STATEMENT 1.1.1 – Language Proficiency
Undergraduate Medical Education

Approved by: Curriculum Committee
Date of original approval: December, 2013
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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.