that it is scheduling administrations of the OSCE portion of the Qualifying Examination (QE) for this fall. Three administrations are scheduled, one each in September, October, and November of 2021.

The College appreciates everyone's patience during the last year when the dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic and Public Health safety measures ordered by the government prevented the administration of the OSCE portion of the QE. Of course, the conditions surrounding the pandemic are changing day to day, but we are optimistic that the current trends in COVID-19 dynamics and the reopening of services and businesses in the province will allow the College to administer the OSCE portion of the QE. Because of the backlog of candidates that has been generated during the past year, the College is scheduling three administrations of the OSCE exam, once in each of September, October and November.

Eligibility

ONLY the following candidates can register for the fall administration of the OSCE exam:

- **Registered candidates** who are attempting the OSCE portion for the first time.
- **Repeat candidates** of any prior registration year who require a repeat of their OSCE portion.
- **Potential candidates** who have successfully completed their academic assessments but have not yet attempted the OSCE portion.

All new applicants and potential candidates who have not completed their initial application or academic assessment with the College can register for the Qualifying Examination that will be administered in early 2022 (January-March).

Proposed OSCE Exam Dates

- **September 18 and 19, 2021**
- **October 23 and 24, 2021**
- **November 27 and 28, 2021**

Please note candidates **MUST** attend both dates in a given weekend.

Location

David Braley Health Sciences Centre, McMaster University
100 Main Street West,
Hamilton, Ontario

Prioritization

Because of the backlog of Candidates, we are administering the OSCE Examination on 3 separate weekends, once in each of September, October and November (2021). Not everyone can take the examination on the same date.

In order to schedule candidates as fairly as possible the following process will be followed:

1. Candidates will be asked to complete an online survey indicating their order of preference for taking the OSCE examination on the dates that it is being administered. (This is a guide for the College during the scheduling process, not a menu).
2. The order in which candidates will be assigned an examination slot will be determined by the date on which they first became an approved examination candidate (effective date).

PLEASE NOTE: THE COLLEGE WILL ENDEAVOUR TO PROVIDE CANDIDATES WITH THEIR MOST PREFERRED DATES FOR EXAMINATION. NOT EVERYONE WILL BE SCHEDULED ON THEIR FIRST CHOICE. THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE.

Next Steps

1. Complete the survey (link below) indicating your order of preference for dates (September, October or November) on which you will be scheduled to take the OSCE examination. Please remember that there is no guarantee that you will be scheduled on the dates that match your first choice. You must be available to take the examination on which you are scheduled.
2. Once you have completed the survey, the College will then reach out to invite you to REGISTER for the exam, and an examination date will be assigned to you. Please do NOT contact the College to ask for an update on the assignment of dates.
3. **The scheduling preference survey is found here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CDOOSCE>**
The survey will close on Friday, July 30, 2021. We will still accept registration after the survey close date, you will be assigned an exam date based on availability.

READ THIS CAREFULLY

- Availability and preferences are honoured based on your priority sequence and based on any operational requirements and COVID-19 restrictions at the time of the examination. We may adjust a candidate's dates as needed.
- As the COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing, the above dates are "proposed" dates and may be subject to change on short notice due to any resulting governmental restrictions, building capacity requirements, and/or physical distancing requirements. Should any of these changes occur, the College will keep candidates informed of any of these changes as soon as possible.
- **Candidates should be prepared to attempt the earliest examination on any of the three administrations noted above. This includes being prepared to take the examination on the earliest anticipated administration (Sept 18/19). Schedule your studying time accordingly.**
- The College will NOT be accepting any new initial applications for these examinations.
- In the event that you are unable to take the examination on any of these dates, you can apply for the next administration of the OSCE examination (January – March 2022).

- The next administration of the MCQ portion of the Qualifying Examination will be in February 2022.
- Candidates will only be registered for ONE of the three administrations of the OSCE examination in the fall of this year.
- Each of the 3 OSCE Fall exams are distinctly different exams. The exam format remains unchanged from previous administrations. The College is preserving all exam procedures and formats to ensure consistency with all other OSCE administrations, including all fall administrations of the OSCE Examination this year.

Contingency Plan:

In the unfortunate event that the dynamics of the COVID-19 pandemic results in further governmental restrictions affecting building capacity, ability to congregate indoors, and/or physical distancing requirements that may result in the cancellation of a specific OSCE administration, **we will reprioritize candidates based on their prioritization order. This means that if one OSCE administration has to be cancelled, candidates with a higher prioritization sequence will be given the first opportunity to take the next OSCE administration. This may result in the shifting of some candidates to the next available administration.**

While this will be an extremely unfortunate situation, this procedure is based on procedural fairness with higher sequenced candidates having had to wait longer for the next OSCE exam proportional to lower sequenced candidates. We remain optimistic that there will be no disruption to the proposed exam schedule.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

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