



Practice Ready Assessment (PRA-BC)

Is your practice interested in being considered for participation in the **Practice Ready Assessment (PRA-BC)** Return of Service program?

Seven candidate placements are available for the **Spring 2025** intake; candidates from this intake will be practice ready in **Fall 2025**. We are also accepting applications for the **Interim Fall 2025** intake; candidates from this intake will be practice ready in **Spring 2026**. The Interim Fall 2025 intake, allows time for overseas candidates to complete the necessary immigration steps required to participate in the PRA-BC program. **PRA-BC ROS placements have a three (3) year Return of Service.**

What is PRA-BC?

PRA-BC is an assessment program for internationally educated family physicians who have completed family medicine residencies outside of Canada. PRA-BC provides these physicians with an alternative pathway to licensure at a time when many BC communities are experiencing physician shortages. Candidates undergo a 9-day Centralized Orientation followed by a 12-week Clinical Field Assessment (CFA) where their clinical skills are rigorously assessed. Those who successfully complete program requirements go on to fulfill a 3-year Return of Service (ROS) in a BC community of need.

Clinic Eligibility:

Clinics must fully complete and return the application and clearly define their scope of service (e.g. inpatient and emergency room (ER) coverage, on-call duties, long term care (LTC), patient panel, overhead costs).

A clinic that wishes to recruit a PRA-BC candidate must:

- Ensure the PRA-BC physician can provide full-time, full-scope family practice services for the 3-year ROS with the ability to assume or establish their own patient panel. Not intended for walk-in or rotating locum.
- If assuming a patient panel, the panel size requirement within the first year should not exceed the MoH requirement under the NTP contract (600-800, depending on community). The ROS Physician may accept a larger panel at their own discretion.
- Compensation models (Longitudinal Family Physician Payment Model, Fee for Service, or New to Practice Contract) are available for Return of Service physicians, who are permitted to choose the compensation model that will work best for them, unless the clinic is on an Alternative Payment Plan (APP) contract.
- Be able to supervise their matched IMG physician in their provisional class of registration.
[Guidelines for Supervision of Registrants in the Provisional Class](#)
- Commit to holding the position until the matched International Medical Graduate (IMG) physician successfully completes the CFA.
- Clinics who participate in the program are **expected** to participate as Clinical Field Assessment sites, if eligible to act as a CFA site.

PRA-BC Spring 2025 and Interim Fall Applications: Deadline for clinic applications is August 2, 2024

- We request all interested clinics review the documents in their entirety, complete and submit the application form to the Island Health Medical Staff Recruitment office no later than **August 2, 2024** by email to medstaffrecruitment@islandhealth.ca.
- Following receipt of applications, the Island Health ROS working group will meet to review and rank clinics and you will be advised whether or not your clinic is successful prior to August 23, 2024.
- Mandatory participation in ROS Placement Clinic Meeting with Island Health and members of the ROS Working Group. Meeting is set for September 4, 2024 at 7:30 am to 8:30 am via Zoom.
- During the week of October 1, 2024 successful clinics will be provided with a list of applicants to their clinic, including CVs and any other documents to consider for shortlisting and interviews.
- Interviews must be completed by Wednesday November 27, 2024.
- Candidate rankings are to be submitted to medstaffrecruitment@islandhealth.ca no later than November 29, 2024.
- Successful clinics will be advised of the provincial matching outcome after the December 6, 2024 PRA-BC Executive Steering Committee meeting.

Please note: A placement/match is not guaranteed. Although your clinic may be selected to participate in the program; your practice/clinic may not match with a candidate or the matched candidate may not pass their clinical field assessment.

Clinical Field Assessors

IMG physicians in the PRA-BC program must complete a 12-week Clinical Field Assessment (CFA) period prior to being considered eligible for Provisional registration with the College. The PRA-BC candidate physicians complete their CFA at a different clinic/community than the clinic/community they matched with for their ROS. During the CFA the PRA-BC candidate is required to complete 10 ER shifts (5 ER shifts and 5 UPCC shifts are also possible). The Spring 2025 CFA will run from April 14, 2025 to July 4, 2025. As part of this program, there is an **expectation** that clinics who benefit from the placement of a PRA-BC program candidate will support the program by becoming a CFA site and identify a primary and secondary assessor, if the clinic is eligible to be a CFA site. The Spring 2025 Assessor Training Workshops runs February 28-29 and March 7, 2025 virtually.

The Fall 2025 CFA will run late October 2025 to end of January 2026 – exact dates still to be determined.

Additional details about the program are found here:

- [PRA-BC Program Website](#)

Please direct questions to: Island Health Medical Staff Recruitment - medstaffrecruitment@islandhealth.ca

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