



CPD in Focus

Spring 2026

A quick look at what's new in CERT+, updates that may impact CPD providers, and helpful reminders as we head into the busy spring/summer season.

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Updates to CERT+

Improved organizational control

CERT+ now includes enhanced organization level controls to streamline user management and improve oversight.

Primary contact responsibilities

Primary contacts will now have additional abilities and responsibilities for their organization. It is the primary contact who bears the responsibility for their organization as a whole, including users within their organization who have access to their programs.

- Overall management of users linked to the provider organization – responsible for maintaining accurate provider organization information
- Ability to approve requests for new users to join their organization
- Ability to remove users from their organization

Provider organization program visibility

- All users within a provider organization can now view, edit, and manage all draft and in-progress applications belonging to their organization. This pertains to applications that someone else within their organization started.

- All users within a provider organization can view and add sessions to any approved program belonging to their organization. This applies to approved programs that someone else within their organization started.

Please make sure the primary contact is correct and up to date, as annual attestations will be sent to them again in November 2026.

Priority Review Pilot

A Priority Review option for national applications is being piloted. It is an optional, fee-based service for eligible CPD providers submitting general programs for national certification when timelines are shorter than the standard six-week submission requirement.

It can only be requested when review staff capacity allows and is only available for general programs (e.g., single-delivery conference, regularly scheduled series (RSS), and any other CPD program or activity). Priority Review applications must be submitted at least 14 days before the activity start date and can only be paid for by credit card.

As it relies on capacity of the CFPC office receiving the application, availability will vary between offices/provinces.

Priority Review expedites the application but does not guarantee certification approval or completion of review prior to the activity start date. As with all applications, speed depends on payment being received, scientific planning committee (SPC) member confirmation, thorough responses within the application, submission of supporting documentation, as well as timely responses to requests for more information or required changes.

For these reasons, specific turnaround timelines cannot be guaranteed. Priority Review prioritizes your application within the certification review queue and the application

is assessed by reviewers who have committed to being available for quicker turnaround.

The Priority Review fee is non-refundable once review has commenced.

Blackout dates

Since Priority Review depends on staff capacity, availability will vary. For example, applications submitted in December will not have the option to select Priority Review. Additionally, availability during the summer months may be impacted by vacations.

Once again, we recommend CPD providers confirm with the CPD office before the six-week minimum to ensure availability of Priority Review.

Standard 8.0 – Audit and Violation Process

Standard 8.0 Audits and Addressing Mainpro+ Certification Policy or Procedure Violations has been updated with clearer language about audits and next steps if violations are identified. It is now available online for your review.

Terms and Conditions for Exhibitors and Sponsors

As per Administrative Standard 2.2 - Role of the SPC, the SPC must remain in full control and independent from financial sponsors of the activity. Furthermore:

- Educational grants support the activity but do not influence content or delivery
- In-kind support follows the same independence requirements and also requires written agreements
- Assistance (e.g., logistics) may be offered but must never direct or influence the program. This assistance with logistical support is under the direction of the SPC. Sponsors cannot make decisions about the activity design (content, format, brochures, exhibition hall, etc.) or delivery (venue, third-party services, hosting platform, etc.).

If helpful, we recommend thinking of grants as **unrestricted funds** supporting an independent educational activity.

For a list of terms and conditions we expect to see in all written agreements with sponsors (regardless of whether support is financial, in-kind, for profit or not-for-profit), please see question 18 in the [National Standard for Support of Accredited CPD Activities' FAQ](#).

Provincial vs. National Applications

Ever wonder what makes an application provincial or national? It all depends on how the activity is being marketed. If people are being invited from more than one province or territory, the application is deemed national and is sent to the national office for review. If people from only one province or territory are being invited, the application is provincial.

Test Yourself

A CPD provider is offering a live in-person conference in Quebec. People from across Canada are expected to attend. There is an exhibit hall but no sponsors. When filling out the 'Delivery' section within the application form, how should the CPD provider answer the following question:

*Is this program being marketed to a single province/territory?

* Yes/No

Go to the answer.

Helpful Tips

- When an application is returned to you, **copy/paste reviewer comments into a separate document** so you can track and resolve them thoroughly—this makes resubmissions smoother and faster.
- Contact your CFPC member representative(s) only after payment has been submitted. They will then find the CPD activity waiting for their confirmation in CERT+.
- **Pay by credit card whenever possible.** Applications paid by cheque or EFT will experience significant delays.
 - Reminder: Priority Review only accepts payment by credit card.
- Make all updates **directly within the application form**—emails to certplus@cfpc.ca about reviewer feedback won't reach the reviewers.
- Do not rely on the chat function for time sensitive issues. It is best used for FYIs, not urgent inquiries. Always follow up by email if questions are urgent.

