

Student Practice Education Core Orientation (SPECO) Q & A

Student Practice Education Orientation Content and Requirements

Q: Who needs to complete the Student Practice Education Core Orientation (SPECO)?

A: Students and school instructors from ALL professions (excluding medical students) that will be attending any of the lower mainland health authorities (FHA, IH, PHC, PHSA, VCH, VIHA) for a practice education experience.

Q: Do I need to complete the SPECO if I am attending a health authority for a brief observational experience?

A: No. It is not required. However, you still need to sign and submit a confidentiality form. All observational experiences need to be coordinated through practice education offices at the health authority.

Q: What if I have already completed a health authority orientation prior to the implementation of the SPECO (September 1, 2012)? Do I need to complete the SPECO?

A: You do not need to complete the online SPECO. However, you need to ensure that you have completed the Health Authority Orientation Checklist (document dates of completion), and renew components as listed.

Q: What if I have already completed one or more of the components (i.e. WHMIS) of the SPECO?

A: If you have already completed part of the orientation document the date completed on your orientation checklist and renew as per checklist.

Q: I am currently an employee of one of the health authorities and I am furthering my education in my current field of employment (i.e. Social Worker doing Masters; Nurse doing Specialty Nursing Education, etc). If my practice experience is at the health authority I am already employed with, do I need to complete the SPECO?

A: No. However, you are required to complete the orientation checklist to document your completion date of the health authority orientation and other orientation components. Then review the applicable Student Practice Education Web Page for more important information pertaining to your practice education experience. It is the responsibility of your school to track the completion of orientation.

Q: I am currently an employee of one of the health authorities and I am furthering my education in my current field of employment (i.e. Social Worker doing Masters; Nurse doing Specialty Nursing Education, etc). My practice experience is at a different health authority than I am currently employed with, do I need to complete the SPECO?

A: No, however you are required to complete the orientation checklist to document your completion date of the health authority orientation and other orientation components. Then review the Student Practice Education Web Page for more important information pertaining to the specific health authority and submit the signed confidentiality form.

Q: I am a current employee of one of the health authorities but my field of study is not the same (i.e. employed as a porter, attending school in a physiotherapy program), do I need to complete the SPECO?

A: Yes. You will need to complete the SPECO and orientation checklist.

Q: If students have completed the SPECO prior to hire in the health authority do they have to complete the online New Employee Orientation?

A: Yes. The content of each orientation is different.

Q: If I've completed the online New Employee Orientation but am now starting a student placement, do I need to complete SPECO?

A: No. New Employee Orientation meets SPECO requirements.

Q: What are Student Practice Education Guidelines?

A: These are provincial guidelines that were developed to support student practice experiences in health care. They are posted on [Health Sciences Placement Network](#).

Q: Where do I find the information about requirements that are unique to the health authority I will be attending?

A: On the Student Practice Education Web page of the health authority you will be attending:

[Fraser Health Authority](#)

[Interior Health](#)

[Providence Health Care](#)

[Provincial Health Services Authority](#)

[Vancouver Coastal Health Authority](#)

[Vancouver Island Health Authority](#)

Accessing the Student Practice Educator Core Orientation

Q: If I have created a user account in the Course Catalogue Registration System (CCRS) for a previous course do I need to create another user account?

A: You will need two user accounts in CCRS - one for a student/faculty and one as a health authority employee.

Q: I tried logging on and was denied access because I did not have a school email address.

A: If you do not have a school email address your school needs to submit a request for registration to the Health Authority.

Q: Who tracks completion of orientation?

A: Students and school instructors must complete the orientation checklist and keep pre-requisites up to date. Completion of orientation requirements is tracked by post-secondary institutions. However, students/instructors are advised to retain a copy of the checklist for their records. Health authorities may request proof of completion (for any component of orientation) at any time.

Q: Who do I contact if I am unable to log onto CCRS?

A: Contact the health authority that you are preparing to attend:

[Fraser Health Authority](#)

[Interior Health](#)

[Providence Health Care](#)

[Provincial Health Services Authority](#)

[Vancouver Coastal Health Authority](#)

[Vancouver Island Health Authority](#)