

Podiatrist and Chiropodist

Foot doctors. In Ontario most are chiropodists trained at one Toronto school; in the West and Quebec, podiatrists train for as long as physicians.

TYPICAL PAY

\$57,000

a year, full time

PAY RANGE

\$50k to \$123k

starting to experienced

TIME TO QUALIFY

7 to 11 years

after high school

DEMAND

Moderate

job outlook

LICENCE NEEDED

Yes

regulated job

WHERE YOU WORK

**Private foot clinics, hospitals,
community health centres, long-t...**

How you get there

- 1 **High school** Grades 11 and 12
Biology, chemistry and math. You need marks good enough for a science degree.
- 2 **Bachelor's degree** 4 years
Michener wants a science degree with anatomy and physiology, or a kinesiology degree, and at least a 2.70 CGPA (cumulative grade point average). US podiatry schools also want the MCAT (medical school admission test).
- 3 **Route A: chiropody in Ontario** 3 years
The 3-year advanced diploma at the Michener Institute in Toronto, the only chiropody program in Canada. Hybrid classes, an on-site clinic from first year, and external placements in year three. Admission uses the Casper situational test as half the decision.
- 4 **Route B: doctor of podiatric medicine** 6 to 7 years
A 4-year doctorate at a US podiatric medical school, or the French-language program at UQTR (Université du Québec à Trois-Rivières), followed by a hospital residency of at least 2 years, usually 3.
- 5 **Register** After training
Ontario: pass the College of Chiropodists of Ontario exam. Alberta: register with the College of Podiatric Physicians of Alberta after the US board exams. BC: the College of Physicians and Surgeons of BC. Quebec: the Ordre des podiatres du Québec.

Pros and cons

- + Own your clinic and set your hours
- + Aging and diabetic populations guarantee demand
- + Hands-on procedures with fast relief for patients
- One Canadian chiropody school; otherwise US tuition
- Little public health coverage, so income depends on patients paying
- Scope is limited outside Quebec, Alberta and BC

Good to know

One school for all of Canada's chiropodists

The Michener Institute in Toronto runs the only chiropody program in the country: a 3-year advanced diploma you can only enter with a degree. Students treat real patients in the school's own foot clinic from...

Ontario froze podiatrists for decades

Ontario stopped registering new doctorate-trained podiatrists in the 1990s and built the profession around chiropodists instead. The College of Chiropodists of Ontario is now moving to a full-scope podi...

Optional boosts

Surgical training. Diabetic foot and wound care. Sports and biomechanics. Clinic ownership.

Where these numbers come from

Job Bank: Doctor of podiatric medicine, wages (updated Nov 2025)

College of Chiropodists of Ontario

Michener Institute: Chiropody advanced diploma

Alberta ALIS: Podiatric physician certification requirements

Numbers checked September 2026. Pay figures are typical full-time annual amounts in Canadian dollars, based on Government of Canada Job Bank wage data and published salary grids. They vary by province, employer and experience. Tuition is for domestic students. Sources, links and the click-through version: <https://career.help/ca/careers/podiatrist>



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