



Guidelines for Interpreting “Equivalency” in the Teaching Standards for English Programs

Standard (E.1a) states:

“E.1a *The definition of specialist training is as follows:*

- *for English Programs, a minimum of TESL Canada Level One Professional certification or the equivalent is required. A Master’s degree in applied linguistics OR education with specialization in TESL can be considered as equivalent if the degree includes a practicum component of a minimum of 20 hours indicated on the transcript OR an observed practicum in the program which they are employed.*

The following guidelines for interpreting the term “equivalency” in the teaching standards for English programs was approved by the Languages Canada Board of Directors in October 2009.

LC will recognize certification programs which include a minimum 100 hr. methodology and 20 hr. practicum which have not necessarily received TESL Canada approval. Therefore, at this stage, LC will automatically accept the following:

1. Any teaching certificate issued by a Canadian university that meets the above minimum standard.
2. Any language teaching certificate that meets the standard but is from a British or Australian university, as long as that university is a member of English Australia or English UK (both have endorsed our Standards as equal to their own).
3. Any certificate that has already been approved through the TESL Canada PLAR process
4. The CELTA, DELTA, regardless of where the certificate/diploma was issued.
5. Any degree, issued by a recognized university that uses English as the medium of instruction that has a specific English language teaching component that includes the minimum standard of 100 hr methodology + 20 hr practicum. The holders of these degrees would not need an additional language teaching certificate.
6. In the fairly common case of a degree including the methodology component but not a practicum, the program's Academic Leader would need to submit a letter which indicates that the holder's teaching experience is sufficiently equivalent.
7. A degree, bachelor's, master's or doctorate program must specifically include an English language teaching component which includes the standard. It could be a degree in any subject as long as it has those components. If it doesn't, the holder will also need an English language teaching certificate
8. At this stage, the scope of this interpretation does not include sufficient attention to either private sector or French programs.