



College of Physicians and Surgeons of British Columbia

Registration Policy

Proof of English Language Proficiency – Examination Requirement

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to articulate the proof of language proficiency requirements for those applicants who do not meet the requirements outlined in the College registration policy *English Language Proficiency Requirements*.

BACKGROUND

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is a test developed by the world's leading experts in language assessment on four key English language skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking. It is designed to assess the language ability of people who aim to study and work in, immigrate to and integrate into an English-speaking environment.¹

The Occupational English Test (OET) is a test developed specifically for health-care professionals, with an emphasis on testing English communication in a health-care setting. It assesses four key English language skills: listening, writing, reading and speaking.²

The Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) Test evaluates each test taker's English speaking, reading, listening and writing skills. It is used for permanent residence applications and professional designations.³

POLICY

Applicants for registration and licensure who do not satisfy the requirements of the College registration policy *English Language Proficiency Requirements* are required to complete one of the following English language examinations in order to be eligible for registration and licensure with the College:

- The IELTS Academic test: Achieve, in one sitting, a minimum score of 7 in each component,
- The OET – Medicine: Achieve, in one sitting, a minimum score of B in each component, or
- The CELPIP – General: Achieve, in one sitting, a minimum score of 9 in each component.

The Registration Committee will not consider a combination of component scores from multiple sittings of the examinations.

Effective July 1, 2020

¹ <https://ielts.ca/about-ielts/#general-training-and-academic>

² <https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/test-information/healthcare-professions/medicine/>

³ <https://www.celpip.ca/celpip-general/>