English Language Proficiency

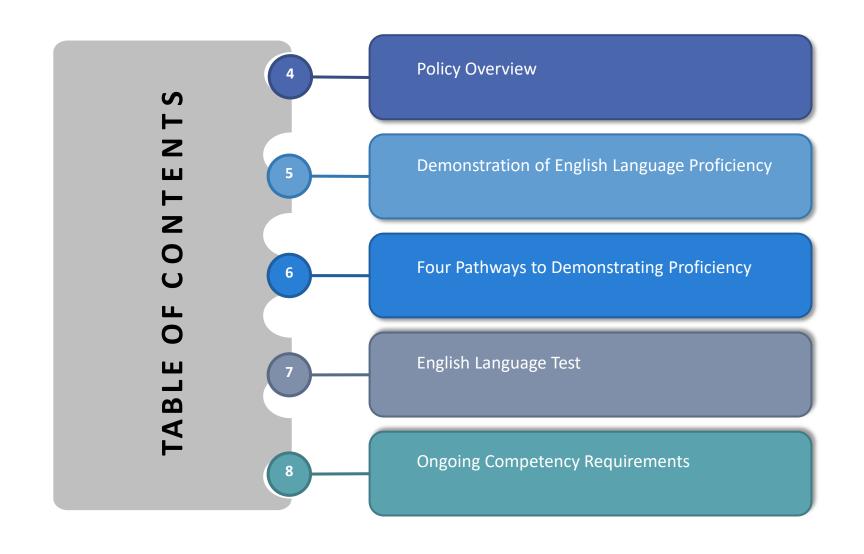
Under Sections 16(a) and (b) of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003, the Medical Radiation Technologists Board (the Board) must be satisfied an applicant is able to communicate effectively to practise within the scope for which they are seeking registration, and sufficiently communicate in and comprehend English to protect the health and safety of the public.

This policy sets out the standards medical imaging and radiation therapy practitioners must meet to demonstrate English language proficiency.



English Language Proficiency





Policy Overview

Registration applicants must satisfy the Board they can communicate effectively to practise in the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession. Their ability to communicate and comprehend English must be sufficient to protect the health and safety of the public.

English language is inclusive of speaking, reading, listening, and writing.

Demonstration of English Language Proficiency

Four Pathways to Demonstrating Proficiency

- 1. They have graduated from a Board-accredited qualification programme; or
- 2. English is their first language and their primary qualification¹ is from an educational institution where English is the sole language of instruction and assessment, and located in one of the following countries recognised by the Board: Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States of America; or
- 3. They have continuously worked as a registered health practitioner² in an accredited medical imaging or radiation therapy facility in one of the recognised countries where English was the first and primary language. In addition they must have worked in a role comparable to the scope of practice for which they are seeking registration, for a period of at least 2-years within the 5-years immediately prior to their application. They will be required to provide the names and contact details of at least two referees who are senior health practitioners who speak English as a first language and who can attest to the applicant's ability to comprehend and communicate effectively in English within a clinical setting with patients and professional colleagues. Referees will be contacted directly by a Board delegate; or
- 4. They meet the required standards of a Board-approved English language test.

¹The Board must be satisfied the primary qualification is equivalent to or as satisfactory as a prescribed qualification for the scope of practice in which the applicant is seeking registration

² If the applicant works in a country where registration is not required to practise in the scope of practice for which they are seeking New Zealand registration, they must have worked in an accredited medical imaging and/or radiation therapy facility

English Language Test



Ongoing Competency Requirements

Should concerns be raised about the communication competencies (including their proficiency in English) of a practitioner registered with the Board, a competency review may be undertaken under sections 34 and 36 of the Health Practitioners Competence Assurance Act 2003.