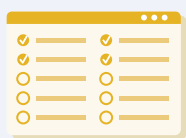




Certification Examination in Family Medicine Fall 2021 Examination Administration Report

The College of Family Physicians of Canada (CFPC) conducts the Certification Examination in Family Medicine twice a year, in the spring and fall, at multiple centres across Canada in English and French.



The 2021 Certification Examination in Family Medicine was based on the written component of the examination, the computer-based short-answer management problems (SAMPs), as a requirement for first-time candidates for this year only. The written component of the examination took place from Thursday, October 14 through Tuesday, October 19, 2021. It was four hours in length with an optional 15-minute break.



The new virtual simulated office oral (S00) component of the Certification Examination in Family Medicine was introduced to candidates repeating the exam from an attempt prior to 2020 who require the S00 for certification. The new virtual S00 examination was launched on November 6, 2021, and it will be expanded to all candidates in spring 2022.



489

Total number of candidates

34

Candidates sat the SAMP and the new virtual S00 exam

42

Candidates sat the new virtual S00 exam only

413

Candidates sat the SAMP only

How the COVID-19 pandemic affected the examination

While the COVID-19 pandemic has prevented the College from delivering the S00s in their traditional, in-person format, it has also provided an opportunity to identify and improve virtual delivery of the S00 examination experience for candidates and examiners in several ways, including:



✓ Greater convenience and enhanced flexibility as candidates and examiners may not need to travel



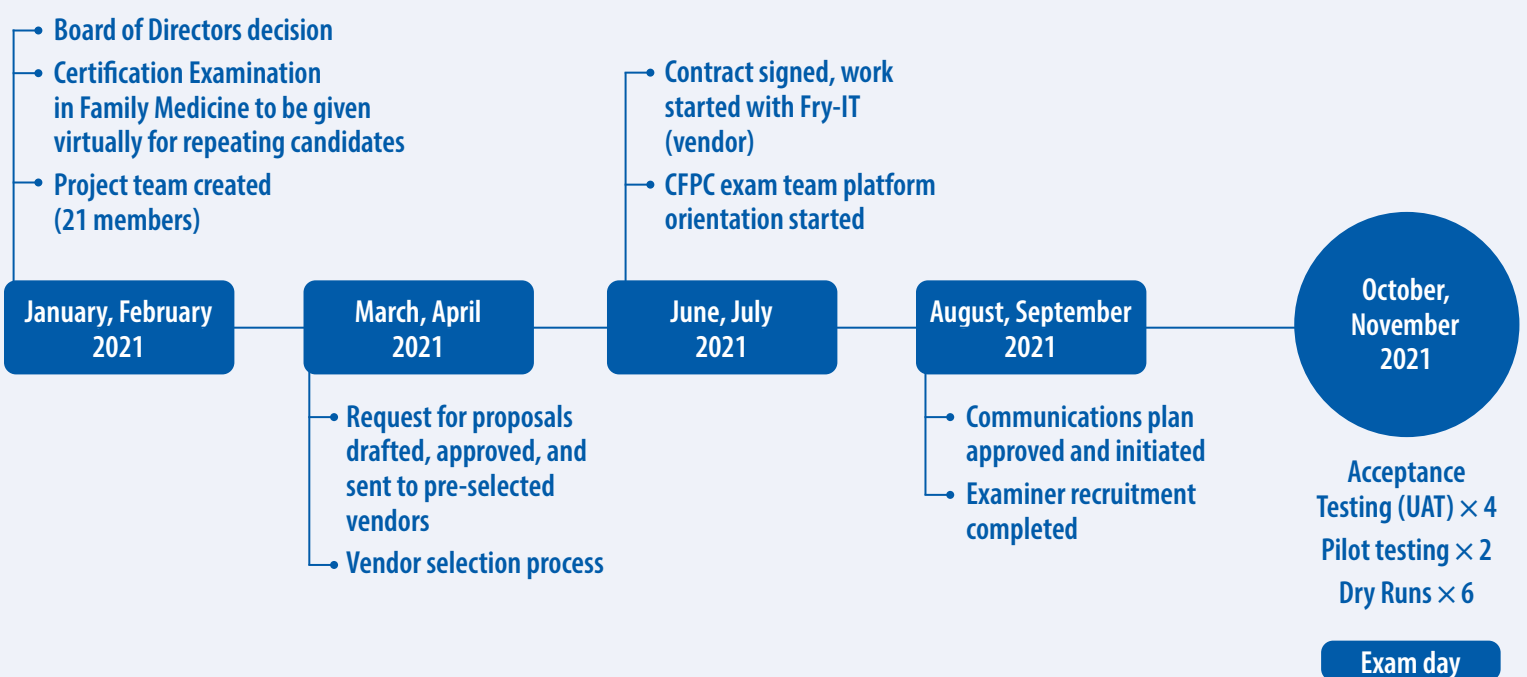
✓ Optimal and progressive use of technology to support high-quality examination delivery



✓ Avoidance of sudden obstacles or limitations that the pandemic or other unanticipated circumstances or environmental factors could cause

Virtual S00 project timeline

The development of and planning for the new virtual S00 was conducted using best practice processes, comprehensive preparation plans, and consultation with subject matter experts.



