



April 25, 2023

On March 31, 2023, the Health Statutes Amendment Act 2020 (No.2), also known as Bill 46, was officially proclaimed. This bill aims to streamline regulatory processes under the [Health Professions Act](#) (Act), enabling colleges to address specific issues within their standards of practice and bylaws more efficiently.

The most significant change is where the information is located. Common provisions that **relate to all health professions** have been moved to the *Health Professions Act*, whereas **matters specific to a health profession** are now found in regulations, bylaws, or standards of practice. For example, professional liability insurance is a common provision now contained within the Act, but our bylaws set out the amount required.

Notable changes brought about by the bill this round that may impact our applicants or regulated members:

Continuing Competence Program (CCP) – CCP obligations of regulated members have moved from the [Acupuncturist Profession Regulation](#) to the [Continuing Competence Program Standards of Practice](#).

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) – The *Health Professions Act* now requires all colleges to have a Standards of Practice for FGM s.133.2(1).

Information – Regulated members or applicants must now provide the names of other regulatory bodies that authorize your profession in Alberta or elsewhere including any changes to this registration. The College is also now authorized to release this information with your consent or without identifiable information in a statistical manner.

Officers or Senior Employees - Individuals in an officer or senior employee role of a professional association or labor union cannot be appointed or elected to the Council or other roles within the College s.5.1(1) of the Act.

Registration - Only the Registrar has the authority to request proof from applicants under s.28(1) of the *Health Professions Act* and is given more authority as it relates to verifying an applicant's character and reputation information, as well as what is required of an applicant to meet certain requirements such as English language proficiency, citizenship, equivalent jurisdictions. The College's [Bylaws](#) expand on the evidence required.

Reinstatement - Reinstatement of registrations and practice permits cancelled under Part 4 of the *Health Professions Act* (Act) moved from the *Acupuncturist Profession Regulation* to the Act, and the timeframe to apply has changed from 5 years to 3 years from the date of cancellation. As well, the

decision must be published for two years under s.45.1(10) of the Act and the Registrar also now has the authority to charge expenses for the administration of these reinstatements.

Restricted Activities - The [Health Professions Restricted Activities Regulation](#) now contains all restricted activities for health professions under the *Health Professions Act*, while the specifics of what an acupuncturist can do are outlined in the College of Acupuncturists of Alberta's [Performance of a Restricted Activity Standards of Practice](#).

Please contact the College at 780-466-7787 or info@acupunturealberta.ca if you have any questions regarding this announcement.