

College of Medical Laboratory Technologists of Manitoba

Board of Assessors

Policy Title	Policy Number
Language Proficiency	BOA-17
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Responsible Authority	Date of Revisions
CMLTM Council	March 29, 2018, April 18, 2020, April 17, 2021
(Board of Assessors)	Page(s)
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Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to state the English language proficiency requirements for initial registration pursuant to the *Medical Laboratory Technologists Act*, Medical Laboratory Technologists Regulation 179/2006, section 4(1)(c).

Policy:

Research has confirmed that a high degree of proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking is extremely important for providing safe Medical Laboratory services.¹ Therefore, a demonstration of the required threshold level of English language proficiency is required as one measure of competency for Medical Laboratory Technology practice.

English Language Proficiency

- 1 An applicant for registration as a Medical Laboratory Technologist in Manitoba who meets one or more of the following criteria is deemed to be *proficient* in the English language when he or she has:
 - a. graduated within the past two (2) years from a Canadian Medical Laboratory Sciences (MLS) training program taught in English (which included English language proficiency entrance requirements) approved by CMLTM; or
 - b. provided evidence of safe practice, within the past two (2) years working as a Medical Laboratory Technologist in another Canadian jurisdiction where services were provided in English and where the primary language of the practice setting, and clients was English.

Notwithstanding that an applicant may be deemed to be proficient in the English language, where the Registrar has reasonable grounds to determine that the applicant for registration does not meet the English language proficiency requirements, the Registrar shall provide applicant with:

¹ Grant, M. (2008). *Investigation of Language Assessment Tools and Benchmarks Necessary for Success for IEMLTs*. CSMLS.

- a. Written reasons upon which the Registrar has made this determination;
- b. Notice that the applicant has the right to request that the Board of Assessors (BOA) review the reasons for the determination;
- c. Notice that the request for review made must be submitted to the Registrar by the applicant within 30 days of the reasons being sent to the applicant.

At the conclusion of the review, if the BOA has reasonable grounds to determine that the applicant for registration does not meet the English language proficiency requirements, the CMLTM reserves the right to request the applicant provide evidence of proficiency in English by meeting one of the standards outlined in the English Proficiency options below.

- 2 All other applicants are required to provide evidence of competence in and a comprehension of English language consisting of completion of one of the following tests and receiving the minimum result indicated:
 - a. International Language Testing Source (IELTS) (academic version)
 - i. Listening: 7.0
 - ii. Reading: 7.0
 - iii. Writing: 7.0
 - iv. Speaking: 7.0
 - v. Overall: 7.0
 - b. *Official Canadian Test of English for Scholars and Trainees (CanTEST)
 - i. Listening: 4.0
 - ii. Reading: 4.0
 - iii. Writing: 4.0
 - iv. Speaking: 4.0
 - c. Michener English Language Assessment (MELA)
 - i. Listening: 8
 - ii. Reading: 7
 - iii. Writing: 7
 - iv. Speaking: 8
 - d. TOEFL iBT
 - i. Listening: 20
 - ii. Reading: 22
 - iii. Writing: 22
 - iv. Speaking: 24

Individual scores from components of one of the English language tests cannot be combined with the individual scores from components of another English language test to achieve an overall passing score.

All language test results are considered current for two years from the date the test was taken.