



MCC TEST SECURITY

Video transcript

Yves Lafortune

Hi, I'm Yves Lafortune, Director of the Evaluation Bureau at the Medical Council of Canada.

Our mission is to ensure the highest level of medical care for Canadians through excellence in the evaluation of physicians. In order for us to do that, all candidates taking an MCC examination must be aware of their legal and professional responsibilities prior to taking the examination.

While they are few, there have been past examination breaches that have resulted in significant consequences to both the individuals taking the assessment and to the MCC.

An examination breach refers to any action that could potentially compromise the integrity or security of the entire MCC examination process and resulting validity of scores, whether the action is taken by applicants, test takers, potential applicants or others who have been solicited.

Our examinations are high-stake moments in an individual's medical career and they are developed, administered, scored and maintained to meet a number of psychometric, legal and ethical requirements.

Protecting examination content is critical to the reputation of the MCC as an assessment body that all Canadians can trust.

Jeff Blackmer

Motivation for violating test security procedures varies and some have claimed that they didn't realize they were doing it, but being "unaware" of the MCC rules of examination is not a viable defense. It is your duty to know what is allowed and what is not.

In Canada, copyright law exists to protect original work, such as MCC examination content. This means the MCC is the only entity that has the exclusive legal right to produce, reproduce or publish their examination content. For example, if someone discusses examination content, that is a breach of security and trust, which is taken very seriously by the MCC.

The Canadian Medical Association developed a Code of Ethics that provides a common ethical framework for Canadian physicians, residents and medical students. Everyone must remember that to enter this profession, you need a strong sense of proper ethical behavior - what society typically thinks are good values. Confidentiality and the need to resist any influence or interference that could undermine professional integrity are key to future success.

Yves Lafortune

Every candidate taking an MCC examination must agree to the examination test security policy before taking the assessment. This is done in two ways:

During the application process in your physiciansapply.ca account, you are presented with the examination test security policy in your legal agreement called the Terms and Conditions. You must acknowledge that you understand and agree to the legal rights and restrictions that help us ensure the integrity of the examination.

On the day of the exam, we will present you with a Confidentiality Form to read and sign before you take the examination.

These are legal binding agreements between you and the MCC.

Debra Pugh

If a security violation is suspected, it is investigated by MCC staff and reviewed by MCC test committees. If the committee deems it is a test security violation, the consequences can be significant.

- You may be denied a standing on your examination
- You may be banned from taking future examinations
- Your physiciansapply.ca account can be suspended
- A permanent annotation can be made on your physiciansapply.ca account
- A report can be made to the Medical Regulatory Authorities
- Possible legal action may be taken against you

The risk that a security violation has to your professional career and integrity is significant. For the benefit of all Canadians and your future, it's far better to engage in the examination process honestly.

Melanie Strike

Unfortunately, technology has made it easier for the unauthorized sharing or reproduction of examination content. Steer clear of websites, chatrooms and study groups that claim to provide actual parts of examinations or encourage sharing of exam content.

To best study for your examination, please make use of the MCC's preparation resources, which can be found on the MCC's website. The MCC created these resources to help you succeed.

Yves Lafortune

Thank you for helping maintain the MCC's reputation as a leader in the assessment of physicians. We wish you the best of luck in your examinations and all your future endeavors!