



RP.15 Policy on English Language Proficiency Requirements for Pharmacists and Pharmacy Technicians

Approved by Council: July 2016

Reviewed and Updated: September 2021, February 2024

Resources: [Regulated Health Professions Act](#)
[Regulated Health Professions Act-General Regulations](#)

PEI College of Pharmacy policies, together with legislation, practice directives, standards and guidelines outline the practice expectations of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians in the province.

Policies use “must” to indicate an action that is mandatory for a pharmacy professional. Policies use “may” to indicate that the registrant may use professional discretion.

Introduction

Individuals applying to the PEI College of Pharmacy (PEICP) must demonstrate reasonable proficiency in written and spoken English as required by section 12(2)(b) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act*. Section 1.1 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations* further details the methods by which applicants may demonstrate reasonable proficiency.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to further detail the documentation an applicant must submit, or have submitted on their behalf, to the PEI College of Pharmacy to demonstrate English language proficiency, as detailed in Section 1.1 of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations*.

Policy

Applicants must provide *one* of the following pieces of documentation to demonstrate reasonable proficiency in written and spoken English:

- 1.0** For the purpose of 1.1(a) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations*, applicants may submit evidence of passing scores on the Academic version of the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) or the Occupational English Test (OET). Passing scores are detailed in Section 5.1 of the NAPRA Language Proficiency Requirement Policy. Applicants must provide PEICP with a copy of their statement of test results. Test results are valid for two years from the date of testing.



- 2.0** For the purpose of 1.1(b) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations*, applicants who have completed both primary and secondary education in English may have a transcript submitted directly to PEICP from each educational institution attended. Alternatively, the applicant may submit a notarized copy of the transcripts to PEICP.
- 3.0** For the purpose of 1.1(c) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations* an applicant may have a statement submitted directly to PEICP from the pharmacy program or pharmacy technician program attended stating that the language of instruction, including the language used in any practicum, was English.
- 4.0** For the purpose of 1.1(d) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations* an applicant may submit:
- 4.1** A notarized copy of a transcript or diploma verifying completion of two years of postgraduate education where the language of instruction was English; or
 - 4.2** A statement from an employer sent directly to PEICP verifying that the applicant was employed to practice the regulated health profession (pharmacist or pharmacy technician) matching their application for a minimum period of two years where the language of practice was English.
- 5.0** For the purpose of 1.1(e) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations* an educational institution may submit a statement directly to PEICP verifying that the applicant held a senior teaching appointment in which the language of instruction, including the language used in any patient care, was English. Applicants must have held the senior teaching appointment for a minimum of two years. Applicants submitting documentation under this section will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 6.0** For the purpose of 1.1(f) of the *Regulated Health Professions Act General Regulations* an applicant may otherwise satisfy the council that the applicant is reasonably proficient in English by providing proof of graduation from a Canadian Council for the Accreditation of Pharmacy Programs (CCAPP) or an Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE) accredited pharmacy program or a CCAPP-accredited pharmacy technician program where the language of instruction was English.