

May 3, 2021

Dear colleagues,

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) is excited to announce that the simulated office oral (SOO) component of the Certification Examination in Family Medicine is to be **delivered virtually starting in April 2022**.

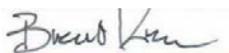
We strongly believe that assessment of the patient-centred approach in a clinical encounter is an important aspect of certification in family medicine. This is well assessed in the SOO component of the certification exam. As we have not been able to offer the SOO component of the exam safely for the past two years during the global pandemic, we have explored ways to deliver the exam in a safe and effective manner for all candidates, examiners, and staff. We will work hard to ensure the high level of camaraderie and professionalism that examiners and candidates have come to expect will still be present with this format.

In the past many candidates had to pay extra for travel and lodging to participate in the exam; this will no longer be required for most test takers. However, given that Internet service in some smaller rural and remote communities in Canada may be limited, individuals in these settings may want to travel to locations with stronger Internet service.

The format of the certification exam will return to two components in spring 2022; the written short-answer management problem (SAMP) component will be delivered through Prometric and will be taken at either a testing centre or remotely, while the five-station SOO component will be delivered virtually. All candidates seeking Certification in the College of Family Physicians of Canada in 2022 will be required to pass both the SAMP and SOO components. As well, any individual who needs to retake the examination in 2022 will need to pass both exam components. The examination fees for 2022 are the same as what the two-component exam would have cost in 2021.

We will announce the selected SOO delivery company in late May 2021. To keep you informed of these details and what they mean for you, we are in the process of updating the CFPC website and will offer a series of orientation materials beginning in late August 2021. More information will be provided on a regular basis.

Sincerely,



Brent Kvern, MD, CCFP, FCFP  
Director, Examinations and Certification