

GRADUATE STUDIES APPLICATION FOR NOVEMBER 15, 2025- PERSONAL ESSAYS

General Instructions

These essays along with your curriculum vitae and letters of reference are components of your application that will aid the Selection Committee in obtaining a better understanding of your non-academic attributes and activities. All essays must be 250 words or less.

Graduate Studies Program - Exit Competencies

Graduates of the Canadian Memorial Chiropractic College (CMCC) Graduate Studies Program are primary contact health care professionals with advanced specialist level knowledge in spinal and musculoskeletal health emphasizing differential diagnosis, patient centered care, teaching, research and consultations. CMCC has adopted CanMEDS educational framework¹ for a competency-based education for both its Doctor of Chiropractic Program and Graduate Studies Program.

Competency in health professional education is defined as a demonstrable ability of a health professional that develops through stages of expertise from novice to clinician to specialist. The Graduate Studies competency framework describes seven roles that will be satisfied through several key competencies.

Role	Key Competencies
Expert in Spinal and Musculoskeletal Health	<p>Apply knowledge within the expertise of their specialty area</p> <p>Perform a patient centered clinical assessment and integrate into the management consistent within their specialty area</p>
Communicator	<p>Synthesize the clinical encounter to effectively convey patient information to stakeholders</p> <p>Communicate in a clear, collaborative, respectful and responsible manner at a specialist level</p> <p>Document, maintain and share written and electronic information at a specialist level</p>

Collaborator	<p>Forge effective relationships with colleagues, other health care professionals, and the community</p> <p>Engage with patients and stakeholders to promote problem-solving, manage differences and resolve conflict</p>
Health Advocate	<p>Respond to an individual patient's health needs by advocating with the patient within and beyond the clinical environment 3</p> <p>Respond to the needs of the communities or populations by advocating for system-level change in a socially accountable manner</p>
Scholar	<p>Engage in self-directed learning within chiropractic, their own specialty and general health field</p> <p>Lead in the creation, critical appraisal, dissemination, application and translation of knowledge and practice</p>
Professional	<p>Demonstrate a commitment to personal health, well-being and professional performance to foster optimal patient care</p> <p>Demonstrate a commitment to a culture of patient safety and quality improvement</p> <p>Exhibit appropriate professional behaviours and relationships in all aspects of daily encounters</p>
Leader	<p>Manage their practice and career</p> <p>Contribute to optimal health care delivery</p> <p>Recognize their specialty's governing structure and standards</p> <p>Advocate for inclusivity in practice and different environments</p>

Applicant Essays

- 1) *From the exit competency list above, please identify one specific **key competency (not a role)** from the CMCC Graduate program. Provide a brief essay outlining activities and/or achievements from your curriculum vitae that you believe best exemplifies the attributes that align with the identified exit key competency. (Max 250 words)*

- 2) *Describe an example of a challenging case you encountered during your clinical internship and how you managed the case while maintaining patient well-being and professional integrity. (Max 250 words)*



- 3) *The CMCC graduate studies program is a competency driven program. Please provide specific program components within the graduate program that will help achieve these competencies. Justify your answer with specific examples. (Max 250 words)*



