



ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

The College of Pharmacists of BC Council policy requires successful completion of the College of Pharmacists of B.C. English Language Proficiency (ELP) Assessment Interview or successful completion of one of the testing options #2 - 6 listed, prior to commencing an internship. This requirement applies to all candidates who must undergo assessment procedures including new candidates, return-to-practice candidates and previous candidates who have allowed their registration to lapse.

The College of Pharmacist of B.C.'s ELP assessment is a brief oral interview conducted by trained interviewer(s) or an English Language Assessment professional. It is a screen to identify individuals who have difficulty with verbal expression in the English language or understanding spoken English, and determines whether further assessment of the four communication modalities (reading, writing, speaking and/or listening/comprehension) are required. Candidates who are unsuccessful after the first interview may appeal for a second and/or third ELP assessment interview or successfully complete one of the alternate testing options (#2 – 6). Candidates unsuccessful after their third ELP assessment interview must undergo one of the testing options (# 2 – 6).

Candidates can schedule an interview time with the College office any time after approval of their application to register as a qualifying candidate. The interviews are scheduled bi-monthly. Candidates unable to complete the interview on the scheduled dates will be required to complete one of the testing options prior to commencing their internship. Alternatively, candidates who have completed one of the testing options may submit their “Official Score Report” to the College office.

OPTION NO.	TESTING OPTION(S)	SCORE REQUIREMENTS
Option 1	CPBC English Language Proficiency Interview	Minimum score of 3.5
Option 2	TSE/TOEFL/TWE (all three)	Scores of 50 / 580 / 5 respectively
Option 3	TSE / C-TOEFL/TWE (all three)	Scores of 50 / 237 / 5 respectively
Option 4	CanTEST	Score of 4.5 on each component
Option 5	TSE / MELAB	Scores of 50 / 85 on each component
Option 6	IELTS	Overall score of ≥ 7 and each module score of ≥ 6



ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY (ELP) INTERVIEW

<p>Contact Information</p>	<p>Neetika Sethi, Administrative Assistant – Registration Programs College of Pharmacists of BC 200 – 1765 West 8th Avenue Vancouver, BC V6J 1V8 Telephone: (604) 733-2440 or 1-800-663-1940 Fax: (604) 733-2493 or 1-800-377-8129 Email: nsethi@collegepharmacists.bc.ca</p>
<p>Purpose</p>	<p>The ELP Interview is a screen designed to identify individuals who may have difficulty in communicating verbally in English to the extent that communication with patients and/or other health professionals may be impeded. The ELP Interview is used to determine whether further assessment of the four communication modalities (reading, writing, speaking and/or listening/comprehension) are required.</p>
<p>Results</p>	<p>Candidates scoring less than 3.5 on the ELP rating scale will be required to undertake a second and/or third ELP interview or one of the options #2 – 6 listed on page 1.</p>
<p>Format</p>	<p>The ELP interview takes up to 10 minutes and consists of any or all of the following components:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction – name, general interest questions 2. Explain or give directions (e.g. where to find a cafeteria) 3. Reading passage of approximately 120 words on a general interest topic 4. State an opinion or compare ideas on a specific general interest topic 5. Tell a story that comes to mind when you look at the picture or drawings (shown by the interviewer) 6. Conclusion and opportunity for interviewee to ask questions.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY (ELP) INTERVIEW RATING SCALE

LEVELS OF PROFICIENCY

	5.0	Complete fluency in the language – accurate and proficient regarding vocabulary pronunciation, grammar and understanding.
	4.5	Able to use the language fluently and accurately on all levels to a professional need. Can respond appropriately even in unexpected situations, even though accent or vocabulary may vary from the usual register.
	4.0	
	3.5	Able to speak with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate in most formal conversations. May be some errors in pronunciation and grammar but the errors rarely interfere with understanding. Vocabulary quite broad; may have to search for the correct word occasionally. However, fluency is usually fair to good.
	3.0	Able to converse in most formal and informal contexts, but with grammar/vocabulary errors and/or pronunciation difficulties – errors which can be frequent enough to interfere with understanding. Poor fluency may hinder expression of ideas.
	2.5	Able to satisfy routine social demands and limited work requirements, but otherwise not fluent. Would need help with any complications or difficulties. Errors frequent in grammar, pronunciation, vocabulary, and often interfere with understanding.
	2.0	
	1.5	Can handle only familiar topics. Has only a basic speaking vocabulary. Difficult to understand. Speaks slowly. Makes frequent errors in grammar, pronunciation and vocabulary.