

Evidence of English language proficiency – Restoration and Return to Practice

November 2016
Version 1.0

Send your completed form:

Applications Team
General Pharmaceutical Council
25 Canada Square
London
E14 5LQ

Contact us:

Phone: **0203 713 8000**
Email: **registers@pharmacyregulation.org**

Evidence of English language skills

From 21 November 2016 the GPhC has required EEA qualified pharmacists to provide evidence of their knowledge of English in order to restore to the Register if they did not provide this at the time of their initial registration.

There are different ways in which you may be able to demonstrate that you have the necessary knowledge of English to practise in Great Britain and this is reflected in the types of evidence we will accept. You are required to provide one of these three types of evidence:

1. A recent¹ pass of the academic version of International English Language testing System (IELTS)² test with an overall score of at least 7 and with no score less than 7 in each of the four areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking at one sitting of the test.
2. A recent³ pharmacy qualification that has been taught and examined in English in a majority English speaking country⁴ (other than the UK) (e.g. Ireland, United States of America, Australia, New Zealand).
3. Recent⁵ practice for at least two years as a pharmacy professional in a majority English speaking country.

If you choose option 3 you will be required to provide a detailed written reference from your pharmacy employer(s) as to your knowledge of English. As part of this reference your employer will be required to provide evidence of how you have demonstrated your ability in the four areas of reading, writing, listening and speaking in English while working as a pharmacy professional. A copy of the structured pharmacy employer reference to assess your knowledge of English is provided below.

If you were required to pass an English language test before being permitted to register and practise as a pharmacy professional in another majority English speaking country then you can provide evidence of having passed such an English language assessment together with the structured employer reference.

The evidence you provide must demonstrate your competence in the four areas of:

- Reading
- Writing
- Listening and
- Speaking in English

and must:

- be recent – less than two years old at the point of your application, objective, independent and robust;
- clearly shows you can, read, write and communicate with patients, pharmacy service users, relatives and healthcare professionals in English; and

¹ When we refer to 'recent' we mean evidence relating to the IELTS test that is less than 2 years old at the point of making an application to the GPhC.

² <http://www.ielts.org/>

³ When we refer to 'recent pharmacy qualification' we mean a pharmacy qualification that was awarded less than 2 years ago at the point of making an application to the GPhC.

⁴ The list of countries we accept is modelled on the UK Border Agency's list of 'majority English speaking countries' plus Ireland (https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/340583/English_language_v11.0_EXT.pdf).

⁵ When we refer to 'recent practice' we mean practice that was completed less than 2 years ago at the point of making an application to the GPhC.

- be readily verifiable by us through contact with recognised higher education institutions, regulators or other official bodies.

The easiest way to provide evidence of your English language skills is to take the academic version of the IELTS test and meet our minimum score requirements.

The IELTS result is valid for 2 years from the date of the test. Your IELTS result must be valid until your application is complete and considered for eligibility.

Please ensure that you request the IELTS test centre to send a result form to International applications General Pharmaceutical Council, 25 Canada Square, London E14 5LQ by using the appropriate section on the IELTS application form.

You may need an original test result form when you apply to other organisations and the GPhC will not give you the original IELTS result form provided by the test centre or return your own result form if we do not have a second original from the test centre. If you have used a document other than your current passport as identification for the IELTS test you must include a certified copy of that document in your application.

To obtain further information about the IELTS see www.ielts.org . Detailed candidate information can be found here <https://www.ielts.org/~media/publications/information-for-candidates/ielts-information-for-candidates-2015-english-uk.ashx>

1. Personal details (to be completed by the applicant)

1.1 Title Mr Mrs Ms Miss Other (please specify)

1.2 Surname(s)

1.3 Forename(s)

This will be your registered name and must be the same as that on your application for recognition

1.4 Date of birth

1.5 Registration No.

1.6 Home Address

Postcode

This will be your registered address

Country

1.7 Nationality

1.8 Home phone Work phone

Mobile

1.9 Email address

By providing an email address, you consent to the Council serving any documents required by its various statutory rules on you at that email address

2. Structured pharmacy employer/tutor reference to assess knowledge of English (only to be completed if [option 3](#) has been chosen to demonstrate your English language proficiency)

It is a requirement that applicants provide evidence to demonstrate their knowledge of English as part of their application. To enable us to effectively assess this applicant's English language skills, please fill out this form in as much detail as possible. By completing this form you are confirming that at least 75% of the applicant's day to day interaction with patients, carers, their families and other healthcare professionals in your employment or under your supervision has been in English.

You must provide examples to illustrate how each of the four skills of speaking, listening, writing and reading has been demonstrated by the applicant, or the form will not be accepted.

Applicant's full name		
About the employer referee		
Name		
Occupation		
Place of employment		
Are you registered with the GPhC	Yes/No – If 'yes' provide your GPhC registration no.	
Are you registered with another UK or an overseas healthcare regulator	Yes / No – If 'yes' Name of regulator: Registration number:	
Relationship to applicant (e.g. employer, tutor)		
Dates of employment/supervision	From (dd/mm/yy)	To (dd/mm/yy)
Type of employment/work under supervision	Full time	Part time
Telephone number		
Email address - this should be an official work email address not a webmail address such as Gmail		
About the applicant's English language skills		
Does the applicant have the knowledge of English necessary for safe and effective pharmacy practise in Great Britain?	Yes	No
If you have answered no, please provide reasons		

Speaking skills

Please tick which evidence you have witnessed and explain how the applicant has demonstrated their knowledge of English in this area. You may be asked to provide evidence of this. If only the boxes are ticked the form will not be accepted.

Case presentation	
Speaking with patients and carers	
Speaking with pharmacy colleagues and other healthcare professionals	
Other	

Listening skills

Please tick which evidence you have witnessed and explain how the applicant has demonstrated their knowledge of English in this area. You may be asked to provide evidence of this. If only the boxes are ticked the form will not be accepted.

Attendance at lectures/presentations	
Discussions with patients and carers	
Discussions with pharmacy colleagues and other healthcare professionals	
Effective taking of patient histories	
Other	

Writing skills

Please tick which evidence you have witnessed and explain how the applicant has demonstrated their knowledge of English in this area. You may be asked to provide evidence of this. If only the boxes are ticked the form will not be accepted.

Written advice to patients and carers	
Written advice/information for pharmacy colleagues or other healthcare professionals	
Journal articles/reviews	
Critical incident reports, audits	
Standard operating procedures	
Other	

Reading skills

Please tick which evidence you have witnessed and explain how the applicant has demonstrated their knowledge of English in this area. You may be asked to provide evidence of this. If only the boxes are ticked the form will not be accepted.

Summary of Product Characteristics	
Standard Operating Procedures	
Patient medical records	
Other	

Declaration

The information I have provided in this reference is correct and true.

I agree to the GPhC to carry out checks, including checks to verify the information I have given and to the recipient of these enquiries to provide the information requested.

Signature:	Date:
Name:	Official stamp:
Name and address of organisation:	