



COLLEGE OF
LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSES
OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

English Language Proficiency Requirements

Applicants may demonstrate English language proficiency in either one of the following ways: through education, registration status, work experience, language proficiency testing, or through a combination of factors.

Education:

- Completion of an education program for practical nurses in Canada. Documentation that the language of instruction for both theory and clinical was English is required.
- Completion of a nursing education program outside of Canada where instruction in both theory and clinical was completed in English. Verification is required directly from the applicant's school of nursing.

Registration status:

- Registration and licensure within the last two years as a regulated nurse in another Canadian jurisdiction, where services were provided in English and where the primary language of the practice setting, and clients was English. Verification is required directly from the employer(s).

Work experience:

- Evidence of safe practice within the last two (2) years as a nurse, or care provider, where service was provided in English and where the primary language of the practice setting, and clients was English. Verification is required directly from the employer(s).

Language proficiency testing:

- Achieving the required scores from one of the following Board approved language proficiency tests:
 - i. Canadian English Language Benchmark Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN)— Official version
 - ii. International English Language Testing System (IELTS)—Academic version

| Required Scores | Reading | Listening | Writing | Speaking | Overall |
|------------------------|---------|-----------|---------|----------|---------|
| IELTS Academic | 6.5 | 7.0 | 6.5 | 7.0 | 7.0 |
| CELBAN | 8 | 9 | 7 | 8 | |

- iii. The required test score may be achieved over two writings.
- iv. The scores are valid for two years from the date of testing.
Applicants whose test scores expire during the application process may be required to repeat the test prior to being approved to write the Canadian Practical Nurse Registration Exam (CPNRE) or becoming licensed with CLPNL.
- iv. An official copy of the results must be submitted with the application for licensure.

The Registrar may consider a combination of factors as demonstration of English language proficiency.