



IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR INTERNATIONALLY-EDUCATED APPLICANTS

Interested in registering as an occupational therapist in Manitoba? Did you receive your occupational therapy education outside of Canada? If so, this notice applies to you.

Occupational therapists who have completed their OT education outside of Canada – including Canadians who travelled outside Canada for their OT education – and who want to register for practice anywhere in Canada (except Quebec), must now first apply to the **Association of Canadian Occupational Therapy Regulatory Organizations (ACOTRO)** to complete a new assessment process called the Substantial Equivalency Assessment System (**SEAS**). Applicants will apply to college of Occupational Therapists of Manitoba only after ACOTRO has deemed you to have met the substantial equivalency requirement. ACOTRO will also grant successful applicants access to the National Occupational Therapy Certification Examination.

What is SEAS?

SEAS is a new assessment process to determine the extent to which an internationally-educated occupational therapist's (IEOT's) educational qualifications and competencies are substantially equivalent to those of Canadian-educated occupational therapists. SEAS is a multi-stage assessment approach that:

- examines the education that IEOTs originally completed
- allows IEOTs to demonstrate what they know and can do, and
- ensures IEOTs are familiar with the Canadian legislation, ethics and standards of practice as they relate to occupational therapy practice in Canada.

SEAS has four main components:

- Academic Credential Assessment Review (ACAR)
- Curriculum and fieldwork review through the Profession-Specific Credential Assessment (PSCA)
- Jurisprudence Knowledge Assessment Test (JKAT)
- Competency Assessment Interview

As part of SEAS, all internationally-educated occupational therapists will also be required to demonstrate a minimum level of language proficiency, based on a standard upon which all ACOTRO members have agreed. The cost of SEAS will be \$3,100 per applicant.

For more information about the new assessment process and its associated requirements and fees, please visit ACOTRO at: <http://www.acotro-acore.org/seas-introduction>. To begin your application to SEAS, please visit the SEAS Portal at: <http://www.icomphost.com/seas>

(For more information on how to register in Quebec, please visit: www.oeq.org)

Please note: Internationally-educated occupational therapists who have applied for registration with COTM prior to May 1, 2015, and whose applications are currently being processed by the college, will have one year within which to complete their registration process under the current system, and will not be required to be assessed through SEAS. Any current applicants who do not complete their registration within the one-year period may be required to apply to ACOTRO to complete the new assessment process.

For more information about your current application with COTM, please contact: registration@cotm.ca or call Carmen Funk, COTM Registration & Financial Coordinator at 204-957-1214 (20)