



The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Prince Edward Island

14 Paramount Dr.

Charlottetown, PE C1E 0C7

Phone: 902-566-3861 Fax: 902-566-3986

Website: www.cpspei.ca

Language Proficiency

Whereas accurate communication is vital to patient safety, all physicians practising in Prince Edward Island, must be able to communicate clearly with their patients in English. The following has been adopted as the information which must be provided to the Registrar at time of application for registration.

Policy:

Proficiency in English is a requirement for registration. All applicants must have the ability to effectively communicate with patients, other professionals and the College. All applicants whose first and native language is not English must demonstrate English Language Proficiency. This requirement is fulfilled if you provide proof that:

1. You currently hold a medical licence in any province or territory in Canada; or
2. You received your undergraduate medical education or your postgraduate training in English from one of the countries listed below; or

Countries with English as a first and native language:

Australia, Bahamas, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America, US Virgin Islands

Caribbean Islands with English as a first and native language:

Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Grenadines, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago

3. Your postgraduate training did not occur in one of the countries listed above, but it was conducted in English and the primary language for patient care was in English; or
4. You have achieved one of the following English Language Proficiency test results:
 - The International English Language Testing System Academic (IELTS – Academic) – completed within the 24 months before submitting their application to CPSPEI, achieving a minimum score of 7.0 in each of the four components in a single test.
 - The Occupational English Test Medicine (OET-Medicine) – completed within the 24 months before submitting their application to CPSPEI, achieving a minimum grade of B in each of the four components in a single test.
 - The Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program General (CELPEP – General) – completed within the 24 months before submitting their application to CPSPEI, achieving a minimum score of 9 in each of the four components in a single test.
5. Otherwise satisfies the College that the applicant is reasonable proficient in English.

The results of the English Language Proficiency test must be verified, so if the medical regulatory authority where you are currently practising can share with us, we might be able to waive verifying your results:

- Confirmation of English language proficiency in order to enter training or practice in that jurisdiction.
- A description of the English language requirement (including the necessary scores on any required English language tests).
- A copy of test results that were accepted when you entered training or practice in that jurisdiction.

EXEMPTIONS:

Here are our formal English Language Proficiency exemptions:

1. Your medical school or postgraduate medical education experience is in a country where English is the first and/or native language, or
2. More than 50% of your medical school and postgraduate (including residency and clinical fellowship training) medical education was taken in a country where English is the first and/or native language (see list below), or
3. You are in independent practice in Canada or in a country where English is the first and/or native language (see list below) and have already met ELP requirements before registering in PEI.

Applicable Legislation:

Regulated Health Professions Act, Section 12 (2)(b)

Document History-

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