

<b>College of Kinesiologists Registration Policies</b>			
<b>SECTION: 2</b>			<b>POLICY: Registration</b>
<b>POLICY: Authorization of Specialty Title- General</b>		<b>COVERAGE:</b> Members of the College	
<b>CREATED: September 2015</b>	<b>REVISED:</b>	<b>NEXT REVIEW:</b>	<b>PAGE #:</b> 1

## Preamble

The profession of kinesiology has a broad scope of practice which allows members of the profession to focus their practice in one or more areas. The Kinesiologist Core Competency Profile defines the competencies required at entry to practice, and these competencies apply across the profession at the entry level.

The Essential Competencies of Practice for Kinesiologists in Ontario expand and build upon the Kinesiologist Core Competency Profile and describe indicators of competent performance by experienced practitioners.

The College has a Practice Guideline- Use of Titles and Designations, describing permitted use of titles and designations by members of the College. The College has enabled its members to determine what qualifications should be made part of a member's title, following the R.Kin designation, in order to better inform the public of the skills and expertise offered and the area of practice of the member. In this guideline the College makes clear that the use of additional titles or designations should not include the types of certifications which members may achieve through ongoing professional development.

Through the Professional Misconduct Regulation, the College restricts the use of a title which implies the member is a specialist. The Professional Misconduct Regulation specifies in Section 1 (33, 34) that it is professional misconduct for a member to use a title implying specialization unless authorized by the College:

### **Acts of professional misconduct**

1. The following are acts of professional misconduct for the purposes of clause 51 (1) (c) of the Health Professions Procedural Code:

33. Using a term, title or designation in respect of the member's practice that is not authorized by the College.

34. Using any term, title or designation indicating or implying certification or a specialization in an area or areas of practice of the profession unless the term, title or designation is authorized by the College.

The College recognizes that many of its members will, over time, begin to focus their practice in certain areas of the field such as rehabilitation, health and safety, case management, ergonomics or research. Focused practice alone is not sufficient to authorize a specialty. And while the public may recognize and accept that focused practice means a member has decided to restrict his/her practice in a "specialized area", this specialized area of practice does not constitute a specialty and will not be authorized as a specialty of kinesiology as referred to in the Professional Misconduct Regulation.

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### **Purpose**

This policy defines the manner in the College will demonstrate authorization of a specialty in the practice of kinesiology.

### **Policy**

The College will, upon consultation with the Ministry, its membership, the public and various stakeholders, and upon presentation of conclusive proof that formal approval of a specialty title is required to better protect the public, authorize use of a title by qualifying members which describes the specialty.

### **Definitions**

#### ***Specialty***

To be authorized as such by the College, a specialty must be a well-defined focus of practice. A specialty builds on the knowledge within the discipline and strengthens and enriches evidence-based practice of kinesiology. A specialty responds to defined needs of members of the public.

Practitioners of an authorized specialty within the practice of kinesiology will have gained advanced competency within the specified area of practice, through study and supervised practise as a trainee. This study and supervised practise will have been conducted by a program or programs accredited by the College of Kinesiologists of Ontario or its delegate, to provide certification, a diploma or a degree that is recognized by the College.

The specialty is recognized and accepted throughout the profession and by other health professionals, employers and the public. Stakeholders agree that use of the specialty title is necessary to protect the public by identifying those whom the College has found to be qualified to practise as specialists.

A person authorized to use a specialty title or designation (a) actively contributes to new knowledge in the field; (b) actively contributes to professional education; (c) actively contributes to research needs of the profession; and (d) provides kinesiology services for the public, all of which are currently not being met by general practitioners or another authorized specialty of kinesiology.

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### ***Authorization***

Authorization of a specialty title means that the Council of the College has approved a policy which sets out the following:

- Qualifications of those members approved to use the title of the specialty
- How the specialty qualification is to be used
- The approved title
- Conditions for continuing to use the specialty title.

### ***Accreditation***

Generally the College does not require degree programs in kinesiology at Ontario universities to be accredited. Graduates of degree programs outside Ontario must provide proof that their degree program is substantially equivalent to an Ontario kinesiology degree.

An organization or individual program purporting to offer education and training programs for members of the College to become specialists must demonstrate to the College the robustness, legitimacy, quality and standards of the program through a verifiable application for accreditation made to the College or its approved delegate.

The purpose of the program and the design of the curriculum must be to provide the *special knowledge and skills* required to practise the proposed specialty. Candidates accepted into the program from Ontario must be registered and in good standing with the College.

The College has defined the application requirements for an organization or individual wishing to be accredited to provide a specialty training program. The application requirements are set out in the **Specialties Assessment Framework**.

### **Process**

A member may submit an application for use of a specialty title only where a specialty has been recognized by the College through accreditation of a training program.

The College has defined the application requirements for a program to be accredited. First and foremost, a program proposing accreditation as a trainer of specialists within the

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kinesiology must demonstrate need, how the authorization of the specialty title will better enhance public protection and how it will impact the profession.

Additional criteria must be satisfied and are described in Appendix 1 of the Specialties Assessment Framework.

Upon conclusion of the consultation and approval by Council, the proposed specialty title may be authorized for use by members who apply to use it and who meet the qualifications defined in the specific policy relating to the specialty.

### **Fees**

A member who applies to the College for authorization to use a specialty title shall pay the Specialty Authorization Application fee defined in the Fees By-Law.

A member who is authorized to use a specialty title shall provide proof annually of continuing qualification to use the title and shall pay the annual Specialty Renewal fee as specified in the Fees By-Law.

An organization that applies for accreditation as a provider of a specialty training and certification program shall pay the Application for Accreditation fee as specified in the Fees By-Law.

**(NOTE:** these fees would require amendments to the Fees By-Law)