

PQPP Backgrounder

The Professional and Quality Practice Program (PQPP) is the College of Health and Care Professionals of British Columbia (CHCPBC) quality assurance program under the Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA) that came into force in April 2026.

The purpose of the new PQPP is to improve patient outcomes, and support health professionals' learning and performance.

The PQPP is considered a program of assessment: a systematic approach designed to assess and support the continuing competence of professionals (Eva et al., 2016). It incorporates assessment *for* learning and *of* learning through a variety of PQPP tools and activities, including:

- **Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Annual Touchpoints**
 1. Standards Review
 2. Standards Quiz
 3. Inventory of Performance
 4. Inventory of Learning
- **Practice Support and Resources**
- **Quality Assurance Assessments** (for selected licensees)

This Backgrounder is for **Quality Assurance Assessments**. PQPP Backgrounders are also available for each of the CPD Annual Touchpoints.

What are Quality Assurance Assessments?

Quality Assurance (QA) Assessments are conducted to assess selected licensees' application of the Ethics and Practice Standards to their day-to-day practice. The assessments are designed to be supportive. Every year, a portion of licensees are selected to participate in a QA Assessment.

QA Assessments are conducted by a trained QA Assessor from the same healthcare profession as the licensee.

PQPP Year 1 includes completing the four CPD Annual Touchpoints in October and November 2026 by all licensees, and conducting quality assurance assessments in May and June 2027 with selected licensees.

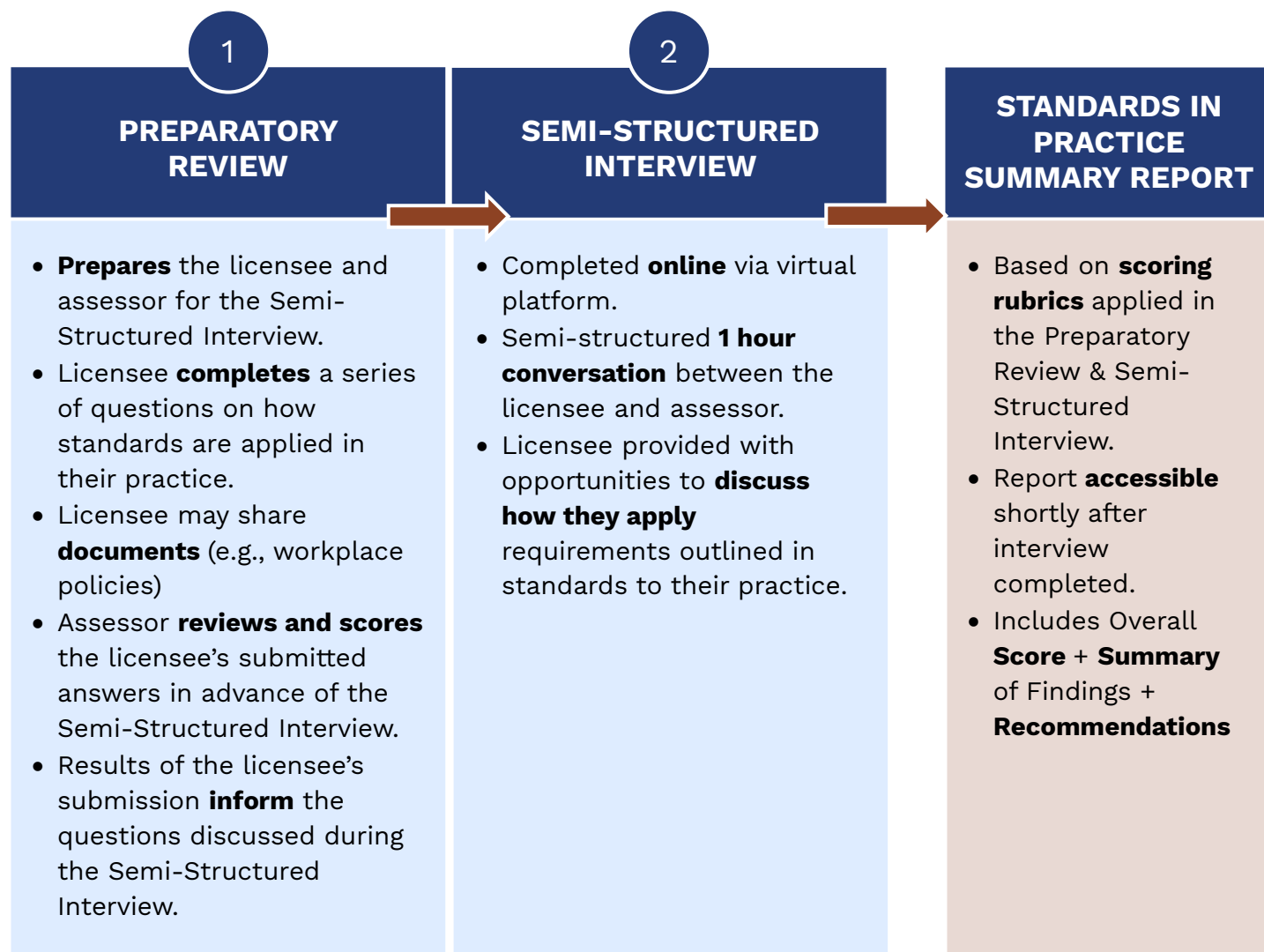
The **Standards in Practice Assessment (SiPA)** is the QA Assessment for PQPP Year 1.

