



Regulation for assessment of Portuguese language skills applied to health students

Level B2 Proficiency exam

A - Access to practical and clinical training curricular units, in a context of supervised learning with patients, of non-Portuguese-speaking students of the UFP and of the HSH-FP's Health study cycles.

- 1) To access practical training in a clinical/hospital environment in the courses of the Higher School of Health Fernando Pessoa (HSH-FP) and the Faculty of Health Sciences of University Fernando Pessoa (FHS), native or non-Portuguese speaking students must demonstrate proficiency in written and oral Portuguese, corresponding to the language skills required at level B2, of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR);
- 2) The above competencies are considered proven, after passing a B2 level Proficiency Exam, given by teachers from University Fernando Pessoa, according to the assessment and grading methodology designated in the body of this regulation;
- 3) The validation of the above skills is formalized, after passing the level B2 Proficiency Exam and paying the corresponding fees, by issuing of a Level B2 Certificate of Proficiency in Portuguese Language, valid only for the purpose designated in A.

B - Access conditions to the Level B2 Proficiency Exam

- 1 - There are the following formats for accessing the Level B2 Proficiency Exam:
 - 1.1 - Internal student: one who has attended level B2, at FHS or HSH-FP, of the Applied Portuguese Course (APC) for native or non-Portuguese speaking students enrolled in Cycles of Studies in the health area, having taken the continuous or final assessment format and obtained an average weighting between the 2 or 4 levels of 9.5 points or higher;
 - 1.2 - External student: one who, not having been enrolled and attended the APC for native or non-Portuguese speaking students at FHS or HSH-FP, self propose to take the exam;
- 2 - In both cases, students must fill out the registration form, available on the Inforestudante website, for the Level B2 Proficiency Exam and pay the corresponding school fees.

C – Time to carry out the Level B2 Proficiency Exam

- 1 - There are 2 moments to take the Level B2 Proficiency Exam during the academic year;
- 2 - If the student fails the first moment, he/she is automatically registered to take the level B2 Proficiency Exam at the second time;
- 3 - Getting approved, the student, who took the exam at the first moment, cannot take the exam at the second moment, for the purpose of improving the grade.

D - School Fees

The school fees to be applied are in accordance with the price list published on the institution's website.



E – Componentes do Exame de Proficiência de nível B2

1 - This level confers on the user a degree of independence that allows him/her to interact in a variety of communication situations. The user developed linguistic and communication mechanisms, namely the recognition and use of the main lexical and syntactic and syntactic and semantic structures of the language, which allow him/her to have a greater flexibility and capacity to use the language in less predictable situations; the user is able to use communication strategies and has a greater awareness of records (formal/informal) and social conventions, allowing him/her to develop mechanisms of sociocultural adaptation, thus expanding his/her communicative skill.

The comprehension of oral and written texts goes beyond merely understanding factual information, being able to distinguish main elements from secondary ones. Users are able to produce texts of various types.

This level allows users to work in contexts where Portuguese is a clinical working language and to attend academic courses.

2 - This exam has 3 components: Reading Comprehension and Written Production and Interaction, Oral Comprehension and Oral Production and Interaction;

2.1 - Reading Comprehension and Written Production and Interactions (skills of reading comprehension and written productions and interactions are described in Appendix 1 of this Regulation);

Format of the component:

Reading Comprehension: general and detailed comprehension of various types of texts. Multiple choice, multiple matching and filling in.

Written production and interaction:

Part I: Production of a personal letter or letter addressed to an institution, 160-180 words long.

Part II: Production of a narrative, descriptive or argumentative text (from 3 given topics), 160-180 words long.

Part III: Sentence rewriting.

Duration: 2 hours.

Scoring: This component has a percentage of 40% over the total.

2.2 - Listening Comprehension (the listening comprehension skills are described in Appendix 2 of this Regulation);

Format of the component:

Listening to texts, of informal record, typical communication situations in the professional domains related to health.

Multiple choice, matching, true/false items are used.

Duration: 40 minutes.

Scoring: This component has a percentage of 30% over the total.



2.3 - Oral Production and Interaction (the skills of oral production and interaction are described in Appendix 3 of this Regulation; this component takes place, whenever possible, with more than one candidate at the same time.

