

COVID-19 Update

PGME Shared Accommodation Guidance

April 23, 2021



Shared accommodations for mandatory rotations

As this third wave continues in Ontario, the guidelines for accommodations have been updated in advance of block 12, which begins May 4, 2021. The guidelines and principles for accessing shared accommodations have been reviewed with Public Health, the Regional Education Office, and the Department of Family Medicine.

The risks of sharing accommodations has been deemed to be low especially given that trainees have received a first dose of a vaccine, the stay-at-home orders have been in place for more than 14 days, and all trainees are using PPE in all work environments.

Any trainee within the province can move into shared accommodations regardless of the zone they were in for block 11.

Trainees on electives have always organized their own accommodations and are encouraged to follow these guidelines in setting up their accommodations.

Principles for Scheduling of Shared Accommodations

- The goal is to ensure that trainees have access to housing that is safe and supports their continued participation in mandatory rotations where they are providing essential care.
- Every effort will be made to reduce the number of people required to be in a shared accommodation:
 - Shared accommodations will be minimized where feasible;
 - Trainees working on the same service will not be scheduled to be in the same accommodations, to the greatest extent possible;
 - When sharing a bathroom: space out use by 10 to 15 minutes, open a window, and wipe down surfaces with sanitizer prior to leaving;
 - Do not eat together, and clean kitchen area (your dishes, surfaces, etc.) right away.

Kingston Frontenac Lennox and Addington Public Health have guidelines for cleaning of shared spaces available here: <https://www.kflaph.ca/en/healthy-living/covid-19-frequently-asked-questions.aspx>

If there are extenuating circumstances and sharing accommodations may not be feasible for you, please contact the PGME office to determine if there is any financial assistance available for alternate accommodations. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis and in

light of the information that has been received by Public Health at this time. Please contact pgme@queensu.ca

Please note: We appreciate and rely on your professionalism at all times for your safety, the safety of other learners and in preventing the spread of COVID-19 within health care facilities.

If you have questions about the above guidelines, or have concerns once you move into shared accommodations, please contact PGME.