

Policy: **Language Requirements**

Policy Number: 1.5

Policy Type: Registration Date Approved: Nov. 8, 2018

Effective Date: Dec. 1, 2019

1. Language Requirements**1.1 Working language in Saskatchewan**

English is the recognized working language for healthcare in Saskatchewan. New membership applicants are required to be fluent in English, pursuant to the SSMLT Regulatory bylaws. Research has confirmed that a high degree of proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking is extremely important for providing safe Medical Laboratory services.^{1,2}

Applicants must meet the English language requirement to be eligible for registration. This policy outlines the SSMLT registration requirements.

2. Evidence of Language Proficiency

Any one of the following will be accepted as satisfactory evidence of English language proficiency:

- 2.1 Successful completion of a Canadian accredited medical laboratory technology/science program, which the language of instruction was English within the past two (2) years; or
- 2.2 Letter of Standing from a Canadian Medical Laboratory regulatory body that verifies at least 1200 hours of MLT practice hours within the past two (2) years where the practice setting was English; or
- 2.3 Achievement of the minimum scores outlined below in one of the approved language fluency tests:

English Fluency Test Scores

Test Section	CELP	MELA	TOEFL-iBT	IELTS
Listening	8	8	24-26	7.5
Reading	8	8	24-26	6.5
Speaking	8	8	23	6.5
Writing	7	7	21-23	6.0

Language test results are current for two years from the date the test was taken.

Results must be submitted directly from the testing service to SSMLT Office: exec.dir@ssmlt.org

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

² CAMLPR Benchmarking Report conducted by: Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

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Effective Date:	2019-12-01
Council Approval:	Council Meeting-August 2021
Next review date: (3 Years).	Due 2024

Revision Summary

Date:	Version #	Change Summary
November 2018	1	Initial version
March 2020	2	TOEFL iBT added due to COVID
July 2021	3	Language assessment exam option details added.
August 2021	4	CanTest removed no longer available
July 2022	5	Consistent language section (2) with other MLT regulators. All Canadian accredited MLT program entrance requirements meet SSMLT standard. Former 2.1 no longer applicable.
August 2023	6	MELA no longer offered remotely. Added CELPIP and updated scores to reflect CAMLPR benchmarking report.