



The College of Physicians and Surgeons of Prince Edward Island

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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. Unless exempt, you need to complete an academic version of an English Language Proficiency (ELP) test within 24 months before submitting your CPSPEI application. You can take any of the following ELP exams and must achieve the minimum passing grade:

- 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.

The results 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, or
4. Otherwise satisfies the College that the applicant is reasonable proficient in English.

Countries where English is a first and native language

If you received your medical education or training in one of these places, you may be exempt from English Language Proficiency requirements.

- Australia
- Bahamas
- Bermuda
- British Virgin Islands
- Canada (Quebec and New Brunswick may be exceptions)
- Ireland
- New Zealand
- Singapore
- South Africa
- United Kingdom
- United States of America
- US Virgin Islands

Caribbean Islands:

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

Applicable Legislation:

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

Document History-

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