

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF REGISTRATION IN NURSING

Licensure Policy 06-01

Title	Board-designated Tests of English Proficiency and Required Minimum Cut Scores
Purpose	The purpose is to identify those tests of English proficiency and their corresponding minimum cut score(s) that the Board has designated as acceptable to comply with regulations at 244 CMR 8.02(1)(c), 8.03(1)(c), 8.04(1)(c) and 8.04(2)(d).
Date Adopted/Revised	September 13, 2006; July 13, 2011 (Reviewed); November 9, 2011 (Revised); December 14, 2011 (Corrected); November 12, 2014 (Revised); June 8, 2016 (Revised); June 8, 2022 (Revised); November 13, 2024 (Revised).
Policy	<p>The Board of Registration in Nursing has designated the following tests of English proficiency as complying with regulations at 244 CMR 8.02(1)(c) 8.03(1)(c), 8.04(1)(c) and 8.04(2)(d):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canadian English Language Benchmark Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking CLB 8 Listening CLB 9 Reading CLB 8 Writing CLB 7 • International English Language Testing System Academic or General (IELTS Academic or General): Overall Band Score 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 all modules • Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic): Overall passing standard of 55 with no individual section below 50 except for the speaking component, which is a minimal score of 63. • Michigan English Test (MET). Total passing score of 55 and a speaking section score of 55 • Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-based (TOEFL iBT): 84 with a minimum speaking component score of 26 • Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) Essentials: Average of 8.5 with no score below 8.0 • Occupational English Test: No score less than 350 on Listening, Reading, and Speaking and minimum of 300 on Writing.