

**Ministry of Health  
and Long-Term Care****Ministère de la Santé  
et des Soins de longue durée**

Primary Health Care  
Negotiations and Accountability  
Management Division

Soins primaires  
Division des négociations et  
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HLTC3968IT-2013-790

**Date: June 26, 2013****To: Aboriginal Health Access Centres (AHACs)  
Community Health Centres (CHCs)  
Family Health Teams (FHTs)  
Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics (NPLCs)****Subject: 2013-14 Integration of Physiotherapy into Primary Health Care Settings:  
Information & Application Package**

On April 18, 2013, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care (MOHLTC) announced that Ontario will be integrating physiotherapists into primary health care settings, beginning in the 2013-14 fiscal year. The initial focus will be on the following primary health care settings: Aboriginal Health Access Centres (AHACs), Community Health Centres (CHCs), Family Health Teams (FHTs), and Nurse Practitioner Led Clinics (NPLCs).

The purpose of this initiative is to support the objectives of *Ontario's Action Plan for Health Care* by strengthening capacity in Ontario's primary health care sector to deliver sustainable, integrated programs focused on keeping Ontarians healthy and providing the right care, at the right time, in the right place. To this end, opportunities to integrate physiotherapy into primary health care organizations will be supported by the MOHLTC in partnership with Local Health Integration Networks (LHINs) in settings where the focus will be on the inclusion of physiotherapy positions into existing interdisciplinary primary health care programs. This could include Lung Health (COPD/Asthma), Cardiovascular Health (Congestive Heart Failure), Healthy Aging, Diabetes, etc.

Applications should not include the use of physiotherapy that may duplicate services in other settings as part of the broader provincial physiotherapy reforms, such as in-home physiotherapy delivered through CCACs, long-term care home based physiotherapy, physiotherapy services delivered in community clinics, etc.

All applicants are strongly encouraged to contact their LHIN's physiotherapy contact in the preparation of their applications in order to demonstrate how the addition of a physiotherapist position will support the specific need(s) of their community

(i.e. registered/rostered patients and non-registered/non-rostered patients) and local priorities. A list of LHIN primary health care physiotherapy contacts is included with this package.

Applicants are to request approval for a new position and/or approval to use an existing vacancy for a physiotherapist position. For new positions, successful applicants will receive funding for salary, benefits and contributions to overhead. For existing vacancies, successful applicants will receive approval to fill the vacancy with a physiotherapist and funding consideration to address any differentials.

Please note that this opportunity represents the first step towards integration of physiotherapists in primary health care settings. Funding is limited in 2013-14 however there will be opportunities for integration in subsequent years. Successful applications will be those that demonstrate an advanced state of readiness, evidence of collaboration with other health care organizations and the impact of physiotherapist integration on the health of the community.

For general information about physiotherapists in Ontario please consult the Ontario Physiotherapy Association resource list (attached) or visit their website at [www.opa.on.ca](http://www.opa.on.ca).

### **Evaluation Parameters**

All applications will be reviewed by a joint MOHLTC-LHIN evaluation committee. The evaluation will centre on the degree to which applicants can demonstrate:

1. How the inclusion of physiotherapy will result in a clear benefit to existing primary health care programs offered by the primary health care organization.
2. The community health need and how that need will be met through the integration of physiotherapy into existing programs.
3. Plans or demonstrated progress to integrate and collaborate with other health care organizations, other primary health care providers and community partners in the delivery of physiotherapy-integrated primary health care programs (e.g. joint delivery of a single program, coordination of several programs through the continuum of care, etc.) as well as consultation with their respective LHIN.
4. The readiness of the primary health care organization to integrate a physiotherapist, including having sufficient space, established or mature programs/interdisciplinary team, etc.
5. That the proposed integration of physiotherapy does not duplicate services being provided as part of the broader physiotherapy reforms. Click [here](#) for more information.
6. Clarity in their request for new resources (e.g. 0.5 FTE, 1.0 FTE) and for the use of existing vacancy(ies).

## Application Logistics:

Applicants are encouraged to answer each of the questions clearly, completely and concisely. Incomplete applications will be evaluated according to the information provided. Applicants may update their applications by resubmitting them up until the closing date. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that the MOHLTC is aware of the new submission to ensure the most up-to-date application is evaluated.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to:

- Consult with their LHIN to discuss their request.
- Affix any supporting documentation in clearly defined appendices at the end of the application. Please scan all supporting documents to create electronic copies.
- Ensure that the application is complete prior to submitting it to the MOHLTC.

The application must be completed in Microsoft Word using the application form template provided. Please note that the boxes contained in the application will adjust to accommodate the length of your responses. Applications that are not submitted in Microsoft Word may be disqualified.

Please note that completed applications must be received by the MOHLTC no later than **5:00 pm on Tuesday July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013.** Applications received after this time will not be considered.

Applications must be submitted electronically and sent to:

Email: [phc.physiotherapy@ontario.ca](mailto:phc.physiotherapy@ontario.ca)

Applicants will be sent an electronic confirmation of receipt of their application.

Should you have questions concerning the Primary Health Care physiotherapy funding application process please contact the MOHLTC by email at [phc.physiotherapy@ontario.ca](mailto:phc.physiotherapy@ontario.ca) or by phone at (613) 536-3200, toll free (866) 766-0266.

Sincerely,



Melissa Farrell  
Director  
Primary Health Care Branch