

Overview of Specialty Standards Suite

Please note that as a result of the Competence by Design (CBD) initiative, there are now two sets of standards documents on the Information by Discipline webpages for Anesthesiology and Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery (Oto-HNS):

1. National standards – for residents whose training started prior to July 1, 2017
2. National standards (CBD) – for residents whose training started on or after July 2017

These two sets of standards will remain accessible on the Royal College website until such time that all trainees have transitioned to CBD.

Glossary of the New Standards Documents

	Description of Standard	Access
National standards	OTR (Objectives of Training) – REPLACED BY DISCIPLINE COMPETENCIES: Describes a discipline recognized by the Royal College and outlines the unique constellation of competencies needed to practice as a specialist in this discipline. It defines the high level competencies of a graduate.	Website
	STR (Specialty/Subspecialty Training Requirements): The STR outlines the required duration, content and sequence of training in the form of a rotation-based road map. A trainee who has successfully completed the STR should be able to demonstrate all of the competencies expected of a resident at the end of training.	Website
	FITER (Final In-Training Evaluation Report): The FITER is a summative evaluation tool that attests that the resident has met all of the competencies for the discipline as outlined in the OTR. The FITER is used to identify if a resident is qualified to sit the certification exam in anticipation of being able to proceed to independent practice.	Website
	SSA (Specific Standards of Accreditation) – REPLACED BY THE CBD STANDARDS OF ACCREDITATION (SA): The Standards of Accreditation document describes the requirements that a given residency program must meet in order to deliver training and thus achieve and maintain Royal College accreditation.	Website
National standards (CBD)	(Discipline) Competencies – The (Discipline) Competencies document contains a high-level description of the competencies of a graduate of a given Royal College-accredited discipline or special program. This document also provides a definition of the discipline and the context of practice in which the competencies are relevant and applicable.	Website

	<p>Training Experience: The Training Experience document illustrates the progression of a resident's competence through four stages of training in a given discipline or special program. The pathway identifies milestones (both generic and discipline-specific) that the resident must acquire in order to attain the exit competencies outlined in the (Discipline) Competencies.</p>	Website
	<p>SA (CBD Standards of Accreditation): The Standards of Accreditation document describes the requirements that a given residency program must meet in order to deliver training and thus achieve and maintain Royal College accreditation.</p>	Website
	<p>EPAs – Entrustable professional activities: EPAs are clinical tasks that a supervisor delegates to a resident once the trainee has demonstrated sufficient competence, or, in the context of a practicing physician, tasks that may be performed autonomously once sufficient competence has been demonstrated. Achievement of the EPAs of the discipline is required for certification.</p>	Available to Specialty Committee members and Program Leadership via secure site
	<p>Milestones: The expected ability of a health care professional at a stage of expertise.</p>	Available to Specialty Committee members and Program Leadership via secure site
	<p>Pathway document: The Pathway to Competence document illustrates the progression of a resident's competence through four stages of training in a given discipline or special program. The pathway identifies milestones (both generic and discipline-specific) that the resident must acquire in order to attain the exit competencies outlined in the Discipline Competencies.</p>	Available to Specialty Committee members and Program Leadership via secure site

For information regarding the EPAs, Milestones and the Pathway Document, please contact us at documents@royalcollege.ca