

CHIROPRACTIC & OSTEOPATHY BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

POLICY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

A high level of English language proficiency is essential to enable Chiropractors and Osteopaths to communicate with patients, other Chiropractors/Osteopaths and other professionals, to write reports that often deal with complex matters and to maintain professional standards.

Applicants for registration as a Chiropractor or Osteopath in South Australia, for whom English is not the first or native language, need to submit evidence to the Board of competency in both oral and written communication in English, as demonstrated by the following:

- Achieved a minimum score of seven (7) in each of the four components (Listening, Reading, Writing and Speaking) in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination (Academic Module).
- Obtained an overall pass in the Occupational English Test (OET) administered by the Centre for Adult Education with grades A or B only in each of the four components.

Results of these tests must have been obtained within two (2) years prior to applying for registration.

An IELTS or OET Report more than two years old will be accepted as evidence of present level of ability if accompanied by proof that an applicant has actively maintained employment as a Chiropractor or Osteopath in a country where English is the native or first language.

An exemption may apply when the applicant can provide evidence of:

- (a) completion of all components of their qualification for registration at a tertiary institution where programs and assessments are conducted in English; and/or
- (b) at least three years practice of the profession as a registered Chiropractor or Osteopath (or its equivalent in the country of practice) using English as the primary means of communication; and/or
- (c) successful completion of the overseas qualifications assessment process carried out by the Council on Chiropractic Education Australasia (CCEA).

NOTE:

1. **The applicant is responsible for the cost of the English tests.**
2. **Pass results in each component of either the IELTS or OET must be obtained at the one sitting, ie. pass results in a module from a previous attempt at either examination cannot be carried forward to a subsequent sitting which, when combined, would give an overall pass in the examination.**
3. **Specific details regarding the English language testing systems are available at:**
IELTS - www.ielts.org
OET - www.oet.com.au