



Policy Category:	Policy Title:	Policy #:
Registration	English Language Proficiency Requirements	POL-R-03
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Bylaws: Section 82 and 85		Section 19
Authorization:	Date Approved:	Last Revised:
CSHBC Board	June 20, 2014	March 8, 2024

PURPOSE

To provide clear and concise information to applicants regarding the minimum requirements for English language proficiency.

SCOPE

All applicants for registration who must provide evidence satisfactory to the Registration Committee of the Applicant’s English language proficiency.

POLICY

All applicants to CSHBC may satisfy the Registration Committee of their English language proficiency through evidence that they fall within one or more of the following qualifying circumstances:

1. Canadian-educated applicants who demonstrate that they have graduated from one of the following education programs listed in Schedule C of the CSHBC Bylaws:

Hearing Instrument Practitioner¹

Conestoga Community College
Douglas College
George Brown College
Grant MacEwan University
Humber College
Rosemont College

Audiologist²

Dalhousie University
University of British Columbia

¹ Hearing instrument dispensing graduates from Cégep de La Pocatière are not exempted from the English language proficiency requirement.

² Audiology graduates from Université de Montréal and the University of Ottawa are not exempted from the English language proficiency requirement.

Western University

Speech-Language Pathologist³

Dalhousie University
McGill University
McMaster University
University of Alberta
University of British Columbia
University of Toronto
Western University

2. Internationally educated applicants who demonstrate that they graduated from an acceptable academic program, as defined in Schedule D or Schedule E of the CSHBC Bylaws, which was delivered in English. This must include all academic learning and clinical practice.
3. Applicants applying under section 71 of the CSHBC Bylaws (labour mobility within Canada) who can evidence they demonstrated English proficiency in the course of being registered in the Canadian jurisdiction from which they are transferring.
4. Applicants applying under sections 82(3) and 85(3) of the Bylaws⁴ who are not the respondent to a current complaint investigation that pertains in any way to their English language proficiency, and who are not bound by any current undertaking and consent agreement that includes requirements stemming from English language proficiency concerns.
5. Applicants for Temporary registration who:
 - a. Are a registrant of another Canadian jurisdiction, to whom they demonstrated English proficiency to become registered; or
 - b. Are a registrant of a non-Canadian jurisdiction whose official language(s) includes English **and** can demonstrate that they completed their post-secondary education in the profession to which they are applying in English. This must include all academic learning and clinical practice.

For applicants who do not demonstrate one or more of the qualifying circumstances, applicants may satisfy the registration committee of their English language proficiency by taking one of the following acceptable standardized language tests and obtaining the minimum acceptable scores⁵ as follows:

³ Speech-language pathology graduates from Université Laval, Université de Montréal, and the University of Ottawa are not exempted from the English language proficiency requirement.

⁴ i.e., former registrants applying for registration within 24 months of their registration expiring or being canceled.

⁵ These are informed by language benchmarking work for the professions completed by the Canadian Centre for Language Benchmarks (CCLB) and mapped to Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) of 9 in all domains of language use (speaking, listening, reading, and writing).

Language:	English		
Acceptable test:	TOEFL Internet Based Test (iBT) or the TOEFL iBT Home Edition	IELTS (Academic or General) or IELTS Online (Academic)	Occupational English Test (OET) (Speech Pathology version) ⁶ , Paper-based Only
Required minimum score:	Speaking: 26	Speaking: 7.5	Speaking: B (395)
	Listening: 26	Listening: 8	Listening: A (450)
	Reading: 22	Reading: 7.5	Reading: B (395)
	Writing: 24	Writing: 7.5	Writing: B (395)

Successful completion of one of the approved tests must be within the last two years from the date of application to CSHBC. Test results must be submitted to the Registrar directly from the approved testing organization.

Applicants re-taking one of the above-mentioned acceptable tests must re-take the entire test. For example, the IELTS One Skill Retake is not accepted.

An applicant who has written an acceptable standardized language test but not obtained a minimum acceptable score may provide additional evidence that may, when weighed by the registration committee together with the applicant’s language test scores, satisfy the registration committee of the applicant’s English language proficiency. Acceptable additional evidence may include, but may not be limited to, one or more of the following:

- a. successful completion of elementary and secondary education in English;
- b. confirmation of practice in the profession for which the applicant is applying for registration in a predominantly English language setting;
- c. confirmation of work experience in a Canadian healthcare setting where services are provided in English;
- d. successful completion of additional study relating to the profession for which the applicant is applying for registration, or a related field of study, leading to a diploma or degree, in English;
- e. published articles or papers, including publications relating to the profession for which the applicant is applying for registration or a related field of study, in English.

The Registration Committee retains discretion as to when and how it may require that an applicant demonstrate English language proficiency, and when it is satisfied with an applicant’s proficiency.

⁶ For applicants to become Registered Speech-Language Pathologists (RLPSs). Versions for the professions of audiology and hearing instrument dispensing are currently unavailable. The OET for the profession of speech-language pathology is currently available in a paper-based format only.