

Policy: **Language Requirements**

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**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 Section 7 (1) (c) of *The Saskatchewan Society of Medical Laboratory Technologists (SSMLT) Regulatory Bylaws, 2018*. Research has confirmed that a high degree of proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking is extremely important for providing safe Medical Laboratory services.<sup>1</sup> Applicants must provide evidence that they meet the English language requirement standard of the SSMLT in listening, reading, writing, and speaking as outlined in this policy.

**2. Evidence of Language Proficiency**

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

- 2.1 Completion of grades 10, 11 and 12 English, in sequence, as part of three full academic years, in a Canadian school with a minimum grade of 70% in English Language Arts A30 and English Language Arts B30 or equivalent. Official transcripts must be submitted.
- 2.2 Graduated from a recognized Canadian Medical Laboratory training program within the past two (2) years taught in English that includes English language entrance requirements equivalent to the language requirement standard of SSMLT. Official transcripts must be submitted.
- 2.3 Provide evidence of safe practice, a minimum 1200 practice hours 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 was English may qualify for a Practicing Licence under [Canadian Free Trade Agreement, Labour Mobility, Chapter 7](#).  
Evidence: Letter of Standing must be received, by SSMLT office via email to [exec.dir@ssmlt.org](mailto:exec.dir@ssmlt.org), directly from the previous regulatory body.
- 2.4 If you are not able to provide the above evidence, you must present one of the following English proficiency tests to meet the SSMLT English language requirement.
  - 2.4.1 International Language Testing Source-academic version (IELTS-AC)
    - Listening: 7.0
    - Reading: 7.0
    - Writing: 7.0
    - Speaking: 7.0
    - Overall: 7.0
  - 2.4.2 Canadian Test of English for Scholars and Trainees (CanTEST)
    - Listening: 4.0
    - Reading: 4.0
    - Writing: 4.0
    - Speaking: 4.0

- 2.4.3 Michener English Language Assessment (MELA)
- Listening: 8
  - Reading: 7
  - Writing: 7
  - Speaking: 8

Test results must be received, by the SSMLT Office via email to [exec.dir@ssmlt.org](mailto:exec.dir@ssmlt.org) , directly from the testing service.

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.

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