

\$5,000 annual preceptor stipend

The \$5,000 annual preceptor stipend is available to supervising physicians who hold an academic appointment with Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine (DFM) and is an approved preceptor by DFM to supervise medical trainees.

A Medical Trainee is defined in the [Feb. 14, 2025 MSI Physician's Bulletin](#) as:

- a) Undergraduate medical students registered with DFM
- b) Residents in an accredited postgraduate specialty or subspecialty training program registered with DFM
- c) Practice ready assessees participating in the remaining cohorts of the Practice Ready Assessment Program (PRAP)
- d) Other practice ready assessees not part of the Physician Assessment Centre of Excellence (PACE)

To be eligible, the supervising physician must:

- hold an academic appointment with Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine (DFM) and is an approved preceptor by DFM; and
- have supervised medical trainees between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025, for medical trainees, and/or overseen a practice-ready assessment, for at least nine days or 18 half days.

The deadline to apply for the stipend is 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 27, 2025.

To reduce administrative burden, it was determined that 400 physicians met the hours threshold for the \$5,000 annual preceptor stipend in 2024–25. As a result, those physicians will receive a note confirming they do not have to apply for the stipend for 2024–25.

The incentive payment will be made by December 31, 2025.

Frequently Asked Questions

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Q: What is an eligible preceptor?

A: An eligible preceptor is a supervising physician who holds an academic appointment with Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine (DFM) and is an approved preceptor by DFM to supervise eligible medical trainees. [<top>](#)

Q: Is there a minimum number of hours to have precepted to be eligible to receive the annual payment?

A: Yes, supervising physicians must have precepted nine days (18 half days) between April 1, 2024, and March 31, 2025 working directly with medical trainees. [<top>](#)

Q: I didn't meet the minimum hours to receive the annual payment, what should I do?

A: Please consider increasing your preceptor hours this year so that you qualify for the annual payment in 2026. Supervising physicians are always needed. The threshold is nine full days or 18 half days annually. Contact your department head for more information. [<top>](#)

Q: What constitutes a half day precepting?

A: A half day is 3.5 continuous hours of precepting during a single day. [<top>](#)

Q: How do half days of precepting apply to practice ready assessment?

A: A supervising physician may receive credit for more than one half day in a single day. For example, a physician who acts as preceptor and/or oversees a practice-ready assessment for at least seven hours in a day will receive credit for two half days; when spending at least 10 and a half hours in a day they will receive credit for three half days, and when spending at least 14 hours in a day will receive credit for four half days. [<top>](#)

Q: The eligible hours were different last year than this year. Why?

A: The hours requirement last year was based on a partial year, whereas this year's requirement is based on a full year. [<top>](#)

Q: When will this stipend be paid?

A: The stipend amount will be paid to physicians who meet all eligibility requirements by December 31, 2025. A group of 400 physicians were identified to have met the hours threshold and therefore, they do not have to apply for the stipend. [<top>](#)

Q: What counts as a trainee?

A: A Medical Trainee is defined in the [Feb. 14, 2025 MSI Physician's Bulletin](#) as:

- a) Undergraduate medical students registered with Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine
- b) Residents in an accredited postgraduate specialty or subspecialty training program registered with DFM
- c) Practice ready assessees participating in the remaining cohorts of the Practice Ready Assessment Program (PRAP)
- d) Other practice ready assessees not part of the Physician Assessment Centre of Excellence (PACE)

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Q: Are Central Zone physicians eligible to apply for the annual payment?

A: Yes, all physicians who meet the eligibility criteria may apply for the stipend. For physicians who work part-time under a C/AFP arrangement and part-time outside that model, only time spent precepting outside of the C/AFP arrangement is eligible for this stipend. [<top>](#)

Q: I'm a Central Zone C/AFP physician and I do precepting work outside of my C/AFP department, can I apply?

A: Yes, if the precepting work outside the C/AFP department meets the minimum threshold requirements. [<top>](#)

Q: How does a physician confirm nine days of precepting if they haven't claimed the \$90 daily stipend, which is only available to fee-for-service physicians?

A: Physicians are required to provide learner name, dates of precepting and level of training (undergraduate, postgraduate, PRAP), through a short, online application process being administered by Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine. For those who precept for many weeks of the year, please note that you are only required to provide this information in 2024–25 for 18 half days (that is, up to the threshold required for the annual stipend), and not for all your weeks of precepting. [<top>](#)

Q: How will the precepting work be verified?

A: In cases where a physician was eligible to bill the TESP 1 and TESP 2 daily stipend fee codes and submitted claims for nine or more days, payment will be automatically processed. For those who were unable to bill the TESP fee codes, Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine will work with department administrators to verify that the precepting reported matches their records. [<top>](#)

Q: For LFM physicians, has anyone considered valuing the teaching stipend as service encounters to offset the extra time required to do medical education?

A: Impacts on service encounters are being monitored. As further data becomes available, all parties are committed to ensuring physicians who precept are not disadvantaged under the LFM in any way.

While this work is being done, there is a temporary waiver of the 2.8 Service Encounter Ratio for supervising LFM physicians only during periods when they have an eligible medical trainee.

To qualify, physicians must bill TESP codes for the appropriate medical trainees to their 100% FFS BA number. If they are unable to bill TESP for the level of medical trainee they have that day, the physician must submit preceptorship dates and learner levels (e.g., Practice Ready Assessment Program, Longitudinal Integrated Clerkship) to LFMfunding@novascotia.ca quarterly. This includes when you have other types of learners that do not meet the definition of medical trainee as per the [February 14, 2025](#) MSI Physician's Bulletin.

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Q: What about family physicians in the IWK primary maternity care program – do they qualify for this stipend? What about emergency physicians or hospitalists?

A: Yes, all physicians regardless of payment model (except those paid under a C/AFP or a payment model outside the Physician Agreement) are eligible for this stipend, provided they meet the eligibility criteria. [<top>](#)

Q: How do I become a Dalhousie Faculty of Medicine faculty member?

A: The process is different from department to department. We suggest you reach out to the educational administrator for your department as a first step. [<top>](#)