



English Language Skills Register Standard

Summary

It is considered imperative that naturopaths and herbalists are able to communicate clearly with their clients if they are to provide safe and competent care. All practitioners must demonstrate appropriate English skills in line with these guidelines.

Scope of application

This guideline applies to all applicants for general or limited registration. It does not apply to students.

Requirements

An applicant for general registration must demonstrate English language proficiency per A or B, and C as follows:

- A. The applicant has completed five years full-time equivalent education (secondary and/or tertiary) taught and assessed in English in any of the following countries:
- Australia
 - Canada
 - New Zealand
 - Republic of Ireland
 - South Africa
 - United Kingdom
 - United States of America

OR

- B. The applicant has successfully completed one of the following English language tests:
- IELTS – completion of the International English Language Testing System examination (academic module) with an overall score of at least 7 with no individual score (in components of listening, reading, writing and speaking) below 6.5;
 - OET – completion and an overall pass in the OET with grades A or B only in each of the four components (listening, reading, writing and speaking);
 - TOEFL – completion of the American Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL test) including the spoken component and a minimum of 237 (test of written English 4.5).

AND

- C. Test results must comply with the following requirements:
- a. must be obtained in one sitting, and
 - b. must have been obtained within two years prior to applying for registration.

An IELTS (or approved equivalent) Test Report Form more than two years old may be accepted as current if accompanied by proof that the applicant:

- c. has actively maintained employment as a health practitioner using English as the primary language of practice in a country where English is the native or first language; or
- d. is a student and has been continuously enrolled in an approved program of study.

The applicant is responsible for the cost of English language tests.

The applicant must make arrangements for test results to be provided directly to ARONAH by the testing authority; for example, by secure internet login.

Definitions

IELTS means the International English Language Testing System developed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, The British Council and IDP Education Australia (see <http://www.ielts.org/>).

OET means Occupational English Test (OET) administered by the Centre for Adult Education (see <http://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/>).

One sitting means the period of time set by the testing authority for completion of the test. For example, IELTS states that the listening, reading and writing components of the test are always completed on the same day. Depending on the test centre, the speaking test may be taken up to seven days either before or after the test date.

Review

This standard will commence on 21 March, 2013 and be reviewed on 21 March, 2016.