

*These training requirements apply to those who begin training on or after July 1, 2025.*

*NOTE: This document applies to residents in both adult and pediatric Infectious Diseases. Throughout this document, unless otherwise indicated, all clinical experiences are intended to refer to an experience with the patient population relevant to the resident's training stream, adult or pediatric.*

### **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO BEGIN TRAINING (Adult stream)**

*The following requirements apply to those who began training in Internal Medicine **prior to July 1, 2023.***

Royal College certification in Internal Medicine

**OR**

Eligibility for the Royal College examination in Internal Medicine

**OR**

Registration in a Royal College accredited residency program in Internal Medicine<sup>1</sup>

A maximum of one year of training may be undertaken during training for certification in Internal Medicine.

*The following requirements apply to those who began training in Internal Medicine **on or after July 1, 2023.***

Royal College certification in Internal Medicine

**OR**

Successful completion of the Core stage of training in a Royal College accredited residency program in Internal Medicine<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See the standards for Internal Medicine on the "Information by Discipline" page of the Royal College website.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

Training in Infectious Diseases may overlap with completion of requirements for certification in Internal Medicine.<sup>3</sup>

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS TO BEGIN TRAINING (Pediatric stream)**

Royal College certification in Pediatrics

### **OR**

Successful completion of the Transition to Practice stage of training in a Royal College accredited residency program in Pediatrics.<sup>4</sup>

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR EXAMINATION<sup>5</sup>**

All candidates must be Royal College certified in Internal Medicine or Pediatrics in order to be eligible for the Royal College examination in Infectious Diseases.

The following training experiences are required, recommended, or optional as indicated.

## **TRANSITION TO DISCIPLINE (TTD)**

*The purpose of this stage is to introduce residents to the subspecialty of Infectious Diseases and provide a comprehensive orientation to the educational program and to the setting in which they will train and work. This stage also serves to assess and verify the competencies acquired in the base specialty and their application to the patient population served by Infectious Diseases.*

### **Required training experiences (TTD stage):**

1. Clinical training experiences
  - 1.1. Infectious Diseases, which may include two or more of
    - 1.1.1. Service providing consultation to critical care areas, other inpatient services, or the emergency department
    - 1.1.2. Clinic (*see Note #1*)
    - 1.1.3. After-hours coverage

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<sup>3</sup> See information about Overlap Training and Alternative Pathway to Internal Medicine certification in the *Internal Medicine Training Experiences* document on the "Information by Discipline" page of the Royal College website.

<sup>4</sup> Some programs in Quebec may permit eligible trainees to begin subspecialty training before completion of the Pediatrics Transition to Practice stage. However, as with all jurisdictions, trainees in Quebec must achieve all generalist competencies of the Pediatrics specialty prior to certification in Pediatrics. To learn more about the entrance requirements for a specific Infectious Diseases program, speak to the relevant postgraduate medical education office.

<sup>5</sup> These eligibility requirements do not apply to Subspecialty Examination Affiliate Program (SEAP) candidates. Please contact the Royal College for information about SEAP.

2. Other training experiences

2.1. Orientation to

- 2.1.1. The hospital(s), including policies and procedures, information systems, and, as applicable, electronic medical records
- 2.1.2. The program, including structure, policies, resources (including local resident wellness support), and expectations
- 2.1.3. The Infectious Diseases portfolio and electronic platform (*see Note #2*)

2.2. Formal instruction in

- 2.2.1. Infectious diseases emergencies and initial management
- 2.2.2. Infection prevention and control (IPAC) policies and procedures, especially application of personal protective equipment (PPE) and additional precautions related to specific syndromes

**FOUNDATIONS OF DISCIPLINE (F)**

*The purpose of this stage is for residents to develop the knowledge and skills to assess, initiate management, and provide ongoing care related to infectious diseases for patients who are immunocompetent.*

**Required training experiences (Foundations stage):**

1. Clinical training experiences

1.1. Infectious Diseases

- 1.1.1. Service providing consultation to critical care areas, other inpatient services, and the emergency department
- 1.1.2. Clinic (*see Note #1*)
- 1.1.3. Case conferences or multidisciplinary rounds
- 1.1.4. After-hours coverage

