

1.0 Background

The Nova Scotia College of Medical Laboratory Technologists (NSCMLT) obligation is to maintain quality and safe medical laboratory technology practice in Nova Scotia. All applicants must “be competent in both written and oral English to the satisfaction of the Registrar or as determined by the Board” in accordance to the Medical Laboratory Technology Registration Regulations, section 3 (3)(b) and the NSCMLT standards of practice requiring that the Medical Laboratory Professional (MLP) shall: Demonstrate and practice effective communications skills.

2.0 Scope

This policy applies to all applicants for registration with NSCMLT. All applicants must “be competent in both written and oral English to the satisfaction of the Registrar or as determined by the Board” in accordance to the Medical Laboratory Technology Registration Regulations, section 3 (3)(b) and the NSCMLT standards of practice requiring that the MLT shall: Demonstrate and practice effective communications skills.

3.0 Purpose

This policy describes the requirements for NSCMLT applicants to demonstrate reasonable fluency in English and meet the standards for safe medical laboratory practice English Language Proficiency (ELP).

4.0 Policy

Evidence of English Language Proficiency

Applicants shall meet the requirement in one of the following ways:

- 1.** Completion of a recognized accredited Canadian MLP program where the language of instruction, for both theory and clinical, was English and where the MLP program includes ELP entrance requirements equivalent to the language requirement standards of NSCMLT. Online or distance education programs must be in English and from an approved source. See Appendix 1 . Proof of completion shall be submitted **or**
- 2.** Secondary education was obtained in Canada. Official transcripts of Grade 12 English with a minimum of 70% or equivalent (University English) shall be submitted **or**
- 3.** Evidence of current registration and practice as a MLP in a Canadian jurisdiction meeting the requirements of NSCMLT policy Labour Mobility REG.008.
- 4.** Language assessment results that meet the minimum scores in each language skill area (writing, speaking, listening, and reading) from one of the approved language assessments outlined in Appendix 2

NOTE

- 1.** Language assessment results must be less than four years old at the time the application is received. NSCMLT will accept ELP test results up to 4 years from the date the applicant completes the

test. If the applicant's test results are greater than 4 years old prior to the applicant becoming registered with NSCMLT, the applicant file will be placed on hold until an updated test score is received. The applicant will not be permitted to receive a provisional license or complete the registration for licensure with NSCMLT until a valid test is submitted.

Applicant not meeting requirements outlined above:

Where the Registrar has reasonable grounds to determine that the applicant for registration does not meet the ELP requirements, the Registrar shall provide the applicant with a written reason(s) upon which the Registrar has made this determination. The Registrar shall give notice to the applicant that the applicant has the right to request a review by the credential committee. A request for review must be received by the college within 30 days. At the conclusion of the review, if the Credential committee has reasonable grounds to determine that the applicant for registration does not meet the ELP requirements, the NSCMLT reserves the right to request the applicant provide evidence of ELP by meeting one of the standards outlined in the Evidence of English Language Proficiency options above. The Credential committee will provide the applicant with written reason(s) upon which their determination was made.

6.0 Definitions

CELP G: Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program General

IELTS-GT: International English Language Testing System, General Testing

IELTS-AC: International English Language Testing System, Academic (professional registration)

MELA: Michener English Language Assessment.

CLB: Canadian Language Benchmarks

PTE (core): Pearson PTE

7.0 Exceptions

Not applicable

Appendix 1

Approved Education Programs for Medical Laboratory Professional studies in Medical Laboratory Technology and Medical Laboratory Assistant programs, that have met or are admitted for accreditation can be found at <https://accreditation.ca/assessment-programs/health-education-accreditation/programs/>

Combined Laboratory and Xray Technology approved training from :

1. Northern Alberta Institute of Technology
2. Saskatchewan Polytechnic

Appendix 2

	CELP G	IELTS GT	IELTS AC	MELA	CLB	PTE (Core)
Listening	8	7.5	7.5	8	8	71-81
Reading	8	6.5	6.5	8	8	76-83
Speaking	8	6.5	6.5	8	8	69-77
Writing	7	6.0	6.0	7	7	69-78
OVERALL	-	-	7.0	-	8	-

English Language Proficiency Policy

REG.003 v5

Approved date: (YYYY-MMM-DD)	2025-SEP-17
Effective date:	2025-SEP-17
Board Chair:	Signature: _____ Date: _____
Review date: (3 years)	2028-SEP-17
Revisions: Format changes and updated content to reflect MLP and updated to align with CAMLPR policy for Language I-03	