



Minimum Performance Level (MPL) Scoring System

The College of Pedorthics of Canada's Certified Pedorthist (Canada) written and oral examinations use MPLs or Minimum Performance Levels in order to set the pass/fail cut-off.

Each question or item is given a difficulty level (item MPL) based on the probability that a minimally competent candidate can achieve the correct answer. These MPLs are determined by a consensus of a panel of expert judges who review each question.

For example, it has been determined that 72% of the candidates should be able to answer the question correctly, so the item is given a MPL of 0.72. A higher difficulty item would result in a lower value, as there is a lower probability that a competent candidate would answer correctly.

These item MPLs are then added up to create a total MPL for the exam. This total MPL reflects the total number of questions on the exam that a candidate must answer correctly to achieve the minimum performance level as determined by the panel of expert judges.

The MPL score awarded is calculated based on the number of questions correct out of the MPL required, not the total number of questions. This means that a MPL score of 100% reflects the pass cut-off. Anything over 100 is a pass, and anything less than 100 is a fail.

Certified Pedorthist (Canada) Written Examination

Results are given using the section MPLs to provide an outline of areas of strength or weakness and are not used in calculation of the final mark. The final mark is calculated from the total number of questions answered correctly.

Certified Pedorthist (Canada) Oral Examination

Candidates must reach or exceed the exam MPL (Minimum Performance Level) in each category (Patient Assessment, Plaster Slipper Casting, and Shoe Fitting) to obtain a passing grade. The overall MPL score does not reflect the final result. A passing grade is only awarded once the results in all categories meet or exceed the section MPL.

The College of Pedorthics of Canada uses this scoring method to increase validity and reliability of the certification exam. It ensures that the scoring of the exam will reflect the difficulty of the exam questions/items as new questions/items are continually being created and integrated in rotation into the exams.