

**STATEMENT 1.1.1 – Language Proficiency**

**Undergraduate Medical Education**

**Approved by:** Curriculum Committee  
**Date of original approval:** December, 2013  
**Date of last review:** January 2018

**I. PURPOSE**

Students enrolled in the Doctor of Medicine program (the Program) in the Schulich School of Medicine & Dentistry at Western University must be proficient in English (the language of curricular instruction) and are encouraged to declare any other language skills.

**II. DEFINITIONS**

**Language Proficiency** The ability to speak, read, and write in an acquired language.

**III. STATEMENT**

- a. Each student granted admission to the Program must show excellent proficiency in spoken and written English.
  - i. All Program assessments and course materials will be written solely in the English language.
  - ii. Students must have demonstrated the ability to write clearly and correctly in the English language at the minimum level of a Canadian postgraduate university scholar.
  - iii. Work by a student in any Program subject, at any level, which shows a lack of proficiency in English will result in a grade of "Incomplete" or "Fail" at the discretion of the session instructor and Course Chair.
  - iv. Remediation will be recommended to the student for the assignment.
  - v. The student will be subsequently assessed for overall English language proficiency.
  - vi. Academic supports and an individual Curricular Plan (if possible) will be created to support the student and these will be filed with the UME and LEW office.
  - vii. Inability of the student to continue to function in the Program using a level of English at the expected curricular level will result in a request from the UME AD to the student to withdraw from studies.
  - viii. Each student will declare other personal language(s) of proficiency to the UME office for documentation of the ability to undertake patient care or clinical electives in another language.
  - ix. The language(s) of proficiency will be recorded in the student's profile.