

COLLEGE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS

Policy regarding Language Fluency

(Approved June 15, 2016)

WHEREAS:

- A. Under section 5(2)4. of Ontario Regulation 221/08 (the "Registration Regulation") made under the *Early Childhood Educators Act*, it is a registration requirement that an applicant must be able to speak and write either English or French with reasonable fluency;
- B. The College is of the opinion that a person who has obtained a diploma or degree from a post secondary institution where the language of instruction of the program was English or French has the ability to speak and write either English or French with reasonable fluency;
- C. The College has considered the processes used by the Association of Early Childhood Educators Ontario ("AECEO") and the Association francophone à l'éducation des services à l'enfance de l'Ontario ("Aféseo") prior to the issuance of a letter of equivalency certificate to an applicant, including the processes related to the applicant's language fluency;
- D. The College is of the opinion that an applicant who has been issued a letter of equivalency certificate by either AECEO or Aféseo has demonstrated the ability to speak and write either English or French with reasonable fluency;
- E. The College has considered the language proficiency standards established by the Centre for Canadian Language Benchmarks, the Canadian Language Benchmarks assessment system based on the Canadian Language Benchmarks and occupational language analysis studies conducted for early childhood educators; and
- F. The College has considered certain language proficiency tests in relation to the Canadian Language Benchmarks.

The following policy is hereby approved by the College:

- 1. The following persons satisfy the requirement under section 5(2)4 of the Registration Regulation to be able to speak and write either English or French with reasonable fluency:
 - (a) A person who demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Registrar, that he or she has obtained a degree or diploma from a post secondary institution where the language of instruction of the program was English or French;
 - (b) A person who demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Registrar, that he or she has been issued a letter of equivalency certificate by AECEO or Aféseo; and

- (c) A person who demonstrates, to the satisfaction of the Registrar, that he or she has met the language proficiency of the Canadian Language Benchmark at level 7 in each of speaking, listening, reading and writing, based on an assessment acceptable to the Registrar.
2. The following tests and scores will be considered acceptable for the purposes of section 1(c) above:
- (a) English Language Tests:
 - i. International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic: minimum score of 6.5 in each of speaking, listening, reading and writing;
 - ii. Internet-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (IBT TOEFL): overall score of 88 and a minimum score of 20 in each of speaking, listening, reading and writing;
 - iii. Canadian Test of English for Scholars and Trainees (CanTest): minimum score of 4.0 in each of speaking, listening, reading and writing;
 - (b) French Language Test:
 - i. Test pour étudiants et stagiaires au Canada (TestCan): minimum score of 4.0 in each of speaking, listening, reading and writing.
3. An applicant must submit the language test scores in a form acceptable to the College:
- (a) The minimum score in each category must be achieved in a single sitting. Combined scores from multiples tests will not be accepted.
 - (b) Original scores must be submitted directly to the College by the testing centre.
 - (c) Test scores must be valid under the terms of the test. Scores more than two years old will not be accepted.
4. The Registrar has the discretion, in the appropriate circumstances, to vary from the criteria set out above to determine whether a person satisfies the requirement under section 5(2)4 of the Registration Regulation.
5. This policy replaces the policy regarding language fluency approved by the College on May 25, 2010, which is hereby revoked.

This policy may be amended, from time to time, restated, revoked or replaced.