

COMMITTEE ON RURAL & REGIONAL PRACTICE

RURAL & REGIONAL EMERGENCY CARE CME PROGRAM PARAMETERS

The Rural & Regional Emergency Care CME Program is provided through an agreement between the Saskatchewan Medical Association and the Government of Saskatchewan.

PURPOSE: To provide funds to physicians in rural and regional practice, Family Medicine Bursary Recipients, and Rural Relief Program locum physicians for reimbursement of the cost of tuition and a portion of the travel and accommodation expenses associated with ACLS, PALS, ATLS, NRP, ALSO, ALARM, EDE 1, and AIME. The program will support physicians to certify and re-certify their skills in emergency care training and risk management. *On-line courses that do not include an in-person demonstration of the practical skills components do not qualify.*

Please note, tuition for courses other than ACLS, PALS, ATLS, NRP, ALSO, ALARM, EDE 1 and AIME may be eligible for reimbursement through the regular SMA Continuing Medical Education (CME) Fund.

FUNDING: Money received from the Rural & Regional Emergency Care CME fund must be declared as income for tax purposes. Physicians may continue to claim educational costs as allowed under current tax regulations; therefore, original receipts should be retained.

Employed physicians who are not eligible to claim education costs as expenses do not have to declare money received from this fund as income. Receipts sent in to document expenses will not be returned. Therefore, we suggest that you submit photocopies.

Eligible physicians may claim reimbursement for the cost of Canadian tuition as well as \$100 for expenses associated with travel and maintenance if the course is taken within 100 km of the applicant's home community, and \$500 if taken elsewhere in Saskatchewan (\$0 will be paid for training obtained in the same community where the applicant resides). For courses pursued outside of Saskatchewan, \$1000 for expenses may be claimed. Applications may be submitted for more than one course per year. Physicians are not able to concurrently claim funds from this program and the CME bank or other funding sources for the same educational experience.

Funds are provided only with respect to expenses already incurred for continuing medical education. Emergency Care CME applications for reimbursement can be applied for no later than 6 months from the date of the training/course.



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ELIGIBILITY: Physicians must have licensure in the province of Saskatchewan and be practicing in rural¹ or regional² Saskatchewan at the time of the course. Physicians receiving monies from the fund will be expected to provide services in rural or regional Saskatchewan after completing the educational activity.

Physicians working for the SMA/CORRP Rural Relief Program are eligible to apply to the fund for courses attended.

FMR bursary recipients are eligible to apply to the fund for PALS, ATLS, and ALARM training and courses during residency.

FMR2s and FMR3s that have signed contracts to work in rural/regional communities in Saskatchewan are eligible to apply in their last 6 months of training. Their signed contract needs to be provided alongside the Emergency Care CME application.

Saskatchewan International Physician Practice Assessment – SIPPA candidates may apply for Emergency Care CME funds during and following the assessment. Funding will only be provided for course payment, and for courses that are offered in Saskatchewan. Physicians must successfully complete SIPPA and move into a rural/regional practice with return-of-service. If the candidate is not successful in the assessment and/or do not move into a rural/regional practice for return-of-service, the expectation is that the SIPPA program would reimburse the funds.

Exceptions to the above requirements may be considered by the Committee upon request and will be adjudicated on a case-by-case basis.

HOW TO APPLY: The completed application should be returned to the Saskatchewan Medical Association office at 201 – 2174 Airport Drive, Saskatoon, SK S7L 6M6. Applications should be submitted upon completion of the educational activity.

¹Rural is defined as having a population of approximately 10,000 or less, including Estevan and Weyburn.

²Regional communities include Prince Albert, Moose Jaw, Yorkton, Lloydminster, North Battleford, and Swift Current.

Revised: July 2009, September 2013, March 2014, December 2014, March 2015, September 2015,
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