



TYPE	Registration
NAME	Language Proficiency Requirements Policy
DATE APPROVED BY COUNCIL	December 12, 2014
DATE REVISED BY COUNCIL	March 22, 2019; December 6, 2019

INTENT

This policy outlines the minimum language proficiency requirements that must be demonstrated in order to satisfy Section 2.5. of the Registration Regulation (833/93), which states:

The applicant must have reasonable fluency in either English or French. O. Reg. 833/93, s. 2.

BACKGROUND

English and French are the official languages used in the health care system in Ontario. All health care professionals need to be able to communicate (speak, read and write) in either English or French with reasonable fluency.

Language proficiency assessment contributes to public protection by ensuring that registrants can communicate effectively with patients, other members of the health care team, and the College. Candidates, applicants and registrants must be able to communicate effectively with the College, Registered Denturists must be able to understand and respond to College materials that are related to registration, quality assurance, and complaints, and discipline This is an essential part of a Denturist's accountability to the College as a regulated health professional.

THE POLICY

An applicant whose first language is English or French, and/or their relevant health care education and instruction was in English or French is considered to have demonstrated fluency in either language.

An applicant whose first language is not English or French or did not complete their relevant health care education and instruction in English or French is required to demonstrate proficiency either through a test of language proficiency or by providing non-objective evidence of language proficiency at the time of application for a Certificate of Registration

While examination candidates are not required to provide proof of language proficiency prior to attempting the Qualifying Examination, language proficiency is an essential component for success in both the written and Objective Structured Clinical Examination (OSCE) portions of the Qualifying Examination.

1. Demonstrating Language Fluency:

An applicant whose first language is not English or French or did not complete their relevant health care education and instruction in English or French are required to either:

- a) Complete a standardized language proficiency test administered by a recognized 3rd party testing agency and meet or exceed the minimum cut-off score for that test (Appendix A). The cut-off scores required in

the approved language tests reflect the minimum level of English or French language proficiency the

College believes is necessary for a prospective applicant to function successfully as a Registered Denturist.

Applicants are responsible for the cost of language proficiency tests.

Test results will be considered valid for 2 years from the date the test was administered and must be sent directly from the language testing agency to the College.

OR

- b) Provide non-objective evidence of language proficiency. The College accepts alternatives to a standardized language proficiency test. An applicant who wishes to meet the language proficiency registration requirement through non-objective evidence (NOE) of their language proficiency must submit at least TWO of the following four:
1. Successful completion of relevant professional health care education in a majority English or French country;
 2. Relevant health care employment in a country in which English or French is the majority language in a role with a scope of practice similar to that associated with the Certificate of Registration for which the application is being made;
 3. Successful completion of the four final years of school in Canada that establishes eligibility to apply for university or college; or
 4. Successful completion of a Canadian college or university degree.

An applicant who cannot provide sufficient evidence of language proficiency will have their application for a Certificate of Registration referred to the Registration Committee.

2. Extending the Period of Validity of Language Proficiency Test Scores

The College may extend the validity of an applicant's language proficiency test scores when the applicant meets the following Decision Criteria:

1. The applicant is actively engaged in or has recently successfully completed the education required to become registered as a denturist;
2. The original test scores meet the language proficiency requirements outlined in Appendix A;
3. The original test scores have expired within the past two years; and
4. In the opinion of the Registrar, there is no other evidence to suggest the applicant is not sufficiently proficient in English or French to be a member of the College.

An extension is valid for a period of up to one year. A second extension of up to one year following the end of the first extension period may be requested. When an applicant's request for extension of the period of validity of language proficiency test scores is denied, the application will be referred to the Registration for review.

RELATED LEGISLATION

Ontario Regulation 833/93 (Registration)

Appendix A: Recognized Language Proficiency Test & Cut-Scores

Language Proficiency Test	Minimum Score
TOEFL (Internet-based & Paper-based) http://www.ets.org/toefl/	Overall minimum of 89 Including a minimum of Reading 20/30 Listening 21/30 Speaking 24/30 Writing 21/30
IELTS http://www.ieltscanada.ca/ (Academic or General Training)	Overall minimum of 7.0 (academic and/or general training) Including a minimum of Reading 6.5 Listening 7.0 Speaking 7.0 Writing 6.5
CanTEST http://www.cantest.uottawa.ca/	Overall minimum of 4.0 including a minimum of: Reading 4.0 Listening 4.0 Speaking 4.0 Writing 4.0
TESTCan http://www.testcan.uottawa.ca/	Overall minimum of 4.0 including a minimum of: Reading 4.0 Listening 4.0 Speaking 4.0 Writing 4.0
Canadian Language Benchmark Assessment (CLBA) Canadian Language Benchmark Placement Test (CLBPT) www.language.ca	Reading 7.0 Listening 7.0 Speaking 7.0 Writing 7.0
Canadian Academic English Language Test, Computer Edition (CAEL CE) https://www.cael.ca/	Reading 60 Listening 60 Speaking 60 Writing 60
Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP) https://www.celpip.ca/	Reading 7.0 Listening 7.0 Speaking 7.0 Writing 7.0

DEFINITIONS

Applicant – an individual that has made an application to the College for registration

IELTS – The International English Language Testing System

TOEFL®iBT -Test of English as a Foreign Language – Internet Based

TOEFL®PBT- Test of English as a Foreign Language- Paper Based

CanTEST -The Canadian Test of English for Scholars and Trainees

TESTCan (pour étudiants et stagiaires au Canada) is the French version of CanTEST

CLB – Canadian Language Benchmark

CLBPT – Canadian Language Benchmark Placement Test

CLBA – Canadian Language Benchmark Assessment

CAEL CE – Canadian Academic English Language Test, Computer Edition

CELP – Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program

REVISION CONTROL

Date	Revision	Effective
March 22, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Remove requirement for demonstration of language proficiency prior to attempt the Qualifying Examination• Add CLBA and CLBPT to list of accepted standardized test for English Language Proficiency• Update of minimum cut-off scores• Add "extending the period of validity of language proficiency test scores" provision• Add "acceptance of non-objective evidence (NOE) of language proficiency" provision	March 22, 2019
December 6, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add CAEL CE and CELPIP to list of accepted standardized tests for English Language Proficiency	December 6, 2019