2. Other training experiences

2.1. Formal instruction in

- 2.1.1. The clinical and biomedical sciences of Infectious Diseases
- 2.1.2. Research methodology and the conduct of scholarly activity

2.2. Critical appraisal activities, such as journal club

2.3. Quality improvement activities, such as morbidity and mortality rounds

**Recommended training experiences (Foundations stage):**

3. Clinical training experiences

- 3.1. Clinical microbiology laboratory
- 3.2. IPAC service

## CORE OF DISCIPLINE (C)

*In this stage, residents build on their achieved competencies to participate in the full breadth of the discipline. This includes consultation for preventive care and consultation and ongoing care for patients with any infectious disease presentation. It also includes participation in infection prevention and control (IPAC) and antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) programs. In addition to their clinical responsibilities, residents participate in teaching topics relevant to infectious diseases to a variety of audiences.*

### Required training experiences (Core stage):

1. Clinical training experiences
  - 1.1. Infectious Diseases
    - 1.1.1. Service providing consultation to critical care areas, other inpatient services, and the emergency department
    - 1.1.2. Clinic (see Note #1)
    - 1.1.3. Pediatric Infectious Diseases (for Adult stream)
    - 1.1.4. Adult Infectious Diseases (for Pediatric stream)
    - 1.1.5. Case conferences or multidisciplinary rounds
    - 1.1.6. After-hours coverage
  - 1.2. Service providing IPAC, including participation in multidisciplinary meetings if not already done in the Foundations stage
  - 1.3. Service providing AMS, including participation in multidisciplinary meetings
  - 1.4. Clinical microbiology laboratory (if not already done in the Foundations stage)
  - 1.5. Public health experience, which may include placement in any one of the following (see Note #3):
    - 1.5.1. Municipal, regional, provincial, territorial, or federal government public health agency
    - 1.5.2. International inter-governmental organization
    - 1.5.3. Non-profit or private sector health or social services organization
    - 1.5.4. Community-oriented clinical practice with an emphasis on health promotion, disease prevention, and primary health care
    - 1.5.5. Other public health experience approved by program director
2. Other training experiences
  - 2.1. Formal instruction in the clinical and biomedical sciences of Infectious Diseases
  - 2.2. Simulation training for outbreak investigation and management (if not available as a clinical experience)
  - 2.3. Quality improvement activities, such as morbidity and mortality rounds
  - 2.4. Participation in administrative committees relevant to Infectious Diseases, such as IPAC, AMS, patient safety, quality improvement, or education
  - 2.5. Critical appraisal activities, such as journal club
  - 2.6. Development and execution of a scholarly activity: clinical or basic research, quality improvement or education

- 2.7. Provision of teaching for junior learners and other health care professionals
- 2.8. In-training written examination(s)

**Recommended training experiences (Core stage):**

- 3. Clinical training experiences
  - 3.1. Infectious Diseases
    - 3.1.1. Community setting (for Adult stream)
    - 3.1.2. Clinics that provide specialized care relevant to Infectious Diseases
      - 3.1.2.1. Human immunodeficiency virus (HIV)
      - 3.1.2.2. Outpatient parenteral antimicrobial therapy
      - 3.1.2.3. Sexually transmitted infections
      - 3.1.2.4. Tropical and travel medicine
      - 3.1.2.5. Tuberculosis
      - 3.1.2.6. Transplant (for Adult stream)
      - 3.1.2.7. Viral hepatitis (for Adult stream)
      - 3.1.2.8. Wound care (for Adult stream)
      - 3.1.2.9. Congenital infections (for Pediatric stream)
      - 3.1.2.10. Immunization (for Pediatric stream)
    - 3.1.3. After-hours coverage, specifically calls from outside health care professionals
- 4. Other training experiences
  - 4.1. Attendance or presentation at national or international scientific meetings or conferences relevant to Infectious Diseases
  - 4.2. Instruction in media communications, use of social media, and knowledge translation

**Optional training experiences (Core stage):**

- 5. Clinical training experiences
  - 5.1. Allergy
  - 5.2. Dermatology
  - 5.3. Rheumatology
  - 5.4. Addiction medicine
  - 5.5. Clinical immunology (for Pediatric stream)
  - 5.6. Cystic fibrosis

