



March 20, 2020

As many of you are aware, both the Royal College and the College of Family Physicians have postponed their examinations due to the COVID-19 pandemic. CAEP understands the importance of the exams and all of the hard work that goes into preparing for these exams and has reached out to the Colleges to raise our concerns with postponement. Please see below the responses we've received:

Royal College

The Royal College has confirmed that the exams have been postponed to allow them to:

- Increase the number of sites so that there is a site where each medical school is located and mitigate any significant travel for candidates
- Ensure adequate capacity at all sites to mitigate mass gatherings and ensure appropriate social distancing (target is to have a max of 20 candidates/room)
- Amortize the exams over a greater number of days to achieve the social distancing goals and to mitigate risks of sudden loss of a centre

The Royal College is working towards the postponement being over the span of weeks rather than months with dates to be finalized in the coming week. Please continue to monitor their webpage for updates regarding their examinations: <http://www.royalcollege.ca/rcsite/documents/about/update-coronavirus-e>.

College of Family Physicians

CAEP has been advised that at the moment, the postponement of exams only impacts those completing their Family Medicine Residency and does not impact the certificate of added competence in Emergency Medicine. There is a potential impact to R2s who will start their programs in EM, but the Federation of Medical Regulatory Authorities and provincial/territorial medical regulatory authorities are working to be able to issue provisional licenses/registrations that these new graduates need to practice, until they are able to participate in the examinations (part of which will occur in October 2020).

Please contact Christina Bova (cbova@caep.ca) for questions or comments.