

## MEMO - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) Certification Requirements

Students admitted to the Master of Physical Therapy (MPT) must maintain current certification in the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) throughout their time in the MPT program. At present this means an up to date certification on entry to the MPT and re-certification every two years to meet most Saskatchewan Health Regions' standards. A recent survey of Regional Health Authority requirements for Physical Therapists in Saskatchewan demonstrated that requirements vary so students must be prepared to meet at least this minimal standard of CPR certification.

Students entering first year of the MPT must obtain, and submit signed proof of, the Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification **by Monday July 31, 2017 to [pt.admissiondocuments@usask.ca](mailto:pt.admissiondocuments@usask.ca)** . If you have a CPR certification current within the 12 months before entry to the MPT that is acceptable, BUT signed proof of this must still be submitted by July 31, 2017. Please note that, if your CPR certification is several months old on admission to the MPT program, you will be required to re-certify once while in the MPT program. The requirement is the **equivalent standard** to the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada's **Basic Life Support (BLS) Health Care Providers (C), which includes the application of an external defibrillator device (AED)**. There are other CPR providers which offer **equivalent** certification and these will be accepted. It is the student's responsibility to clarify that the CPR training they receive is equivalent.

It is best to contact agencies which provide CPR certification courses in advance to insure equivalency as described above. **Clarify with them that this also includes 'use of an external defibrillator device (AED)**. Specify that you are a student at the School of Physical Therapy for consideration of a reduced rate. SIAST - Kelsey Campus and the College of Kinesiology, U of S, offer equivalent courses on a less regular basis. Students must inquire to insure the content is equivalent to the Heart and Stroke Foundation course when registering for CPR courses from other agencies. In other centres, inquire at your provincial Heart and Stroke Foundation office or at community colleges. Recent discussion suggests that the rates for CPR courses will be changing due to regulation of CPR trainers. *Therefore clarify the fee being charged.*

At present, the **every two years re-certification** standard is the expected standard as a pre-requisite for students to be assigned to clinical education facilities and therefore for all of the MPT clinical practice courses. This requirement is subject to change if the health facilities change their standard.

A **Scanned Copy** of your certification, including date of certification, **must be submitted via scanned attachment to email by July 31, 2017, and** on a two year renewal update where appropriate, the School of Physical Therapy to [pt.admissiondocuments@usask.ca](mailto:pt.admissiondocuments@usask.ca) .

See also policy document: [Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation \(CPR\) Certification Requirements](#)