



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; or,
- Received any formal secondary or post-secondary education taught in English or French (for an applicant applying via the Grandparented route); or
- Completed a post-secondary program in homeopathy taught in English or French (for an applicant applying via the Full route).

If none of the above apply, the applicant can undergo a language assessment. To meet the registration requirement, the applicant must be assessed on four language skills (reading, writing, listening, and speaking) and achieve the Canadian Language Benchmark level of 7 in all four areas.

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.

There are a number of locations for individuals to take the language tests. Costs vary, so please check with service providers and immigration resource centres in your local area.

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

What are the language assessment options for newcomers to Canada?

There is an option for newcomers to take the language assessment test through *Skills for Change* for a fee. *Skills for Change* is licensed by the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks to administer the

Canadian Language Benchmark Placement Test and Niveaux de compétence linguistique canadiens (French version of Canadian Language Benchmarks).

An individual may also be assessed at no charge if they are eligible for programs such as Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC). To find out more visit: www.skillsforchange.org

Where do I sign-up for a language assessment?

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.

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 homeopathy practice? 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 via the Grandparented route and have received any formal secondary or post-secondary education taught in English or French, you may self-declare your language as English or French on your registration application form.

If you are an applicant via the Full route 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 applies, you will be required to undergo a language assessment.

I have already done a language assessment in the past. Can I submit it?

Your 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 you undergo the Occupational Language Assessment (OLA) specifically developed for entry into the homeopathy profession. This is the only assessment accepted by the College.

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 a non-exemptible registration requirement for the College. If you are unable to meet level 7 in the CLB assessment, contact the College to discuss your registration options.

* 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.