



College of
**TRADITIONAL
CHINESE MEDICINE
PRACTITIONERS +
ACUPUNCTURISTS**
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Requirements for 2-year Study of Liberal Arts & Sciences

Information Sheet

(Approved by RC 2023-11-28)

CTCMA Requirements

Pursuant to CTCMA Bylaw s. 48(1)(b)

“successful completion of not less than two (2) years of liberal arts or sciences study (comprised of at least 60 credits) in an accredited college or chartered/approved university acceptable to the registration committee”

Pursuant to CTCMA Bylaws s. 48(4)

Despite subsection (1)(a) and (b), the registration committee has discretion, in satisfying itself under section 20 of the Act that the applicant meets the conditions or requirements for registration as a member of the College, to consider whether the applicant’s knowledge, skills, and abilities are substantially equivalent to the standards of academic or technical achievement and the competencies or other qualifications established in subsection 1(a) and (b), and to grant registration on that basis provided the applicant

- (a) provides evidence satisfactory to the registration committee; and
- (b) meets the requirements established in subsection (1)(c) to (f).

Protocol

1. The 2-year credential will be officially assessed based on the registration/examination requirements at time of application.
2. Staff will provide advice to inquiries on pre-evaluation based on Bylaws requirements.

Arts & Sciences Credentials Completed in Canada

Foundational credit courses in the following departments of post-secondary institutions in Canada *are generally accepted*:

- English / Language: e.g., Professional Writing, University English
- Humanities: e.g., Philosophy, Psychology, Sociology, History, Geography, Political Science, Anthropology
- Mathematics / Statistics: e.g., Algebra, Statistics
- Sciences: e.g., Biology, Human Biology, Chemistry, Research Methodology
- Health Sciences: e.g., Nutrition, Anatomy, Physiology, Bioethics, Medical English, Medical Terminology

Courses, credit or non-credit, that are preparatory for trade or training for occupational certificate or diploma *are not typically acceptable*. *Transfer Guides or equivalents* may be used to determine the equivalency.

Credits of non-TCM academic courses in a TCM Educational program that are acceptable for transfer credits in university degree programs in Canada may be used to fulfil the 60 credits of Liberal Arts or Sciences Study requirement at the Registration Committee’s discretion.

Recommended Supporting Documents:

1. Official transcript in paper format or electronic format if sent directly to CTCMA from the issuing agency.
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2. Transfer Guide (i.e., BC Transfer Guide, Alberta Transfer Guide, Ontario Transfer Guide).

Arts & Sciences Credentials Completed Outside of Canada

For credentials completed outside of Canada, **a credential evaluation report** issued by an agency that is a member of the Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada is required to substantiate the credential.

Acceptable credential evaluation reports state:

academic courses in liberal arts or sciences study which are “considered generally comparable to the completion of the first two years of undergraduate study”.

Unacceptable credential evaluation reports state:

applied or trade or non-academic courses which are “considered generally comparable to the completion of the first two years of post-secondary study (two-year advanced diploma)”.

Recommended Supporting Documents:

1. Credential evaluation report issued by an agency that is a member of the Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada.
2. For courses completed and evaluated as comparable to the completion of a diploma, additional evidence, such as its transferability to a program in a Canadian accredited college or chartered/approved university, is required to meet the requirement. See Substantial Equivalency below.

Substantial Equivalency

For the purposes of s. 48(4) and the assessment of education, work experience and other prior learning, which may be substantially equivalent to the requirement set out under s. 48(1)(b), CTCMA will request applicants to provide one of the following:

- Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR) report issued by an accredited college or chartered/approved university acceptable to the registration committee which indicates that the applicant has demonstrated competency or has achieved the learning outcomes equivalent to 60 Credits of Liberal Arts or Sciences Study.

or

- Transcript documenting credit transfers to an accredited college or chartered/approved university acceptable to the registration committee, which indicates that the applicant has completed education equivalent to 60 Credits of Liberal Arts or Sciences Study.

Recommended Supporting Documents:

1. Official Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR) report, including the program plan and transfer/challenge/PLAR record.
2. Official Transfer Credit Records (e.g., Transcripts, summary, or other equivalent documentation).

Useful Resources

1. BC Transfer Guide: [BC Transfer Guide](#)
2. Alberta Transfer Guide: [Transfer Alberta](#)
3. Ontario Transfer Guide: [ONTransfer - Home](#)
4. Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada: [Alliance of Credential Evaluation Services of Canada \(ACESC\) \(canalliance.org\)](#)
5. PLAR at Thompson Rivers University: [Credit for Life Learning: Thompson Rivers University, Open Learning \(tru.ca\)](#)
6. Transfer Credit at SFU: [Transfer Credit - Undergraduate Admission - Simon Fraser University \(sfu.ca\)](#)