



COLLÈGE DES MÉDECINS
DU QUÉBEC

GUIDELINES FOR THE ISSUE OF A SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION
SPECIFIC TO TELEMEDICINE

Legislative provision

As provided for in Section 42.4 of the *Professional Code*: “[...], the board of directors may issue a special authorization granting a person legally authorized to practise the profession outside Québec the right to use a title reserved for members of the order in Québec or to engage in Québec in professional activities reserved to them in Québec.

A special authorization is valid only for the activities or the title it specifies. Moreover, it must specify the person or group of persons for whom the activities may be engaged in, as well as any other applicable condition or restriction. It is valid for a period not exceeding one year and is renewable. [...]”.

Requirements

- have a Doctor of Medicine degree from a medical school listed in the *International Medical Education Directory* (IMED) published by the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) or in the *World Directory of Medical Schools*;
- have a specialist’s certificate in the specialty concerned;
- be legally authorized to practice the medical profession outside Québec (have a permit/license) and be in good standing with the licensing body;
- be invited by a health care institution, university or other organization to learn or teach medical activities; **OR** be invited by a health care institution, university or other organization to practice on an ad hoc basis with a specific person or group of people;

When a physician is invited to come to Québec to provide care or other services to the public, the preferred pathway is the permit. For a person who already had a permit to practice in Québec, reinstatement on the roll of the order must be favored.

- be under the authority of the Department head and the Director of Professional services (DPS) for the practice of telemedicine in a health care institution and be under the authority of the Dean of the faculty of medicine for the practice of telemedicine at an accredited training site; **OR** be under the authority of the Medical Director or a responsible physician for the practice of telemedicine in another organization;

Practice rights

- a person who holds a special authorization is not a member of the Collège des médecins du Québec. Medical practice is restricted to the terms and conditions set out in the special authorization;
- to practice the medical activities set out in the special authorization at the site or with the people mentioned on the dates specified in the special authorization in accordance with the standards applicable to physicians, specifically those for ethics and professional secrecy;

A special authorization DOES NOT give the person right to

- practice medicine at other sites or with people other than those mentioned in the special authorization;
- write medical prescriptions;
- bill the Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec;

Application for renewal

- letter of recommendation from the Department head, the Medical Director or the responsible physician and, where applicable, the Dean of the faculty of medicine.

A special authorization cannot be a substitute for the permit to practice, restrictive permits issued to selected professors nor for training cards issued to fellows undergoing further training.