

Portuguese Proficiency Exams

BRAZIL

Celpe-Bras was developed by the Brazilian Ministry of Education and first administered in 1998 at five testing centers in Brazil and three in Mercosul countries. Since 2009 the Celpe-Bras is administered by the Instituto Nacional de Estudos e Pesquisas Educacionais Anísio Teixeira (INEP) and now has 21 testing centers in Brazil and 48 around the world. The exam serves as an official measure of competency in Brazilian Portuguese for those applying to study or work in Brazil. It is not designed to certify individuals in the teaching of Portuguese.

The Celpe-Bras consists of two parts that evaluate oral and written communication skills across a range of situations of everyday life. The certificate is issued at four levels: Intermediate, Intermediate Superior, Advanced, and Advanced Superior.

Non-Brazilians and Brazilians whose native language is not Portuguese are eligible to take the exam. Candidates should be 16 years or older and have completed high school. The exam is administered twice a year in April and October. There are four official testing sites in the U.S.: Florida International University, Harvard University, University of Florida, and Utah Valley University. For more information on the exam and how to register, please visit: <http://portal.inep.gov.br/celpebras>

PORTUGAL

The Center for Evaluation of Portuguese as a Foreign Language (CAPLE) was established in 1998 by the College of Liberal Arts at the University of Lisbon. The exams were designed in accordance with European Union language regulations and are divided in five levels, each testing oral and written skills through communicative tasks :

CIPLE – Certificado Inicial de Português Língua Estrangeira (Beginner)
DEPLE – Diploma Elementar de Português Língua Estrangeira (Elementary)
DIPLE – Diploma Intermédio de Português Língua Estrangeira (Intermediate)
DAPLE – Diploma Avançado de Português Língua Estrangeira (Advanced)
DUPLE – Diploma Universitário de Português Língua Estrangeira (University)

Candidates for the exam must be at least 14 years old and be non-native speakers of Portuguese.

CAPLE administers the test in centers in more than 40 countries. The exams assess general communicative competencies of adult learners and are offered three times during the year in May, July, and November. Testing centers in the U.S are located at Portuguese Consulates in Boston, Newark, New York, Rhode Island, San Francisco, and the Portuguese Embassy in Washington, D.C. For more information on the CAPLE exams and how to register, please visit: <http://ww3.fl.ul.pt/caple/default.aspx>