



Teacher Qualification - Standard and Specification

Languages Canada (LC) Standard (E) on teaching specifies the following requirement:

1. A Teacher must have a university degree, and
2. For English Programs, a minimum of TESL Canada Level One Professional certification or the equivalent.
For French program, a degree in Education or a degree with experience in teaching French as a Second Language required.

LC accepts language teaching certificates recognized by TESL Canada (www.tesl.ca) or qualifications considered equivalent as defined by LC.

Equivalent is defined and restricted to the following, as approved by the LC Board of Directors in October, 2009, and endorsed by the LC membership at the 2010 AGM.

1. Any certificate that has already been approved through the TESL Canada PLAR Assessment.
2. Any language teaching certificate issued by a Canadian university that includes the above minimum TESL Canada Level One standard of 100 hrs methodology in teaching English language + 20 hr practicum.
3. 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 TESL Canada Level One Professional standard of 100 hr methodology in teaching English language + 20 hr practicum. The holders of these degrees would not need an additional language teaching certificate.
4. A degree (whether it's a bachelor's, master's or doctorate) must specifically include an English language teaching component which includes the minimum standard of 100 hrs methodology + 20 hr practicum. It could be a degree in any subject as long as it has those components. If it does not, the holder will also need an English language teaching certificate.
5. In the fairly common case of a degree including methodology component minimum 100 hours but not a practicum, the LC member's program's Academic Leader would need to fill out the appropriate LC Form which indicates that the holder's teaching experience is sufficiently equivalent. The Form must be kept in the teachers file.
6. Any language teaching certificate that meets the minimum standard of 100 hrs methodology + 20 hr practicum 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 LC Standards as equal to their own).
7. The Cambridge University CELTA, DELTA and the Trinity College CertTESOL and DipTESOL regardless of where the certificate/diploma was issued.

IMPORTANT NOTE:

LC member institutions are required to ensure their teaching staff meets the LC standard and specifications as outlined above. Original degrees and certificates, or copies of originals verified and signed by the Academic Leader must be kept on file.

If a prospective teacher and LC member are uncertain as to whether the teacher's qualifications satisfy the LC standard, then the teacher is advised to undergo the TESL Canada PLAR process for assessment and certification and do any upgrading if prescribed by TESL Canada.