

# Memo - Changes to the CaRMS Pediatric Subspecialty Match (PSM)

## Specialty Committee in Pediatrics

Changes to the Pediatric Subspecialty CaRMS match (PSM) as an outcome of CBD implementation in general Pediatrics' Training programs

Dear Colleagues:

With the change to Competence by Design (CBD) for residency training in Pediatrics, residents must now master all pediatric generalist competencies of the Pediatrics specialty within the local context of program delivery, in most cases prior to proceeding to subspecialty training. From a practical perspective, this will largely translate into pediatric residents doing four years of training prior to starting their subspecialty, with one exception. Quebec residents will have the choice to start Quebec subspecialty training programs after three years or all programs after four years.

This results in one 'gap year' in which PGY3 residents in the new CBD cohort cannot apply to subspecialty training and PGY-4 residents, in the last non-CBD cohort, will not be eligible to apply to Ministry of Health-funded positions in Ontario under the current policies. This gap year begins in July 2024 and will result in significantly fewer residents eligible to apply to the 2024 Pediatric Subspecialty Match (PSM) occurring in the fall of 2023. Therefore, many subspecialty training positions will potentially be unfilled for July 2024, resulting in impacts on staffing of subspecialty clinical services for at least two years.

To mitigate the effects of this gap year and after discussion with various stakeholders, the Canadian PGME Deans have established a time-limited policy which applies to the 2024 PSM Match (which takes place in fall 2023) only. For the 2024 Match, all PGY4 residents will be allowed to apply for all available PSM positions, including those sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Health. This translates into a choice for the current PGY-3s (2022/2023) of any province (the last non-CBD cohort) to apply to the match during the fall of their PGY-4 year to any program with available positions in any province, including Ontario.

Should a PGY-3 resident apply for the 2023 Match (in the fall of 2022) and not obtain a subspecialty training position, they may apply to the 2024 Match (in the fall of 2023) as a PGY-4 (except for Quebec PGY-3 residents, who may apply to Quebec subspecialty training programs only once. However, these residents may apply to all other programs as a PGY-4). Residents who will complete their Pediatrics training with an off-cycle end date may apply to the match corresponding to their planned subspecialty training start date.

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	ACADEMIC YEAR				
	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024		2024-2025
	Match in Fall 2021	Match in Fall 2022	Match in Fall 2023	Match in Spring 2024	Match in Spring 2025
	PSM Match 2022	PSM Match 2023	PSM Match 2024	PSM Match 2025	PSM Match 2026
<b>NON-CBD COHORTS (residency started before July 2021)</b>					
Applying as PGY-3 to begin as PGY-4 Can apply to: · all available PSM positions	Start July 2022	Start July 2023	N/A	N/A	N/A
Applying as PGY-4 to begin as PGY-5 Can apply to: · all PSM positions outside of ON/QC · only non-MOH positions in ON and QC	Start July 2022	Start July 2023	N/A	N/A	N/A
Applying as PGY-4 to begin as PGY-5 Can apply to: · all available PSM positions	N/A	N/A	<b>NEW:</b> for this year only  Start July 2024 (last non-CBD cohort)  May include Ontario MOH-funded positions  No QC positions for this match	N/A	N/A
<b>CBD COHORTS (residency started July 2021 or later)</b>					
Applying as PGY-3 to begin as PGY-5 Can apply to: · all available PSM positions	N/A	N/A	N/A	Start July 2025	Start July 2026
Applying as PGY-3 to begin as PGY-4 or PGY-5 · option for Quebec subspecialty positions only	N/A	N/A	N/A	Start July 2024 or 2025 in QC only	Start July 2025 or 2026 in QC only

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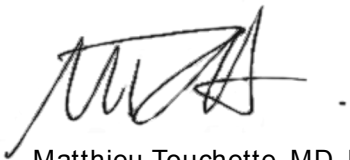
### Match Timing Changes

Additionally, the written RCPSC examination in Pediatrics will now occur in the fall of the PGY4 year starting with the first CBD cohort (examination Fall 2024). This presents a conflict with the current timing of the subspecialty match. For historical background, the PSM match was moved from the spring to the fall so that residents applying to start subspecialty training after three years would have sufficient time to make career choices. Given the move away from time-based training and the expectation that most residents will complete their Pediatrics training in approximately four years, an early spring match in PGY-3 will now provide adequate time for career exploration, examination preparation, and fulfillment of the Core and Transition to Practice stages of Pediatrics training.

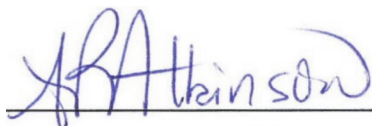
If a Quebec resident matches to a Quebec subspecialty training program, they may choose to either start the program early (i.e., the same calendar year as the match and after three years of training) or after four years. For this reason, the PSM match will be scheduled in the early spring period to allow Quebec residents adequate time to relocate within their province if needed.

Thank you to all stakeholders and working group members for their time and energy in thinking this through, and for developing creative solutions that will work well for our residents and programs as we navigate these changes.

Sincerely,



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On behalf of the PG Deans



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