College of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners and Acupuncturists of Ontario
Ordre des praticiens en médecine traditionnelle chinoise et des acupuncteurs de l'Ontario

NAME	**Language Fluency Policy**		
TYPE	Registration		
STATUS	Final	**VERSION**	4
DATE APPROVED	January 18, 2017	**DATE REVISED**	February 16, 2024

Note – this version of the Language Fluency Policy will be retired on November 30, 2026. See below for the new version that will be in effect as of December 1, 2026.

Intent

As set out in Section 4. (1)4. of Ontario Regulation 27/13 (the Registration Regulation), it is a requirement of this College that applicants be able to speak, read, and write either English or French with reasonable fluency. This requirement is exemptible. This policy is intended to outline the criteria that will be used by the College to determine if an applicant meets this language fluency requirement of the College.

Policy

Applicants to the College will be deemed to have met the language fluency requirement of the College if they have met one of the following:

- The applicant signs a self-declaration on the application form confirming that the applicant's first language is English or French;
- The applicant successfully completes the Safety Program Test, Jurisprudence Course Test, and Registration Examination in either English or French;
- The applicant submits an original or notarized copy of a transcript showing graduation from a secondary school with four consecutive, first language English or French credits at the secondary school level;
- The applicant submits an original or notarized copy of a transcript and degree showing completion of an undergraduate degree from a recognized public university or college in English or French;
- The applicant is able to demonstrate their fluency through an in-person interview with the Registrar or panel of the Registration Committee; or
- The applicant provides results from a College approved test (made within two years of the date of the application for registration), that meets the minimum scores determined by the College.

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Approved Tests and Minimum Scores[1]

	Reading	Writing	Listening	Speaking
IELTS	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
CELPIP	7.0	7.0	7.0	7.0
PTE	60	69	60	68
TEF (taken after December 10, 2023)	434	428	434	456
TEF (taken on or before December 10, 2023)	450	450	450	450
TCF	453	10	458	10
TOEFL iBT	18	21	19	19

[1] IELTS, CELPIP, PTE, TEF, and TCF are approved under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada)*

Applicants Unable to Demonstrate Reasonable Fluency

As the fluency requirement of the College is exemptible, an applicant can still be granted registration if they can show they meet the intent of the requirement in another way. Applicants who are unable to demonstrate that they are reasonably fluent, as per this policy, may still seek registration with the College by submitting a Written Language Plan.

Applications with a Written Language Plan will be referred to the Registration Committee for consideration. For more information on Written Language Plans, please see our Written Language Plan Policy.

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Ordre des praticiens en médecine traditionnelle chinoise et des acupuncteurs de l'Ontario

NAME	**Language Fluency Policy – Effective December 1, 2026**		
TYPE	Registration		
STATUS	Final	**VERSION**	5
DATE APPROVED	January 18, 2017	**DATE REVISED**	September 16, 2026

Intent

As set out in Section 4. (1)4. of Ontario Regulation 27/13 (the Registration Regulation), it is a requirement of this College that applicants be able to speak, read, and write either English or French with reasonable fluency. This requirement is exemptible. This policy outlines the criteria used by the College to determine if an applicant meets this requirement.

Policy

An applicant is deemed to have met the College's language fluency requirement if they do one of the following:

- Sign a self-declaration on the application form confirming that the applicant's first language is English or French;
- Submit a transcript showing completion of at least four semesters of full-time education at the secondary school level, taught in English or French;
- Submit a transcript or diploma/degree showing completion of at least two years of an English or French-language program from a recognized public university or college; or
- Provide results from a College approved test (made within two years of the date of the application for registration), that meets the minimum scores determined by the College as set out in the table below.

Approved Tests and Minimum Scores[1]

	Reading	Writing	Listening	Speaking
IELTS	4.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
CELPIP	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0
PTE	42	51	39	51
TEF	352	330	352	387
TCF	375	6	369	6
TOEFL iBT	8	9	8	14

[1] IELTS, CELPIP, PTE, TEF, and TCF are approved under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada)*

Applicants Unable to Demonstrate Reasonable Fluency

If an applicant does not believe that they can meet the language fluency requirement, they are encouraged to consider submitting a Written Language Plan. A Written Language Plan may provide sufficient information to the Registration Committee to exempt this requirement.

For more information on Written Language Plans, please see our Written Language Plan Policy.

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