Candidate readiness

- ✓ [Instructional videos, audio recordings, and written materials](#)
- ✓ [Frequently asked questions document](#)
- ✓ [Platform technical user guide](#)

- ✓ [Sample video of a virtual S00 encounter](#)
- ✓ [Live webinar](#)



Examiner readiness

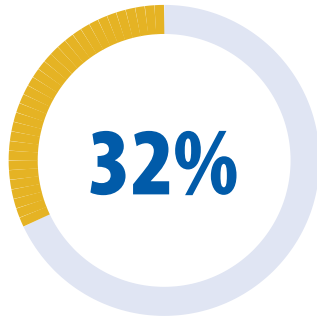
- ✓ Platform orientation session: Hands-on experience with the platform and troubleshooting processes
- ✓ Marking standardization session: Virtual calibration session using mock candidates

- ✓ Examiner training: Workshop on performance assessment of patient-centred approach, identifying a range of judgment biases, and managing the impact of bias in assessment

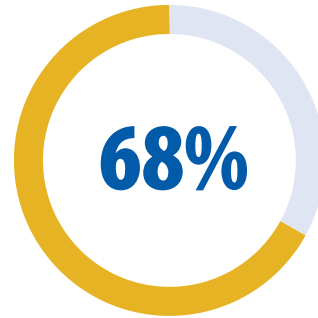
Exam Administration Details

Written Examination

Mode of delivery



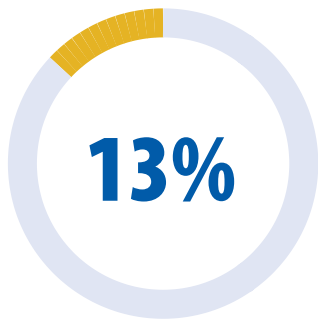
Remotely proctored exam



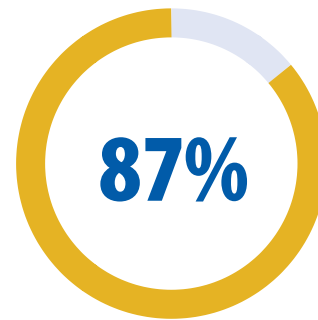
Test-site exam

One-third of candidates opted for remote proctoring of their exam. Public health restrictions on indoor gatherings limited the number of people that could be accommodated at test centres.

Language of choice



French



English

More than three-quarters of candidates took the exam in English.

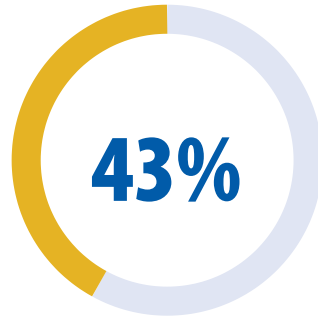
Technical difficulties



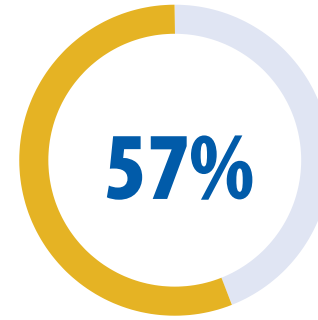
1.1%

Only 1.1 per cent of candidates experienced significant technical difficulties and alternative options were made available to them. With effective communication channels in place, the CFPC was able to solve problems in a professional and consistent manner.

Eligibility route



Residency-eligible

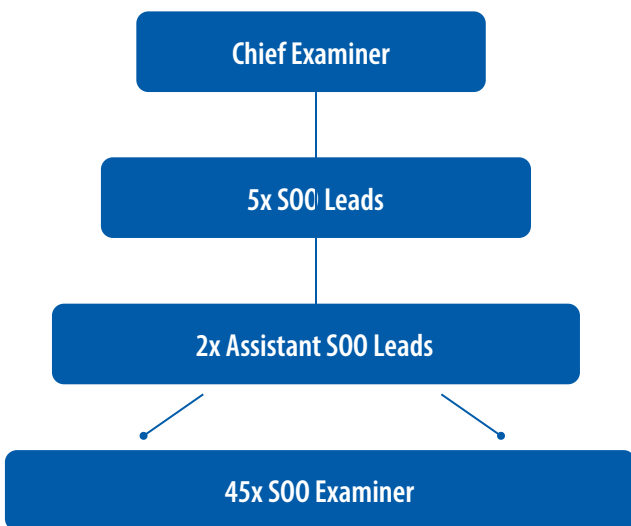


Practice-eligible

More than half of the candidates qualified through the practice-eligible route.

Oral Examination

Examiners team structure



This year for the first time a Chief Examiner coordinated the S00 Leads and provided extensive support to examiners and CFPC staff throughout the planning process and on the exam day.

Candidate and examiner support

To ensure secure, effective, and seamless candidate and examiner support:



16
Member in-person command centre

5
Platform/technical support staff

18
Proctors/observers per session

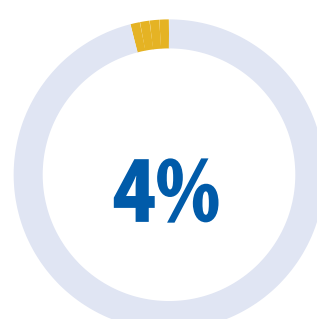
Technical difficulties requiring an S00 rerun



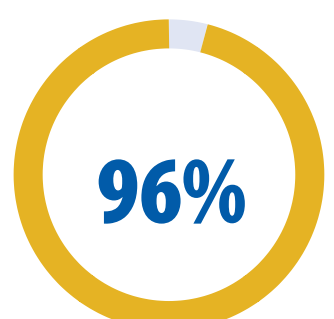
4

All 76 candidates successfully completed the exam and none had to be rescheduled. Out of 380 discrete examiner/candidate interactions, only four candidates had technical issues in an S00 station. The CFPC team worked with the candidates to schedule the reruns on the same day.

Language of choice



French



English

Preparation for the spring administration of S00s for all eligible candidates is under way. The CFPC is dedicated to working with committees, schools, and resident groups to address unique challenges related to exams. We welcome your ongoing engagement and invite you to share your concerns by emailing ccfpexam@cfpc.ca.

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