

The maturation of Ontario Health Teams

The path to becoming a designated Ontario Health Team consists of four steps⁴:

1. **Self-Assessing Readiness** – 2. **Validating Provider Readiness** – 3. **Becoming an Ontario Health Team *Candidate*** – 4. **Becoming a Designated⁴ Ontario Health Team**

1. Self-Assessing Readiness	Interested groups of providers and organizations assess their readiness and begin working to meet key readiness criteria for implementation.
2. Validating Provider Readiness	Based on Self-Assessments, groups of providers are identified as being <i>In Discovery</i> or <i>In Development</i> stages of readiness.
3. Becoming an Ontario Health Team <i>Candidate</i>	Groups of providers that demonstrate, through an invitational, full application, that they meet key readiness criteria are selected to begin implementation of the Ontario Health Team model.
4. Becoming a Designated Ontario Health Team	Ontario Health Teams Candidates that are ready to receive an integrated funding envelope and enter into an Ontario Health Team accountability agreement with the funder can be designated⁵ as an Ontario Health Team

Ontario Health Team: Assessment Process

To onboard interested groups of providers and organizations on this path, the Ministry is launching a readiness assessment process⁶ to:

- Determine which groups currently (or with some assistance) meet the key readiness criteria to begin implementation of the Ontario Health Team model, i.e., those who will be Ontario Health Team Candidates
- Identify groups who are not yet ready to begin implementation but who can be actively supported to work towards readiness, i.e., those who are *'In Development'* or *'In Discovery'*.

⁴ This process is not intended to be a formal legally binding offer to enter into a contract, and does not constitute a commitment by the Ministry to enter into a funding or accountability agreement with any person or organization.

⁵ If passed, Bill 74, *The People's Health Care Act, 2019*, would allow the designation of integrated care delivery systems (Ontario Health Teams). See s.29 of the Connecting Care Act, 2019 – Schedule 1 of Bill 74.

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The readiness assessment process has three components:

1. **Self-Assessment:** Interested providers or groups of providers are invited to complete a Self-Assessment guided by an *Ontario Health Team Self-Assessment Form*. This stage allows teams to familiarize themselves with the model and required components, and work through together how they would meet the minimum criteria.
 - Self-Assessment submissions will be reviewed and those deemed to be in the beginning stage of readiness will receive access to supports to continue working towards further readiness. These teams will be considered as *'In Discovery'*.
 - Those teams that demonstrate a higher degree of readiness to become Ontario Health Teams (i.e., *'In Development'*) will be invited to prepare and submit a Full Application.
 - *Note: Where appropriate, groups may be asked to collaborate with additional providers to re-submit a joint Self-Assessment.*
2. **Full Application:** Invited providers or groups will submit a Full Application to demonstrate, with evidence, their ability to meet the Ontario Health Team Candidate readiness criteria set out in Appendix B. The *Ontario Health Team Full Application Form* will be provided to those proceeding to this stage.
 - Full Applications will be reviewed and evaluated and those that demonstrate a higher degree of readiness for implementation will be invited to participate in an In-Person Visit.
3. **In-Person Visit:** Invited providers or groups of providers will be assessed through a final in-person visit in order to identify those who are demonstrably ready to continue to become Ontario Health Team Candidates.
 - During this visit, providers will be expected to present a comprehensive current state assessment of their system and a vision for the future of patient care in the near and longer-terms. Groups may be required to provide supplementary documentation to support this visit, such as information about digital and information management capacity. Further details will be provided to groups selected for an in-person visit.
 - Following the in-person visits, providers that demonstrate full readiness for implementation will be categorized as 'Ontario Health Team Candidates' and will go on to implement the Ontario Health Team model. Remaining providers will remain *'In Development'* and will continue working towards full readiness.

The assessment process will be repeated until full provincial coverage is achieved. Providers or groups of providers who are not ready to participate in the first round will have further opportunities to participate, with additional dates to be announced. All providers and organizations who participate in the assessment process will have access to supports that will help improve readiness and eventual implementation.

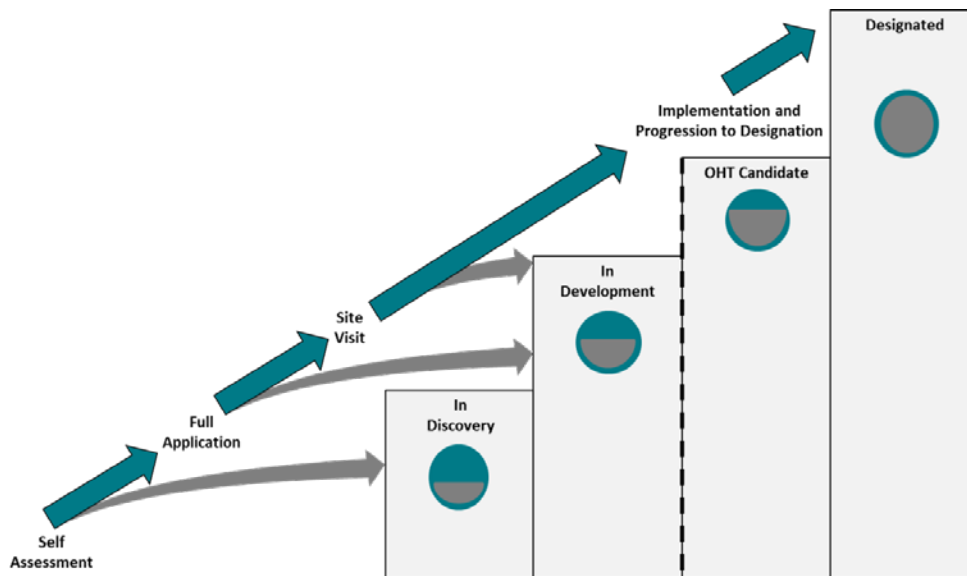


Figure 1: Readiness Assessment and Ontario Health Team Designation Process

Source: Ontario Ministry of Health. Toronto, ON: Queen's Printer for Ontario; 2019.
Available from: http://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/connectedcare/oht/docs/guidance_doc_en.pdf.