What is the Standards in Practice Assessment?

In May and June 2027, the **Standards in Practice Assessment (SiPA)** is the Quality Assurance Assessment tool for selected licensees. The **SiPA** includes two components: a *Preparatory Review* and a *Semi-Structured Interview*.

These components work together to determine if a licensee can apply the Ethics and Practice Standards in their practice, and whether remediation (e.g., additional supports, training, education) are required to improve understanding and application of the standards in practice.

Following completion of the *Preparatory Review* and the *Semi-Structured Interview*, the assessor uses a scoring rubric to determine if, overall, the licensee is able to apply the standards' requirements, and if there are areas where the licensee could benefit from additional learning supports. The licensee is provided with their *Standards in Practice Summary Report* within one week of completing their **SiPA**. This summary report includes score results, a summary of findings, and when required, recommendations for remediation.



Who can be selected for the Standards in Practice Assessment?

All Full and Provisional licensees are eligible for the **SiPA**. Licensees who work in clinical practice settings as well as those licensees who do not provide direct patient care may be selected for the **SiPA**.

What criteria is used to determine who is selected for the Standards in Practice Assessment?

For PQPP Year 1, the risk-based selection includes those licensees who do not submit their four [CPD Annual Touchpoints](#) or who significantly underperform on the [Standards Quiz](#).

This risk-based selection¹ process is in keeping with the Health Professions and Occupations Act (HPOA) requirement for quality assurance assessments.

CHCPBC is determining a set of professional, practice, and personal factors known to impact performance of healthcare professionals and patient safety. This iterative, multi-year process is informed by College data at the population or group level and published healthcare professions research. These performance factors inform PQPP's tools and activities, including the risk-based selection process for QA Assessments.

What can I expect if I am selected for the Standards in Practice Assessment in PQPP Year 1?

The College will contact you in March 2027 if you are selected and required to participate in your **SiPA** in May or June 2027.

You will be provided with several appointment options to choose from to schedule your **SiPA**. Once your appointment has been confirmed, you will be given instructions to complete the *Preparatory Review*. This review is completed in advance of your *Semi-Structured Interview*.

There are no additional licensee fees required to participate in your **SiPA**.

What is the focus of the Standards in Practice Assessment?

Content of the **SiPA** is based on the standards of practice selected for the previous CPD Annual Touchpoints calendar year. In PQPP Year 1, the CPD Annual Touchpoints and the **SiPA** focus on:

- Communications
- Consent
- Discontinuing Health Services and Ensuring Continuity of Care

¹ Per HPOA s. 99(1)(c)

What happens if the assessor identifies further learning and improvements to my professional performance are needed based on my Standards in Practice Assessment?

Any recommended remediation is designed to be supportive. The content for improvement is informed by the assessor's findings outlined in the *Standards in Practice Summary Report*. The assessor may recommend, for example, additional education, training, or further assessment.

Next Steps

CHCPBC continues to develop quality assurance assessments, in alignment with the HPOA, to ensure PQPP's tools and assessment activities meet the requirements for program of assessment standards, and are ready for virtual and online delivery. In late September, training of QA Assessors and establishing the **SiPA** scoring rubrics will begin. This backgrounder will be updated as more PQPP's Year 1 QA Assessment plans are finalized.

QA
ASSESSMENTS



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**HEALTH AND CARE
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For more information: Visit the CHCPBC [website](#) or contact pqpp@chcpbc.org