



College of Homeopaths of Ontario

We welcome your comments, questions, concerns, and requests for information.
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Language Requirement FACT SHEET

What is the language requirement?

English and French are the languages of the healthcare system in Ontario. Healthcare professionals need to be able to speak, read and write in English and/or French with reasonable fluency*. The ability to communicate effectively with the College and other health professionals in Ontario is one of the key competencies of homeopathy practice.

An applicant to the College of Homeopaths of Ontario will be asked on the application form to indicate whether they can speak, read and write in English or French with reasonable fluency.

An applicant will be considered to have met the language fluency requirement if they have:

- Signed a self-declaration indicating that their first language is English or French;
- Completed a post-secondary program in homeopathy taught in English or French (for an applicant applying for Full class); or
- Completed, within two years before making application, a language assessment conducted by an agency approved under the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act (Canada)* for the use of assessing language proficiency. The applicant is to achieve a score equivalent to Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB) level of 7.

If none of the above apply, the applicant may undergo a language assessment. The CLB language assessment needs to be based on the reading, writing, speaking and listening skills specific to practising the profession of homeopathy in Ontario. It is important that the applicant undergo the Occupational Language Assessment (OLA) specifically developed for entry into the homeopathy profession and achieve a score of CLB level of 7 in all four areas (reading, writing, listening, and speaking).

What are the Canadian Language Benchmarks?

The Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB) are the national standards used in Canada for describing, measuring and recognizing the English and French language proficiency of adult immigrants and prospective immigrants for living and working in Canada.

The language benchmark test is recognized as a practical, fair and reliable national standard of second language proficiency in educational, training, community and workplace settings. It is a task-based assessment process.

The Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks (CCLB) has developed an assessment specific to homeopaths in Ontario.

How do I provide proof of my language assessment results?

Applicants who have completed an approved language assessment must submit a notarized photocopy of their certificate with their application form.

What are the language assessment options for newcomers to Canada?

In addition to CLB (for English) and Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (for French), the College recognizes and accepts the following equivalencies and results of language tests from designated testing organizations including:

- Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELP/IP),
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS),
- Test de connaissance du français pour le Canada (TCF Canada),
- Test d'évaluation de français pour le Canada (TEF Canada).

For more information on how the CLB levels compare to other test results please visit: [Language test equivalency charts - Canada.ca](http://www.language.ca)

Where do I sign-up for a language assessment?

If you have not completed a test in the prior two years, there are a number of other organizations which provide Canadian Language Benchmarks Placement Tests (CLBPT). Costs vary. For a list of centres please visit: www.language.ca. Notify the test centre that you wish to be tested using the Occupational Language Assessment (OLA) for Homeopaths.

How do I ensure my language assessment is an OLA for Homeopaths assessment?

Contact the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks at:

- Website: www.language.ca
- Tel.: 613-230-7729
- Email: info@language.ca

They can direct you to a testing centre suitable to your needs.

What happens if I do not successfully achieve level 7 in the language assessment?

Under the *Homeopathy Act, 2007*, (O. Reg. 18/14 – Registration) reasonable fluency in English or French is an exemptible registration requirement for the College. If you are unable to meet level 7 in the CLB assessment, contact the College to discuss accommodations.

Neither English nor French is my first language. Do I need to complete a language assessment?

Do you currently read, write and speak English or French with reasonable fluency in your practice or educational setting? If you answer yes, you may self-declare your first language as English or French on your registration application form.

If you are an applicant for Full class and have completed a post-secondary program in homeopathy taught in English or French, you may self-declare your language as English or French on your registration application form.

If none of the above apply, and you have not done a language assessment in the two years prior to submitting your application and achieved a CLB equivalent of 7, you will be required to undergo a OLA for Homeopaths language assessment.

* In accordance with s. 4(1) 3 the Registration Regulation (O. Reg. 18/14) under the *Homeopathy Act, 2007*, it is a requirement of registration that an Applicant must be able to speak, read and write either English or French with reasonable fluency.