



## **BOARD OF CERTIFICATION**

# **Educational Requirements for a Certificate in Public Health Inspection (Canada)**

## **FAQ's for International Applicants**

April 2011

## Where can I get the education required to become a PHI?

A. There are 5 educational institutions in Canada which offer a baccalaureate degree program approved by the Board of Certification. The program options and basic admission requirements are :

### Ryerson University, Toronto, ON

- 4 year program –Secondary School diploma or equivalent
- 2 year fast track program - related Bachelor degree or higher

### British Columbia Institute of Technology, Burnaby, BC

- 2 year program Option #1 - applicants with credential
- 2 year program Option #2 – applicants with 2 years post secondary course work
- Program includes 12 week practicum

### Concordia University College of Alberta, Edmonton, AB

- 15 month fast track - Undergraduate baccalaureate degree in approved discipline
- Program includes 12 week practicum

### Cape Breton University, Sydney, NS

- 4 year option – Secondary school diploma
- 2 year fast track option – relevant Bachelor degree or Technology diploma program

### First Nations University of Canada, Regina, SK

- 4 year program – Secondary school diploma or post secondary institution

**For more detail on the programs and admission requirements please refer to the program websites.**

**My PHI/EHO education and/or qualifications were obtained outside of Canada. Does the BOC recognize these credentials?**

A: The BOC does not recognize credentialing from outside of Canada as equivalent. As a result, applicants are advised to apply to one of the Canadian schools for admission in a fast track or after-degree program where certain course credits may be allowed in some cases.

**How do I know which school to apply to?**

A: The first step is to review the various program options offered by the five schools in Canada. If you wish to apply for admission to any of these programs you should contact the schools through their website. The school will provide information on admission requirements for applicants with qualifications obtained outside of Canada.

**NOTE:** All schools require international candidates to demonstrate proficiency in the English language as a pre-requisite for admission.

**Are international applicants with related work experience required to complete a practicum? If so, when can I do a practicum?**

A: Yes. All persons who wish to become a Certified Public Health Inspector (Canada) must successfully complete a 12 week practicum in an agency approved by the Board of Certification. The practicum is to be taken AFTER you have received confirmation from the BOC that you have met the degree requirements.

**I am qualified to work as a Public Health Inspector /Environmental Health Officer in another country. Will the BOC allow me to challenge the certification exam?**

A: No. All applicants must meet the educational requirements and successfully complete the practicum at an agency in Canada approved by the BOC. Only then can they apply to sit the examination.

**I am still not clear on how the BOC policy regarding international credentials applies to my circumstances. How can I get more information?**

A: Contact the office at [www.ciphi.ca](http://www.ciphi.ca) and advise them you require additional information. Your request will be forwarded to the BOC for response. Please note that it may take 2 – 4 weeks to receive a reply.