Part I: Interaction between examiners and candidates and between candidates concerning personal identification and description.

Part II: Interaction between candidates in relation to planning an activity or solving a problem involving negotiation between candidates.

Part III: Reaction of candidates to one or more stimuli given by the examiner before the beginning of this component.

Duration: 20 minutes with each group of candidates.

Scoring: This component has a percentage of 30% over the total.

F - Final Assessment of the B2 Level Proficiency Exam

The grade of Very Good is granted to candidates who score between 85% and 100%.

The grade of Good is granted to candidates who score between 70% and 84%.

The grade of Satisfactory is granted to candidates who score between 55% and 69%.



Level B2 Proficiency Exam Appendixes

Appendix 1 - Reading Comprehension and Written Production and Interaction

a) In everyday communication circumstances, Portuguese language users are able:

- to understand most texts used in this type of situations;
- to understand different types of newspaper texts, especially articles on specific areas of interest;
- to understand any kind of text that does not require knowledge of a specific language, such as, e.g., legal terms;
- to write the biggest number of texts needed for this kind of situations.

b) In communication circumstances in the workplace, Portuguese language users are able:

- to understand letters of their professional area, whether routine or not, although complex situations and unpredictable use of the language may cause some problems;
- to understand a report or article which deals with a familiar area and grasp the general meaning of reports or articles on unfamiliar or less familiar topics, and there is greater difficulty whenever the information is given in a less explicit form;
- to understand instructions and descriptions of products in their professional field;
- to produce a set of documents, which may need checking, if accuracy and record are important;
- to produce texts, from a familiar area of work, which describe and give detailed information, e.g., about a product or service;
- to write messages and to transmit them, but there can be difficulties if they are very long or complex;
- to write dictated texts, as long as the pace is appropriate and they have time to check what they are writing.

c) In communication situations regarding the study, Portuguese language users are able:

- to understand texts related to subjects in non-academic training courses;
- to understand books and articles which are not very complex as regards the language and the content, although they still cannot keep up with an academic course;
- to take notes in a lecture/conference/seminar;
- to take notes from written sources, although they may have some difficulty in being sufficiently selective;
- to produce texts from the field of educational relations, although they still have difficulties with academic papers.

Appendix 2 - Listening Comprehension

a) In everyday communication situations, Portuguese language users are able to understand:

- routine conversations on a variety of less predictable topics;
- routine medical advices;
- information and notices given in public places;
- most of the texts of a TV program with visual support, and the main points of radio programs on topics which are of general or familiar interest;
- the information/explanations of the guide, on a guided tour, without many limitations;

c) In communicative situations related to the study, Portuguese language users are able:

- to understand the general meaning of a conference/lecture/seminar, provided it is on a familiar topic.



d) In communication situations related to the workplace, Portuguese language users are able:

- to understand conversations about their professional area;
- to participate in a meeting understanding the gist of what is said, if it concerns their own area of work.

Appendix 3 - Oral production and interaction

a) In everyday communication situations, Portuguese language users are able:

- to interact in most situations likely to occur in service areas related to accommodation, restaurants and shops, making requests, e.g. for reimbursement or exchange of products, asking for information/explanations, expressing likes/dislikes with the service, making complaints;
- to interact in other communication situations in the transactions’ domain, such as in health, e.g., explaining symptoms related to a health problem, asking for information about health services provided and procedures involved;
- to interact in communication situations of social relations (e.g. expressing opinions, arguing, etc.), although still with some difficulties;
- to ask for additional information, e.g., on a guided tour, to what is given in tourist guides;
- to guide tours, describing places and answering questions about the places to be visited.

b) In communication situations related to the workplace, Portuguese language users are able:

- to ask for and give detailed information on familiar subject areas and participate, albeit with limitations, in meetings;
- to take and pass on messages, although there may be difficulties when they are very complex.

c) In communication situations related to study, language users are able:

- to ask questions in a conference/lecture/seminar on a known or predictable topic, although there may still be some difficulty depending on the complexity of the text shown;
- to give a short and simple presentation on a known topic.

Homologated by the FPF President on the 4th of January of 2023.