



Ontario's Teaching Regulator  
L'organisme de réglementation  
de l'enseignement en Ontario

## Memo

**Date:** July 18, 2023  
**To:** Members of Council  
**From:** Linda Lacroix, OCT  
Registrar and CEO  
**Subject:** Proposed Regulatory Amendments – Fair Registration Practices

Enclosed with this memo as Attachment 1 are proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 271/09, Fair Registration Practices (the “Registration Regulation”), made under the *Ontario College of Teachers Act, 1996* (the “Act”). These regulatory amendments, first received July 14, 2023, are confidential and were noted in the Minister’s April 17, 2023 letter to the College:

“I am asking the [Ontario College of Teachers] to come forward with proposed regulations and/or regulatory amendments to modernize teacher education and certification processes to achieve the following objectives:

\* \* \* \*

- Cut the timeframe for the certification of new teacher candidates in half and align with the *Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act* to reduce time for domestic mobility and internationally educated candidates (e.g., 50 days).”

Since then, the College and Ministry have engaged in ongoing discussions about certification timelines, with a particular focus on reducing the timeline for international applicants given that applicants from Ontario programs of education are certified within a day with few exceptions and “domestic mobility” applicants (those from other provinces or territories in Canada) are certified within 30 days in all but the rarest cases.

Council received a briefing on certification timelines, the ongoing discussions with the Ministry, and potential amendments to the Registration Regulation at its June 8, 2023 meeting.

### Background

Section 3(3) of the [Registration Regulation](#) currently requires the Registrar to use ‘best efforts’ to make a certification decision for all applicants within 120 days.

Many regulated professions, including nurses, physicians and surgeons, and engineers, have taken steps in recent months to accelerate certification timelines in their respective occupations. With the proposed changes to the Registration Regulation, the following timelines are now being proposed for applicants to the teaching profession:

Applicant Source	Proposed Certification Timeline
Applicants who have completed a program of professional education in Ontario	Forthwith, unless the Registrar determines there are exceptional circumstances that prevent the Registrar from making a certification decision
Applicants certified by provincial or territorial teacher regulatory authority outside Ontario	Within the timeline set out under subsection 9.1 (4) of <i>Fair Access to Regulated Professions and Compulsory Trades Act, 2006</i> , unless an exemption has been granted under section 9.2 of that Act (i.e. 30 business days)
Applicants certified by a teacher regulatory authority outside Canada	Within 60 business days, unless the Registrar determines there are exceptional circumstances that prevent the Registrar from making a certification decision
Reapplicants (previous certificate cancelled due to resignation OR expiry)	Within 60 business days, unless the Registrar determines there are exceptional circumstances that prevent the Registrar from making a certification decision

If approved by Council, it is anticipated that these amendments would take effect December 31, 2023.

### Decision

The proposed amendments to the Registration Regulation are now provided for Council's review and approval.

Should Council approve the proposed amendments, the revised Registration Regulation would be signed by the Chair of Council and the Registrar, and then sent to the Ministry of Education to be filed (i.e. formally amend the Regulation).

It is therefore recommended:

**That Council approve the proposed amendments to Ontario Regulation 271/09, Fair Registration Practices, as outlined in Document 46, Attachment 1.**