

General Principles

This document is the definitive University policy on English Language requirements and replaces all other documents and procedures in the International Office.

The University will at all times meet the criteria for recognition of English Language qualifications laid down by UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI). University regulations state that all students must show an appropriate level of English Language competence, as detailed in the admission requirements for specific programmes. Students who are exempt from providing evidence of English-Language competence for visa purposes are still expected to show that they have met the University academic requirements for English for admission on to an academic programme. This is generally a Grade C in English Language GCSE or equivalent.

Applicants are expected to demonstrate to the required level their English Language capability. There are several ways this can be achieved:

1. Reach a satisfactory standard in an approved test in English as outlined in the 'University of Greenwich Approved English Language Tests' List (contained at the end of this document)
2. Successful completion of a full Bachelors or Master's degree from an approved University that has been taught and assessed in English and a NARIC certificate is provided
3. Being a national of a majority English speaking country if during the application process it has been demonstrated that they are able to understand all facets of English competencies to the required level
4. Successful completion of a University of Greenwich Bachelors degree taught at an overseas partner
5. Successfully completing a suitable Pre-Sessional English language course, International Foundation Diploma or International Foundation Programme validated or approved by the University

Many English Language Qualifications have an expiry date. These tests will only be considered if they are valid at the point of entry.

Some programmes with professional registration requirements may exceed the University's requirements and must also be met.

Exemptions granted by test providers for applicants with disabilities, who cannot demonstrate all four competencies of English language, will normally be taken into consideration and accepted at the point of admission.

National of a Majority English-Speaking Country

The University currently defines majority English-speaking countries as follows:

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, UK, USA.

Nationals of these countries will not have to provide evidence of English-Language competency for their visa application, if during the application process it has been demonstrated that they are able to understand all facets of English competencies to the required level (this can be via completing a personal statement or undertaking an interview with a member of staff).

Completion of a full Bachelors or Master's degree from an Approved University

The University considers Approved Universities to be one of the following:

- Any University accredited by the Government of a majority English-speaking country;
- Universities and Community Colleges based in Hong Kong or Singapore
- The University of Malta

Applicants who are hoping to meet the English Language requirement as described above will be required to submit a ECCTIS certificate confirming the equivalent level of the degree alongside an official letter from the University confirming that the degree was taught in English or an original and official certificate from the University where the degree was awarded confirming that the degree was taught or researched in a majority English-speaking country.

University of Greenwich Approved English Language Tests

The University will accept the undernoted qualifications as proof of English for visa purposes.

| Test | IELTS 5.5 equivalent | IELTS 6.0 equivalent | IELTS 6.5 equivalent | IELTS 7.0 equivalent |
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| Any HEI or University English, EAP or preparation programme | At CEFR B2 level. Must show a pass in all four skills. The test must be delivered by a Government-approved University in the UK, Australia or the USA. The course must be delivered in that country and validated by that university. | At CEFR B2 level. Must show a pass in all four skills. The test must be delivered by a Government-approved University in the UK, Australia or the USA. The course must be delivered in that country and validated by that university. | N/A | N/A |

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| Brit-Education (Heriot Watt University) Pre-Sessional Programme | HWU PSE C/50% with no section less than C/50% | HWU PSE C/55% with no section less than C/50% | HWU PSE B/60% with no section less than C/50% | N/A |
| Cambridge First, Advanced or Proficiency (post-2015) | 162 overall with no less than 162 in each skill | 169 overall with no less than 162 in each skill | 176 overall with no less than 162 in each skill | N/A |
| Euroexam General English C1 | N/A | Distinction | Distinction | Distinction |
| European Baccalaureate (English 1 or 2) | N/A | Grade 6.0 | Grade 7.0 | Grade 7.0 |
| Functional Skills English Level 2 | Pass | Pass | Pass | Pass |
| GCSE/IGCSE/O Level English (as a first or second language) | Grade C/4 (unless stated otherwise) |
| Holmes Language Assessment | B2 with no section less than B2 | B2+ with no section less than B2 | C1 with no section less than B2 | N/A |
| IELTS (One Skill retake is accepted - expiry date is based on the original test not the retake) | IELTS 5.5 with no less than 5.5 in each skill | IELTS 6.0 with no less than 5.5 in each skill | IELTS 6.5 with no less than 5.5 in each skill | IELTS 7.0 with no less than 5.5 in each skill |
| International Baccalaureate English A (standard or higher) | Grade 4 | Grade 4 | Grade 4 | Grade 4 |
| International Baccalaureate English B (standard or higher) | Grade 5 | Grade 5 | Grade 5 | Grade 5 |
| International English Language Competency Assessment | minimum score of 30 | minimum score of 35 | minimum score of 40 | minimum score of 45 |
| Kaplan Foundation and Pre-Masters | Minimum score of 425 overall and 425 in each skill | Minimum score of 458 overall and 425 in each skill | Minimum score of 494 overall and 425 in each skill | Minimum score of 526 overall and 425 in each skill |

