2013 Changes to MAINPRO

FAQs

Why are changes being made to Mainpro?

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) is pleased to announce plans to update its Maintenance of Proficiency (MAINPRO®) program over the next few years. The next few years will see some substantive changes based on member recommendations. These are intended to help all Mainpro participants more readily address their changing learning needs while enabling them to meet the CPD requirements of our College as well as the provincial/territorial regulatory authorities/licensing bodies. With a focus on best practices in medical education, and knowledge translation that makes the link between learning and practice a priority, Mainpro will be revised to better meet the changing needs of family physicians across Canada.

Annual Minimum Reporting:

Q: Does the annual minimum requirement affect the total number of credits that I must accrue and report over the five-year cycle?
A: No. The current requirement remains in place: a minimum of 250 credits (at least 125 must be Mainpro-M1 and/or Mainpro-C) must be earned and reported during each five-year cycle.

Q: Do some or all of the required annual credits need to be Mainpro-C? Mainpro-M1?
A: No. The annual minimum may be comprised of any combination of Mainpro-M1, Mainpro-M2, and/or Mainpro-C credits.

Q: Do 25 credits need to be earned AND reported in each calendar year? For example, if I earned 50 credits in one year could these meet the requirements for the current and following years of my cycle?
A: No. The annual minimum requirement is meant to support our members in adhering to the ideals of lifelong, continuous learning. For this reason, you must earn AND report no fewer than 25 credits each year to the CFPC.
Q: If I report all of the minimum required credits prior to the end of my cycle, will I still need to report 25 credits in the remaining years of my cycle?
A: Yes. All participants will be required to earn and report a minimum of 25 credits in each year of their five-year cycle, regardless of whether they have achieved the minimum cycle requirement of 250, or not.

Q: Why 25 credits? This number seems too high/too low.
A: This number is considered to be an appropriate starting point for this type of program change. Our goal is to make the number of credits achievable for all Mainpro participants and ease those who tend to report all of their activity at the end of the five-year cycle into the habit of reporting a small number of credits each year. While many individuals report annually – and far exceed the minimum requirement – we wished to remain sensitive to those for whom this might represent a significant change.

Q: What happens if I fail to earn and report 25 credits in a given year of my cycle?
A: Individuals who do not meet the annual minimum in a given year will be entered into a credit validation program in the subsequent year(s) of their cycle. During the first validation year, individuals will be required to send in documentation to support every credit submission and to have earned a minimum total of 50 credits over the past two years, including a minimum of 25 Mainpro-M1s and/or Mainpro-C credits. If an individual does not meet the requirements of the first validation year, they will receive a second validation year. During this second year, they will be required to send in documentation for all credit submissions and to have earned a minimum total of 100 credits over the past three years, including a minimum of 50 Mainpro-M1s and/or Mainpro-C credits. If requirements for the second validation year are not met, special designations, membership and Mainpro participation may become restricted.

Online-Only Credit Reporting:

Q: How do I sign up for an online account so that I may report my credits electronically?
A: Please visit www.cfpc.ca/ReportCredits for simple step-by-step instructions. Also, CPD staff are available Monday to Friday, 7:00am to 5:00pm EST by phone for support (1-800-387-6197).

Q: Don’t I need to send in certificates or other documents as evidence of my participation/attendance?
A: Only Mainpro-C activities require proof of participation/attendance be submitted to the College. For Mainpro-M1 and Mainpro-M2 activities, please keep documentation for six (6) years in the event you are selected to participate in credit auditing.

Q: What will happen if I submit my credits to the College by fax or mail after the deadline of January 1, 2013? Will you simply discard them?
A: Staff will not enter these submissions into your record. Instead, they will hold onto the submissions made in paper until they can arrange a time to educate the submitter on how to report their CPD credits online.

Q: What if I don’t have access to the Internet?
A: Most of our members will have access through local libraries, schools, etc. if they do not have access in their home or office. If you find that you do not have access to a computer/Internet, please contact the CPD Department’s Mainpro Support Coordinator (mainprocredits@cfpc.ca / ext. 243) for assistance.