## TRANSITION TO PRACTICE (TTP)

*The focus of this stage is the integration of medical expertise with leadership in the clinical and administrative aspects of running an infectious diseases service in both inpatient and outpatient settings. The resident will also prepare for the demands of independent practice, including practice management and continuing professional development.*

### Required training experiences (TTP stage):

1. Clinical training experiences
  - 1.1. Infectious Diseases in the role of junior attending<sup>6</sup>
    - 1.1.1. Service providing consultation to critical care areas, other inpatient services, and the emergency department
    - 1.1.2. Clinic (see Note #1)
    - 1.1.3. After-hours coverage, including calls from outside health care professionals
2. Other training experiences
  - 2.1. Formal instruction in:
    - 2.1.1. Practice management (if not done earlier in training)
    - 2.1.2. Requirements for continuing professional development
  - 2.2. Quality improvement activities, such as morbidity and mortality rounds
  - 2.3. Critical appraisal activities, such as journal club
  - 2.4. Development of a plan for continuing professional development in independent practice

## CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Royal College certification in Infectious Diseases requires the following:

1. Royal College certification in Internal Medicine or Pediatrics;
2. Successful completion of the Royal College examination in Infectious Diseases; and
3. Successful completion of the Royal College Infectious Diseases Portfolio.

### NOTES:

1. *The purpose of the "clinic" experience in sections 1.1.2 of the Transition to Discipline, Foundations, Core, and Transition to Practice stage is to provide experience in following patients over multiple visits and participate in their care over the evolution of their condition and its treatment. It is recommended that this consists of a regularly scheduled clinic at least one half-day per week, or equivalent, and includes a general infectious diseases clinic for at least six months over the course of training.*

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<sup>6</sup> Junior attending role means that the resident assumes as much independence in patient care decisions, collaboration, and communication with patient care decision-makers as permitted by ability, regulation, and hospital policy. Junior attending also means that the resident assumes leadership in the education and clinical supervision of junior colleagues, where appropriate.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES TRAINING EXPERIENCES 2025

2. *The Infectious Diseases Portfolio refers to the list of entrustable professional activities across all four stages of the residency Competence Continuum and associated national standards for assessment and achievement.*
3. *It is recommended that the public health experience referenced in the Core stage section 1.5 involves supervision by a Medical Officer of Health, a specialist in Public Health and Preventive Medicine, or someone who functions in a similar capacity.*

### **MODEL DURATION OF TRAINING**

*Progress in training occurs through demonstration of competence and advancement through the stages of the Competence Continuum. Infectious Diseases is planned as a two-year residency program. There is no mandated period of training in each stage. Individual duration of training may be influenced by many factors, which may include the resident's singular progression through the stages, the availability of teaching and learning resources, and differences in program implementation. Duration of training in each stage is therefore at the discretion of the faculty of medicine, the competence committee, and the program director.*

### **Guidance for programs**

*The Royal College Specialty Committee in Infectious Diseases' suggested course of training, for the purposes of planning learning experiences and schedules, is as follows:*

*2-3 blocks in Transition to Discipline  
4-6 blocks in Foundations of Discipline  
12-18 blocks in Core of Discipline  
2-3 blocks in Transition to Practice*

*\*One block is equal to 4 weeks*

### **Guidance for postgraduate medical education offices**

*The stages of the Competence Continuum in Infectious Diseases are generally no longer than*

*3 blocks for Transition to Discipline  
6 blocks for Foundations of Discipline  
18 blocks for Core of Discipline  
3 blocks for Transition to Practice  
Total duration of training – 2 years*

*\*One block is equal to 4 weeks*

*This document is to be reviewed by the Specialty Committee in Infectious Diseases by  
DECEMBER 31, 2027.*

*Created – Specialty Committee in Infectious Diseases – March 2023*

*Approved – Specialty Standards Review Committee – May 2023*

*Revised (eligibility criteria updates) – Specialty Committee in Infectious Diseases and the  
Office of Standards and Assessment – July 2024*

## *INFECTIOUS DISEASES TRAINING EXPERIENCES 2025*

*Approved – Office of Standards and Assessment (as delegated by the Specialty Standards Review Committee) – July 2024*