
OVERVIEW OF ACCEPTED ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTS FOR EMPP APPLICANTS

This document compares three English language tests accepted under Canada's Economic Mobility Pathways Pilot (EMPP). These are the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), the Canadian English Language Proficiency Index Program (CELPIP), and the Pearson Test of English (PTE). The aim is to assist in selecting the most suitable test for candidates when multiple options are available in their country of residence.

	IELTS	CELPIP	PTE
Test providers	British Council	Paragon	Pearson
Free practice materials	Reading test Listening test Writing test Speaking test	CELPIP General Test	PTE Core Further material
Accepted tests for EMPP	General Training	CELPIP General Test	PTE Core
Cost	Fees vary per country Approximately \$200-\$350 CAD	Fees vary per country Approximately \$200-\$350 CAD	Fees vary per country Approximately \$240-\$360 CAD
Location	Available in 135+ countries	Available in 30+ countries	Available in 115+ countries

	IELTS	CELP	PTE
Identity document option	<p><u>A valid passport or national ID</u> is typically required</p> <p>Alternative may be accepted if arranged in advance</p>	A valid Passport is typically required	A valid Passport is typically required
Format	<u>Listening, reading, writing, and speaking sections</u>	<u>Listening, reading, writing, and speaking sections</u>	<u>Listening, reading, writing, and speaking sections</u>
Test duration	<u>Approximately 2 hours and 45 minutes</u> , with separate time slots for speaking test	<u>Approximately 3 hours</u> , with no breaks between sections	<u>Approximately 2 hours</u> , with no breaks between sections
Delivery	<u>Available in both paper-based and computer-based format</u>	<u>Fully computer-based</u>	<u>Fully computer-based</u>
Assessment	<p>For paper-based tests, all sections are marked by examiners</p> <p>For computer-based tests, the reading and listening sections are marked by computer, while the writing and speaking sections are marked by examiners</p>	<u>The listening and reading sections are marked by computer, while the writing and speaking sections are marked by examiners</u>	<u>All sections are marked by computer using AI technology</u>

	IELTS	CELPIP	PTE
Assessment - speaking test	Speaking test conducted face-to-face with an examiner	Speaking test conducted face-to-face with an examiner	Speaking test conducted through recorded responses
Scoring	<u>Bands from 1 to 9, with half-point increments</u>	<u>Scores range from 1 to 12, directly linked to the Canadian Language Benchmarks (CLB)</u>	<u>Scale from 10 to 90, aligned with the Global Scale of English (GSE)</u>
Conversion to the Canadian Language Benchmark (CLB)	<u>See here</u>	<u>See here</u>	<u>See here</u>
Content focus	<u>General English with an emphasis on practical communication skills</u>	<u>Canadian English with an emphasis on everyday situations relevant to living and working in Canada</u>	<u>General English</u>
Accent	<u>Features a diverse range of accents</u>	<u>Focuses on Canadian English accents</u>	<u>Features a diverse range of accents</u>
Retake options	<u>Available only for one section (called the one skill retake), with a fee</u> <u>Within 60 days of the test date</u>	<u>Must take the entire exam again</u>	<u>Must take the entire exam again</u>
Remark option	<u>Available with a fee</u> <u>Within 6 weeks of the test date</u>	<u>Available with a fee</u> <u>Within 6 weeks of the test date</u>	<u>Available with a fee</u> <u>Within 14 days of the score being available</u>

	IELTS	CELPIP	PTE
Payment method	Payment methods differ by country	<u>Payment methods</u> include major credit cards and PayPal	<u>Payment methods</u> differ by country, and may include credit and debit cards, and digital payment methods such as Google and Apple Pay
Reschedule	<u>Not available</u> Exceptions include for medical issues	<u>Available</u> A transfer request must be received 7 days before the test date, and there is a transfer fee of \$50 CAD	<u>Available</u> Rescheduling may occur 14 day before the test date, and is free
Cancellation policy	<u>No refund policy</u>	<u>Available</u>	<u>Available</u>

For the most updated language test requirements under the EMPP, please see the Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)