

STEP 2: CHANGES TO ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS COMING SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

On **September 1, 2004**, the ECFVG will initiate new English language requirements for non-native English speaking candidates who have not yet completed Step 2, English language proficiency, of the ECFVG certification program. The English language examination waiver requirements for native English speaking candidates will NOT change. New minimum score requirements are being initiated to ensure continued high standards across all English language examinations accepted by the ECFVG. Changes to the requirements are indicated by **shaded text** in the boxed announcement below. Notice of the new requirements will also be mailed in May 2004 to ECFVG candidates who have not yet completed Step 2 of the certification program.

ECFVG ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2004

To complete Step 2, non-native English speaking candidates must provide the ECFVG with proof of comprehension and ability to communicate in the English language by attaining passing scores on the TOEFL, TWE, and TSE, or, alternatively, the IELTS or CAEL Assessment.

The TOEFL, TWE, and TSE are offered by Educational Testing Service (ETS) at TOEFL/TWE & TSE Services, PO Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151 (Web site: <http://www.toefl.org/>; telephone: 609-921-9000). Please note that the TWE is contained within the computer-based TOEFL as the essay rating, whereas the TSE is a separate examination. Candidates must contact ETS for information regarding the TOEFL/TWE and TSE, including dates and location of examinations, fees, and application procedures.

For ECFVG program purposes, the passing score on the TOEFL is 213 with at least 25 points in listening comprehension (section 1); the passing score on the TWE (TOEFL essay section) is 4.0; and the passing score on the TSE is 50. **The ECFVG CANNOT accept section scores from separate TOEFL/TWE exam administrations; candidates MUST achieve at least the minimum passing scores for all required sections of the TOEFL/TWE on the same exam administration.**

The ECFVG requires original score reports directly from ETS. ECFVG candidates must request their TOEFL/TWE and TSE scores be reported directly to ECFVG by ETS. Please use institution code 1212 when requesting score reports. Because ETS only maintains score reports for two years from the date of examination, candidates should plan accordingly to ensure that score reports do not expire before requesting that they be submitted to the ECFVG. Moreover, the ECFVG office cannot hold score reports longer than two years for individuals who are not currently enrolled in the ECFVG certification program.

The International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is administered by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, the British Council, and IDE Education Australia. For information in North America, contact IELTS Inc at 100 East Corson St, Suite 200, Pasadena, CA 91103 (Web site: www.ielts.org; telephone: 626-564-2954).

For ECFVG program purposes, candidates **MUST take the academic IELTS. The passing score on the academic IELTS is 6.5 (overall band score), with at least a 6.5 in the listening band, a 6.0 in the writing band, and a 7.0 in the speaking band. The ECFVG CANNOT accept section scores from separate exam administrations; candidates MUST achieve at least the minimum passing scores for all required sections of the IELTS on the same exam administration.** The ECFVG requires original score reports directly from IELTS Inc.

The Canadian Academic English Language (CAEL) Assessment is administered by Carleton University. Please contact the CAEL Assessment Testing Office, Language Assessment and Testing Research Unit, 124 Paterson Hall, Carleton University, 1125 Colonel By Drive, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada K1S 5B6 (Web site: www.cael.ca; telephone: 613-520-2600, ext 2271).

For ECFVG program purposes, candidates **MUST take each subsection of the CAEL Assessment. The passing score on the CAEL Assessment is 60 (overall score), with at least a 60 in the listening band, a 50 in the writing band, and a 60 in the speaking band. The ECFVG CANNOT accept section scores from separate exam administrations; candidates MUST achieve at least the minimum passing scores for all required sections of the CAEL Assessment on the same exam administration.** The ECFVG requires original score reports directly from the CAEL Assessment Testing Office.