



## Call for CELBAN Assessors

The Canadian English Language Benchmark Assessment for Nurses (CELBAN) is an English for Specific Purposes (ESP) assessment for nurses. It is recognized as proof of language proficiency by Canadian nursing regulators and is the preferred option for many internationally educated nurses (IENs). Because CELBAN is profession-specific, the test tasks are set in the context of nursing. Research shows that candidates who complete profession-specific language assessments are more engaged in the assessment, have better results, and feel that they learn something from the experience (positive wash back!). For details on the CELBAN test visit [www.celbancentre.ca](http://www.celbancentre.ca)

Currently approximately 2,500 CELBAN tests are administered annually at six sites in Central and Western Canada. As the demand for CELBAN grows, the CELBAN Centre is establishing new test sites across the country and administering more assessments to increase access to this important occupation-specific language assessment. We now have plans to expand to the East Coast through a partnership with Language Assessment Services of NS Ltd., in Halifax.

The CELBAN centre is housed at Touchstone Institute, an organization that has been working with health professionals educated abroad for over eight years. We currently conduct a number of high-stakes assessments for our clients. When it comes to language assessment, we firmly believe in the benefits of occupation-specific assessments.

We are currently accepting expressions of interest from qualified TESL professionals interested in becoming a CELBAN Assessor in the Halifax area. The CELBAN Assessor Specifications on the next page provide details on the requirements. The CELBAN assessor role is occasional. Assessors are contracted by the test sites. Membership in an online community and commitment to calibration and certification are required.

**Touchstone Institute will be training CELBAN Speaking Assessors over 3 days, December 2-4 2016, at Language Assessment Services of NS Ltd. Commitment to this training session is required for certification. You must also be available to assess at the first test on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.**

Interested assessors should submit a letter of interest and a current CV stating relevant assessor experience, availability, and location to:

[j.gallo@tsin.ca](mailto:j.gallo@tsin.ca) Julie Gallo, CELBAN Project Coordinator, with a copy to:

[a.strachan@tsin.ca](mailto:a.strachan@tsin.ca) Andrea Strachan, Director, Communication Competency Program, Touchstone Institute

Please indicate "CELBAN Assessor" in the subject line.

**The deadline for this application is Friday, October 21, 2016.**

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CELBAN is the property of:



The CELBAN Centre operates within:



With financial support from:





## CELBAN Assessor Specifications

### *Qualifications*

The ideal CELBAN Assessor has:

- TESL Certification approved by TESL Canada;
- Certification as:
  - CLB assessor (i.e., CLBA, CLBPT, ELTPA, CELBAN); and/or
  - Interviewer in another high stakes assessment (i.e., IELTS);
- Knowledge of the Canadian Language Benchmarks proficiency scale;
- Knowledge of assessment theory and practice acquired through work experience or course of study;
- Demonstrated ability to conduct interviews, including tact, active listening, and evaluation skills;
- Experience with occupation-specific programming and assessment, including practice in providing targeted and relevant feedback on internationally educated professionals' language and communication skills;
- A commitment to test security;
- An interest in freelance contract opportunities.

### *Responsibilities*

CELBAN Assessors are responsible for:

- Participating in the assessor training and calibration sessions;
- Preparing the interview room, including sufficient test materials, seating arrangements, and digital recording devices;
- Verifying test taker identification prior to the interview;
- Conducting the CELBAN interview according to prescribed protocols;
- Completing the requisite score sheets and reporting forms during and after the interview;
- Ensuring that the test coordinator has all of the test materials and score sheets at the end of the testing session;
- Participating in calibration twice annually and re-certification once every two years.

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