

Bulletin



Bulletin Number 4479	Date July 7, 2008	Direct inquiries to Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care Processing Sites (address below)
Distribution Physicians, Hospitals, Clinics and Laboratories		

Subject: Opportunity to apply to be a member of the Physician Payment Review Board

The government's Public Appointments Secretariat is seeking applications from interested physicians who wish to be considered for appointment to the Physician Payment Review Board ("review board").

The review board is an independent adjudicative agency established in law through section 5.1 of the *Health Insurance Act*. It is a cornerstone of the revised medical audit system implemented in line with recommendations contained in a report published by Mr. Peter Cory entitled "Medical Audit Practice in Ontario". For further information regarding the establishment of the revised medical audit process please refer to Bulletin 4449 available online by scrolling down to the area entitled OHIP for Healthcare Professionals and clicking on OHIP Bulletin at the following web address:
http://www.health.gov.on.ca/english/providers/providers_mn.html.

Review Board Role

Members of the board will have responsibility for conducting hearings and rendering decisions regarding physician fee-for-service claims payment matters that cannot be resolved by the ministry and a physician.

Review Board Membership

The Health Insurance Act stipulates that the board must have between 20 and 30 physician members, half of whom are nominated by the Ontario Medical Association (OMA), half recommended by the minister, and between six and ten public members who are not physicians. Therefore, this bulletin is seeking applications from physicians to fill a minimum of 10 and up to a maximum of 15 of the physician member positions to be recommended by the minister.

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Processing Sites			
Hamilton 119 King Street West, 10 th Floor P.O. Box 2280, Stn A L8P 4Y7	Kingston 1055 Princess Street, Suite 401 P.O. Box 9000 K7L 5A9	London 217 York Street, 5 th Floor Station A N6A 5P9	Mississauga 201 City Centre Drive Suite 300 L5B 2T4
Oshawa Executive Tower, Oshawa Centre 419 King Street West P.O. Box 635 L1J 7J2	Ottawa Fuller Building 75 Albert Street K1P 5Y9	Sudbury 199 Larch Street Suite 801 P3E 5R1	Toronto 47 Sheppard Avenue East Suite 505 M2N 7E7

The legislation requires that the ministry and the OMA make best efforts to ensure that appointees represent a broad range of physician practices. To that end, both parties encourage applications from all specialties and will coordinate to ensure appointments cover a broad spectrum.

Ultimately, the application process administered by the Public Appointments Secretariat and the terms of engagement are the same whether a physician member is nominated by the OMA or the ministry. Once appointed, members are eligible to receive per diems (\$635 per diem for physician members and \$380 per diem for public members) and reimbursement for eligible expenses.

Applicants must:

- Be actively engaged in rendering insured services to insured persons and submitting accounts for insured services to the Plan at the time of appointment;
- Provide a current Certificate of Professional Conduct from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ontario;
- Not have been the subject of a finding of professional misconduct, incompetence or incapacity whether in Ontario or in another jurisdiction;
- Not have been required to reimburse the Plan as a result of a decision of the Medical Review Committee or the Health Services Appeal and Review Board in the previous 10 years.
- Not be employed in the public service of Ontario or in a Crown agency as defined in the *Crown Agency Act*.

In addition, a potential appointee to the Review Board is required to notify the Minister if he or she has been found guilty of fraud under the *Criminal Code* (Canada) or of an offence under the laws of Canada or a province or territory that is relevant to his or her suitability to sit as a member, unless the finding of guilt is for an offence for which he or she has received a pardon.

How to apply

All persons applying to serve on any government Agency, Board or Commission must apply through the Public Appointments Secretariat. You may apply online at www.pas.gov.on.ca or by requesting an application form from:

Public Appointments Secretariat
Room 2440, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley St. West
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1