

**653—17.4(147,148E) Eligibility for licensure.**

**17.4(1) *Eligibility requirements.*** To be licensed to practice acupuncture by the board, a person shall meet all of the following requirements:

- a.* Fulfill all the application requirements, as specified in 17.5(147,148E).
- b.* Hold current active status as a diplomate in NCCAOM or, after June 1, 2004, hold current active status as a diplomate in acupuncture or oriental medicine from NCCAOM.
- c.* Demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the English language to understand and be understood by patients and board and committee members.
  - (1) An applicant who passed the NCCAOM written and practical examination components in English may be presumed to have sufficient proficiency in English.
  - (2) An applicant who passed NCCAOM written or practical examination components in a language other than English shall pass the Test of Spoken English (TSE) or the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) examinations administered by the Educational Testing Service. A passing score on TSE is a minimum of 50. A passing score on TOEFL is a minimum overall score of 550 on the paper-based TOEFL that was administered on a Friday or Saturday (formerly special or international administration), a minimum overall score of 213 on the computer-administered TOEFL, or a minimum overall score of 79 on the Internet-based examination.
- d.* Successfully complete a three-year postsecondary training program or acupuncture college program which is accredited by, in candidacy for accreditation by, or which meets the standards of the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.
- e.* Successfully complete a course in clean needle technique approved by the NCCAOM.

**17.4(2) *Waiver prohibited.*** Provisions of this rule are not subject to waiver pursuant to 653—Chapter 3 or any other provision of law.

[ARC 8707B, IAB 5/5/10, effective 6/9/10; ARC 2950C, IAB 2/15/17, effective 3/22/17; ARC 5600C, IAB 5/5/21, effective 6/9/21]