

The requirements and assessment procedures of state language skills of Tallinn Health Care College

I. Requirements for language skills

1. The state language skills of student candidate correspond to independent language user level (B2) referred to in European Council's document *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (2007)*.

Student candidates not possessing the required language level have the possibility to apply to:

- a) Midwife, pharmacist or health promotion study programme, which study load will rise by 30 ECTS of deepened state language studies (in Tallinn);
- b) Basic nursing, pharmacist, optometrist or occupational therapist study programmes, which study load will increase and the nominal period of studies will be prolonged by 30 ECTS of deepened state language studies (in Tallinn);
- c) Basic nursing study programme which study load will increase and the nominal period of studies will be prolonged by 60 ECTS of deepened state language studies (in Kohtla-Järve structural unit).

II. The student candidate's state language skills will be assessed during admission tests on the basis of performed Estonian language written test and interview.

III. State language studies are conducted based on subject programme approved by the heads of nursing, midwifery, pharmacy, health promotion, optometry and occupational therapy chairs. The subject programme comprises the objectives of teaching state language, the learning outcomes, information about lecturers, contents of studies, study activities, teaching methods, study results, and assessment criteria.

IV. The state language skills of students having successfully passed state language studies correspond to the independent user level (B2) stated in European Council's document *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages* and the student is able to manage linguistically with studies on the level of professional higher education.

1. Comprehension of material heard

Student understands speech about particular and abstract topic and follows a longer professional discussion/lecture in general language as well as those that are professionally related.

2. Reading comprehension

Student understands longer texts written on important as well as professional topics and is able to derive important information from them.

3. General speaking skills

Student is able to spontaneously and fluently make a conversation with people using Estonian language as mother tongue on general linguistic as well as professional topics, can express and substantiate one's positions in familiar situations.

4. General writing skills

Student is able to write a general linguistic as well as professional understandable text, to forward information, and to comment and substantiate one's positions.

5. Excellence of vocabulary

Student possesses sufficient general linguistic and health care vocabulary for studies on professional higher education level.

6. Excellence of grammar

Student knows the basic rules of grammar and is able to use them in practice. Grammar mistakes do not disturb the understanding of texts.

V. Assessment is based on the assessment of study process (tests or assignments). During the course, the student performs one written and one oral preliminary examination.

VI. The student's general language skills, progress and adoption of study material is assessed through a 6-point assessment scale effective in higher education system. Assessment is based on subject programme as well as on assessment criteria which is composed on the basis of language skill level

(B2-level) descriptions from European Council's document *Common European Framework of Reference for Languages*.

- VII. At the end of the course, the student performs a state language exam that evaluates the student's possession of state language through four skills (writing, listening, reading, speaking). The condition for taking the exam is the positive passing of a preliminary exam based on process grades, and one written and one oral preliminary exam.