Reminders

CFPC Members' Cycles End June 30, 2026

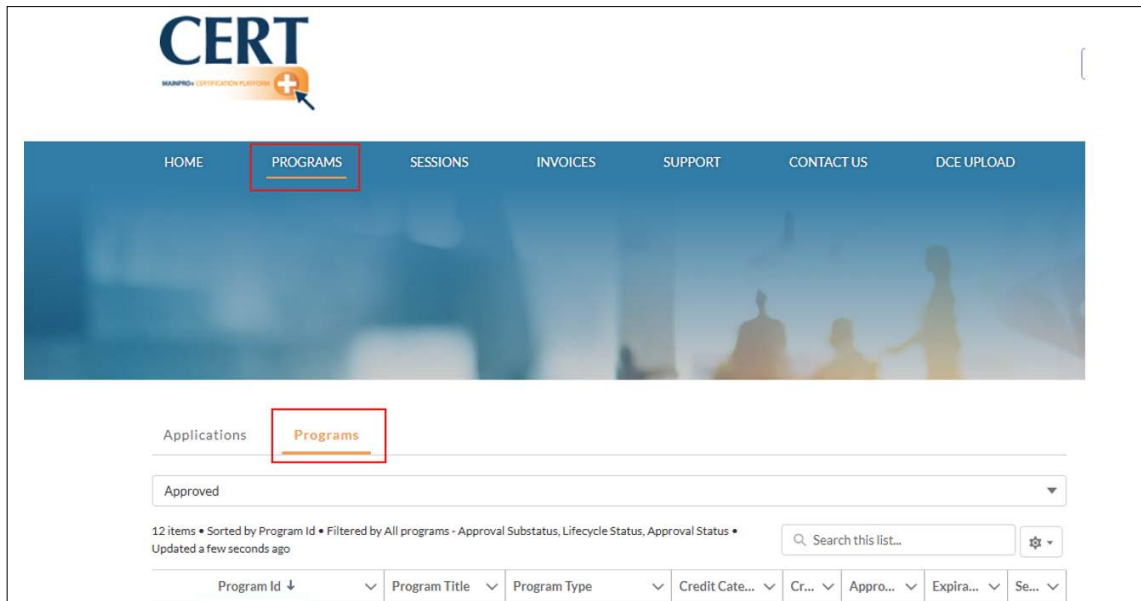
To make sure participants can claim their Mainpro+® credits for any activities completed, please upload your Direct Credit Entries (DCE) and issue certificates of participation by June 30th.

Submit Your Sessions!

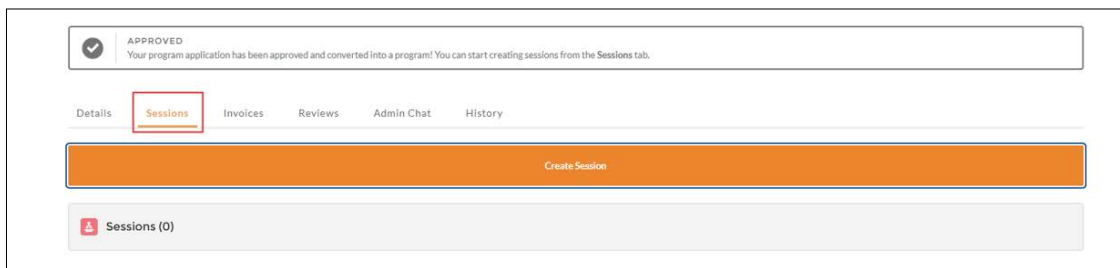
Once an application is approved, please make sure **all sessions are submitted in CERT+**. If sessions are not submitted, participants will not be able to find or claim their credits.

To add sessions, please follow these instructions:

1. Navigate to the Programs page.
2. Select the Programs tab.
3. Select the program ID (six-digit program ID#)



4. Click the Sessions tab inside the program.
5. Click the "Create Session" button to launch a new session form.
6. Complete the form fields.
7. Click the Submit button.



Once you have created the session, please make sure the **unique nine-digit session ID#** has been properly added to the program Certificate of Attendance. If the **nine-digit CERT+ session ID** is missing from the certificate, members will be redirected to the CPD provider to obtain an updated certificate. See a sample certificate/letter of attendance on the following page.



Certificate of Attendance

This is to certify that

<First Name, Last Name>

Has participated in the following program:

<Program and/or Module Title> ←

This must reflect the title of the activity as approved in CERT+

Organized by: <Name of CPD Provider who submitted the activity in CERT+>

Cert+ 9-digit Session ID#: <CFPC Program ID# listed in approval email + Session ID
e.g. 123456-001>

Session Date(s): <Date range as it relates to Cert+ session ID > ←

If asynchronous, can be date participant completed activity requirements

Location: e.g. Sudbury, ON / Webcast / OTN / Online

<Insert Certification Statement(s) here>

(as found in Administrative Standard [2.8 Certification statements](#))

Signature of an official from the CPD provider organization
(Required for activities delivered in Quebec)

** This is just a sample. For more information, please review Administrative Standard [2.6 Recording participation in Mainpro+ certified activities](#).

Register for the CPD In Focus Spring Webinar

Save the date(s) below and join the CERT+ team to ask questions about the updated standards, new platform, etc. Feel free to share your questions in advance to certplus@cfpc.ca.

- English: June 10, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. (ET) | [Register today](#)
- French: June 10, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. (ET) | [Register today](#)

Answer to Test Yourself

Although the activity is only being hosted in a single province (Quebec), the correct answer to the question is **no** since the activity is being **marketed** to more than one province/territory.

Resources

We encourage CPD providers to continue exploring ways to increase elements of equality, diversity, and inclusion (EDI) within their activities. We recommend reviewing the following resources:

- [Quick Tips for Integrating Patient Perspectives into CPD Activities](#)
- [Quick Tips for Meeting Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion \(EDI\) Criteria in Mainpro+ Certification](#)
- [Quick Tips: Using the Combined Alternative COI Disclosure Template](#)

You can find all resources on the CFPC website under [CPD Program Certification](#).

Update to CQDPCM Code of Ethics

The Conseil québécois de développement professionnel continu des médecins (CQDPCM) has updated their [Code of Ethics](#). Any activity being hosted in Quebec is expected to comply.

The CQDPCM is hosting a webinar in French on May 28th from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. (ET). It is open to CPD providers interested in participating. [Registration is required](#).

Contact Us

Need more information?

✉ Email: certplus@cfpc.ca

☎ Certification team phone line: **1 866 242-5885**

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