

Q&A - ACSLPA's Revised Continuing Competence Program (CCP)

Introduction

ACSLPA's CCP is currently undergoing revision, with the new program coming into place in October 2022. The College hosted an introductory webinar on the new CCP for members on February 15th, 2022, and the member questions from this webinar, along with the answers, are shown below.

Continuing Education Activities

1. Is there a minimum number of continuing education activities required?

No, there is no minimum amount of continuing education activity required under the new CCP. Continuing education activities should fit under one of the approved categories of activities (https://www.acslpa.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2022-Continuing-Education-Activities-What-Counts.pdf).

The Continuing Education Activities Report component of the new CCP is meant to promote meaningful and impactful engagement in continuing education or professional development, so that regulated members undertake continuing education with a goal of maintaining or enhancing their competence to fulfill their roles and responsibilities. As such, regulated members have some flexibility in deciding the amount and type of activity that is needed to meet their unique needs.

2. Do we need to do one activity from each category on the tracking form?

No, regulated members do not need to complete one activity from each continuing education activity category. As discussed above, the goal of the Continuing Education Activities Report is that regulated members undertake continuing education that is meaningful and impactful to them and their practice. Therefore, regulated members have some flexibility in deciding on the type of activities undertaken, and do not need to report an activity from each category. However, regulated members will be asked to provide a minimum of two different examples of types of continuing education that they have engaged in during the registration year.

3. Can ACSLPA use a similar tracking code or form to SAC so that we are not double coding?

ACSLPA has decided on categories of continuing education activities that fit with our continuing competence model. ACSLPA regulated members can use the SAC tracking form, or any other tracking system, to keep track of their continuing education activities throughout the year.

4. Can you make a fillable version of the Continuing Education Tracking Form?

Yes, the tracking form has been updated to be fillable, and is now available on the CCP webpage here: https://www.acslpa.ca/members-applicants/continuing-competence-program/.



5. How are continuing education activities reported?

Continuing education activities will need to be inputted directly into the CCP section of the member's online member profile. Members will need to track their continuing education activities in a format that works for them and transfer this information to their member profile when they complete their CCP requirements and registration renewal from October – December of the practice year.

6. Will we be required to reflect on each continuing education activity?

Since regulated members typically engage in many continuing education activities throughout each practice year, they will not be required to reflect on each activity they participate in. Instead, regulated members are asked to select the most relevant or impactful activities from their lists, and to describe how their competence was improved or supported through these activities.

Peer Dialogue Reflection

7. What constitutes a peer?

For the purposes of the College's CCP, a peer is a trusted colleague, with whom members can have an open and honest dialogue. The peer does not have to be of the same profession as the regulated member and does not have to be a member of ACSLPA. The skills, knowledge, abilities, or expertise of the peer should be relevant to the professional situation, so that they can provide advice, guidance, and support that positively impacts the regulated member's competence to practice.

8. Can the peer reflection be done at any point in the year?

Yes, the peer dialogue and reflection on the discussion can be completed at any point in the practice year. Regulated members will need to document the dialogue and reflect on its impact at the time it occurs. They will then upload this information onto their online CCP profile in their member portal when they complete their CCP requirements and registration renewal anytime in October – December of the practice year.

9. Will the Peer Dialogue Reflection be a working document? For example, if I have a peer discussion earlier in the practice year, can I fill it in at the time of the discussion or do I have to wait until the CCP opens in October of the practice year?

ACSLPA's reporting system currently does not allow for the Peer Dialogue Reflection to be a working document. Members will need to document the discussion and outcomes of the peer dialogue that they wish to report on and input this information into their online CCP profile when they complete their CCP requirements and registration renewal anytime in October – December of the practice year.

ACSLPA will make a fillable version of the Peer Dialogue Reflection form available on the website to assist members with tracking their peer discussions.



10. Do we choose a situation or a specific part of our practice for the peer dialogue reflection, or is it a more general dialogue about our practice?

Regulated members are asked to reflect on the dialogue they have had with a peer regarding any professional situation or event where they obtained feedback and support.

Since the aim of this component of the CCP is to promote engagement with peers as a means to maintain and enhance competence to practice, regulated members will be asked to describe how the discussion with their peer impacted their competence and their practice. Choosing a specific situation or part of practice will allow for more concrete examples of how competence was impacted in the reflection on the peer dialogue.

11. Would a working group discussion be appropriate for the Peer Dialogue Reflection?

Yes, reflecting on a discussion from amongst a working group of peers would be appropriate for the Peer Dialogue Reflection. However, regulated members should be mindful that the members of their working group meet the requirements noted in Question 7 – 'What constitutes a peer?'.

Jurisprudence Education Requirements

12. Does the revised continuing competence program mean there is no more jurisprudence training or exam requirements?

No, regulated members are still expected to complete ACSLPA's jurisprudence education requirements and exam every 5 years.

ACSLPA's jurisprudence education was developed to help regulated members familiarize themselves with the provincial regulatory requirements relevant to their daily practice and to practice in compliance with these requirements. As such, it has a different function to the CCP, is not 'tied' to the CCP, and must be completed separately from the CCP.

13. Can we use completion of jurisprudence as our new CCP, as we did in the past?

Previously, jurisprudence education could be completed as a learning activity where a regulated member identified that they wanted to learn more about self-regulation as their competence goal for CCP.

With bill 46 recent amendments to the *Health Professions Act*, the College's CCP:

- Must provide for regulated members or categories of regulated members to maintain competence and to enhance the provisions of professional services by participating in a program for self-directed professional development, and
- May provide for practice visits, examining, interviewing or other competence assessment of the regulated members or categories of regulated members.

The jurisprudence education modules do not meet these requirements. Completion of jurisprudence education modules may, however, still be identified as a College directed competence activity when filling out the continuing education component of the CCP.



CCP Audit

14. Does everyone who fails the initial audit automatically proceed to the interview phase of the assessment?

Yes, all regulated members whose written CCP submissions do not meet the criteria for completion are referred for an interview.

The purpose of the interview is to gather more information from the regulated member about their CCP submission, so that they can, through discussion, provide additional and/or clarifying information about their submission. In addition, should it be required, the interviewer can, in collaboration with the regulated member, identify some areas for remediation, and practical solutions for remediation (e.g., identifying specific College documents for review, or continuing education activities which may be helpful to the member).

The interview is intended to be a positive and supportive experience that provides the member with an opportunity to provide information that strengthens their written CCP submission, and, as needed, provides support and guidance to the regulated member.

15. How will the College go about choosing the 10-20% of people who will be audited?

Regulated members will be randomly selected for audit. In addition, a small number of regulated members will be automatically referred to audit in a given year:

- All new registrants who are completing their first registration renewal, and
- Any regulated members who are flagged for audit for fitness to practice concerns.

Chart Review

16. How will the chart review happen if employers are reluctant to allow access to client records? How will this work for those of us working outside of the province?

While the protocol for chart review is still being developed, ACSLPA is aware of the need to work with employers to ensure access to client records for the purpose of review. The College is in discussion with other regulatory bodies that complete chart reviews as part of their CCP to gain insight about how to work with employers to ensure that access to client files for the purpose of audit is allowed.

More information on the College's new and revised CCP can be found on the College's website: https://www.acslpa.ca/members-applicants/continuing-competence-program/. Further questions about the CCP can be directed to ACSLPA's Practice Advisors (SLP – slp@acslpa.ca or Audiology — audiology@acslpa.ca).