

# Fact Sheet

## Cost of the Physiotherapy Competency Examination

### Guiding Principles for Examination Fees

- The examination program is self-funding. This means that the fees from examination candidates must cover all the expenses related to the examination program. The Alliance does not make a profit from the examination and cannot operate the examination at a loss.
- All candidates pay the same fees, regardless of whether they do the exam at a large or small site.
- Examination fees are set in advance to allow candidates to budget for these expenses.
- Unanticipated costs (e.g. if the exam needs to be relocated due to a natural disaster) are not passed on to candidates.

### Categories of Examination Costs

#### EXAMINATION ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES

These are the costs associated with operating the examination program. They include examination site fees, examination personnel (site coordinators, invigilators, standardized clients, physiotherapist examiners), examination consultants and special needs costs for both the Written and Clinical Components.

#### EXAMINATION COMMITTEES

Examination committees are responsible for the development and approval of examination items, translation, and decision making around examination results. They include the Written and Clinical Component Test Development Groups, the Exam Steering Group and the Board of Examiners.

#### RESEARCH AND QUALITY ASSURANCE ACTIVITIES

The validity and reliability of examination results depends on the ongoing research and quality assurance activities related to the exam. The most recent research project was the Analysis of Practice that was completed in 2008.

#### OPERATING EXPENSES

Day to day operation of the examination program includes costs such as rent, salaries and office supplies.

### Volunteer Contributions

Not included in these costs are the significant number of volunteer hours contributed by physical therapists from across the country, who spend time on activities related to the examination. These include members of the test development groups, members of the Evaluation Services Committee, the Board of Examiners and the Board of Directors. These individuals are not paid for the hours they work.

### History of Examination Fees for both components of the PCE

1995 - 1997	\$1500.00
1998 - 2003	\$1575.00
2004 - 2008	\$1775.00
2009	\$1975.00

### The Future of Examination Fees

The Alliance pays close attention to examination costs and revenues to ensure that the revenues from registration and examination fees balance the expenses. Adjustments to examination fees have been made in the past to cover increasing costs. We anticipate making further adjustments in the future to continue to reflect the actual costs of providing the examination program.