The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) conducts the Certification Examination in Family Medicine (Short Answer Management Problems (SAMP) and Simulated Office Orals (SOOs) components) in the spring and fall in English and French.

### Certification Examination in Family Medicine

**Spring 2023 Examination Administration Report**

1,524 Total number of candidates

1,466 Candidates that sat both the SAMP and SOO components (full exam)

7% Practice-eligible

93% Residency-eligible

32 Candidates sat only the SAMP component (Repeaters)

47% Practice-eligible

53% Residency-eligible

26 Candidates sat only the SOO component (Repeaters)

6% Practice-eligible

94% Residency-eligible

1,466 Candidates that sat both the SAMP and SOO components (full exam)

1,492 Total candidates

7,460 Scheduled candidate/examiner encounters

### Exam development and quality improvement (QI)

#### SAMP content development and production

- 500 English cases
- 11 SAMP writers (authors and reviewers)
- 40 Cases
- 445 Questions
- Test 1 = 142
- Test 2 = 150
- Test 3 = 153
- 872 Answers
- Test 1 = 279
- Test 2 = 308
- Test 3 = 285

#### SOO content development and production

- 300 writers and reviewers
- 8 English and French cases
- 10 SOO writers and reviewers
- 32 SOO meetings

### The virtual SOO explained

SOO flow: In their exam the candidate assumes the role of the family doctor caring for a patient in their office setting. The examiner, a certified family physician, plays the role of the patient and marks the candidate’s performance. During their exam the candidate encounters five different “patients” in a row (= 5 SOO cases).

#### Timeline

- **Examiner login**
- **Candidate login**
- **ID validation**
- **Exam starts SOO 1**
- **Marking time for examiner and candidate break**
- **Assessment time**
- **Reading time**
- **20-minute waiting period**
- **Proctor and candidate encounter**
- **Examiner and candidate**
- **All candidates and examiners are automatically transitioned to the next SOO**

The virtual SOO explained:

- 8 Chief Examiners
- 40 SOO Leads
- 40 Assistant SOO Leads
- 394 SOO Examiners

### Oral exam administration details

- **1,492 Total candidates**
- **7,460 Scheduled candidate/examiner encounters**
- **404 Exam day support**
- **1,524 Total number of candidates**

- **8 examination starts for each day**
- **50 candidates and 50 examiners have to log in and all start together**
- **As many as 150 candidates in the exam at the same time**

- **8 examiner login**
- **40 volunteer ward call for emergency support**
- **20 Chief moderators**
- **32 technical system support staff**

### 40 clockenders

- **35 in-person command centre staff**
- **11 in-person staff for call for examiners**
- **40 Proctors**

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The CFPC is dedicated to working with committees, schools, and resident groups to address unique challenges related to exams. We welcome your ongoing engagement and invite you to share your concerns by emailing ccfpexam@cfpc.ca.

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Written exam administration details (cont’d)

Test accommodations. The CFPC makes every effort to accommodate candidates’ needs requiring special consideration.

English

Of all encounters had to be rerun once the fifth SOO station finished due to technical issues in the initial running. One exam grouping start time had to be delayed 30 minutes. Command Centre staff informed all examiners and candidates of the new start time and all candidates logged in and finished their exam as expected.

Written exam administration details

The written component of the examination, the computer-based SAMPs, took place April 11th, 12th, and 13th. It was four-and-a-half hours in length with a 15-minute mandatory orientation tutorial at the beginning of the exam and a 15-minute optional break.

Technical difficulties

There were minimal technical issues reported, with no major issues or disruptions reported.

Language of choice

French 23%

Test accommodations. The CFPC makes every effort to accommodate candidates’ needs related to pregnancy, breastfeeding, religion, wellness considerations, physical or functional limitations, learning disabilities, or other medical diagnoses requiring special consideration.

Outcomes

13

No emergency examination sessions were initiated at the end of exam day shifts.

1.6%

Of all candidates who took the exam in French.

Language of choice

French 77%

No major issues or disruptions reported.

Mode of delivery

Just under one quarter of candidates took the exam in English.

Mode of delivery

Almost half of candidates opted for remote proctoring of their exams.

Almost half of candidates opted for remote proctoring of their exams.

Enrolment in residency programs

A significant majority of the candidates qualified through the residency eligible route.

Eligibility route

Technical difficulties

0%