



McGill Waiver of Training Policy

McGill University wishes to retain the possibility of granting waivers, in accordance with the RCPSC [Policy and Procedures for Certification and Fellowship](#) re Waivers of Training after a Leave of Absence (article 4.3.2). Please note that some programs have a no waiver policy. A reminder that waivers cannot be considered for trainees who started their program late. The new McGill Policy is as follows:

The Associate Dean, Postgraduate Medical Education, McGill University will consider waiver requests upon receipt of a written recommendation and supporting documentation from the Program Director and the Program Promotions Committee, according to the following guidelines:

- A Program Director can apply for a waiver only towards the end of the penultimate or early on in the final year of training – no more than 3 months before the end of the penultimate year. For example in a five year program, this would occur prior to submission of the final Certificate of Completion of Training for eligibility to sit the exams, which usually is at the beginning of the fifth year. In two or three year programs these can be considered up to December 31 of the final year of training, again prior to submission of the final Certificate of Completion of Training for eligibility to sit the exams. In a three year core program such as Internal Medicine or Pediatrics, towards the end of the third year, prior to starting a subspecialty or two more years of Medicine or Pediatrics. Residents and Fellows must have attained competency in their specialty and also have completed all training objectives outlined by the Royal College.
- All evaluations for the previous 2 years must have no Borderline or Unsatisfactory ticks in any individual category.
- Waivers will not be granted when training is lengthened due to an Evaluation and Promotion decision, in accordance with Articles 4.1.b and 4.1.c of the Evaluation and Promotions in Postgraduate Training Programs regulations, which read as follows:

4.1.b “During the academic year, an Unsatisfactory in one rotation period with satisfactory completion of all others, requires the resident to complete a Repeat rotation of the same duration”. In these cases, a resident’s training will be extended by the duration of the Repeat rotation. This period cannot be waived.

4.1.c “During the academic year, a Borderline evaluation in one rotation period with Satisfactory completion of all others may require a Repeat rotation. This is left to the discretion of the Program Director”. It is noted that the Repeat rotation is not to be undertaken until completion of the academic year and must be completed before promotion to the subsequent academic year. If the program determines that a Borderline rotation needs to be repeated, the resident’s training will be extended by the length of the Repeat rotation. In these cases, therefore, no waiver can be granted.

Shortening training in order to start a fellowship on a given date is not an acceptable reason to grant a waiver.

Once approved, the waiver request will be transmitted by the PGME Office to both the RCPSC and the CMQ for processing. Requests not meeting the above criteria will be returned to the Program Director.