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| LanguageCert Academic SELT | B2 with a minimum of 60 in each skill | B2 with a minimum of 60 in each skill | B2 with a minimum of 60 in each skill | C1 with a minimum of 75 in each skill |
| Oxford International English Language Level Test (not available to Bangladesh) | 5 with no less than 5 in each skill | 6 with no less than 5 in each skill | 7 with no less than 5 in each skill | 8 with no less than 5 in each skill |
| Oxford International Foundation and Pre-Masters | N/A | Pass English component with 40% in all skills (International Year 0 and International Year 1) | Pass English component with 50% in all skills (International Incorporated Masters) | N/A |
| Password Skills test (NOTE: this test is only accepted when invigilated by a member of University staff or with invigilation controls pre-approved by the University) | 5.5 | 6 | 6.5 | 7 |
| PTE Academic (Pearson Test of English) - In Person only | 51 with no less than 51 in each skill | 59 with no less than 51 in each skill | 63 with no less than 51 in each skill | 67 with no less than 51 in each skill |
| Scottish National Grade 5 or Intermediate Grade 2 | Grade C | Grade C | Grade C | Grade C |
| Study Group Foundation Programmes | 55% with no less than 55% in any skill | 60% with no less than 55% in any skill | 65% with no less than 55% in any skill | N/A |
| TOEFL IBT - In Person only | 46 overall with no less than 8 in Reading, 7 in Listening, 16 in Speaking and 18 in Writing | 60 overall with no less than 8 in Reading, 7 in Listening, 16 in Speaking and 18 in Writing | 79 overall with no less than 8 in Reading, 7 in Listening, 16 in Speaking and 18 in Writing | 94 overall with no less than 8 in Reading, 7 in Listening, 16 in Speaking and 18 in Writing |

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| Trinity College | ISE II as evidence of all skills in English (B2) | ISE II as evidence of all skills in English (B2) | ISE II as evidence of all skills in English (B2) | ISE III as evidence of all skills in English (C1) |
| Versant English Placement Test (Pearson) - Only when invigilated by UOG | 57 with no less than 57 in each skill | 62 with no less than 57 in each skill | 67 with no less than 57 in each skill | 72 with no less than 57 in each skill |
| WIN Education (University of Portsmouth) Pre-Sessional Programme | Minimum of 55 or above in all 4 assessments | Minimum scores of 60 in two assessments, 55 in two assessments | Minimum scores of 65 in two assessments, 60 in two assessments | N/A |

| Country | English Waiver |
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| AUSTRIA | Reifeprüfungszeugnis/Maturazeugnis 2.0 or better in English when both written and oral exams have been passed |
| BELGIUM | Diplôme d'Aptitude à Accéder à l'Enseignement Supérieur or Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur/Diplome van Hoger Secundair Onderwijs/Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts with 75% or better in English, can waive English. |
| BOTSWANA | BGCSE/IGCSE Grade C English, can exempt IELTS. |
| CAMEROON | Cameroon GCSE English Grade C |
| CANADA | Nationals of Canada are exempt from IELTS as nationals of a English majority speaking country Quebec Only: Pass Diplome d'Etudes Collegiales (DEC) with minimum score 3.0. or IELTS/Equivalent |
| CARIBEEAN/WEST INDIES | Nationals of + graduates of a bachelor/masters degree from countries listed below are exempt from IELTS: Antigua & Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts & Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Trinidad & Tobago OR Caribbean Secondary Education Certificate English grade 3 or above (grade 1 is highest) |
| DENMARK | grade 9 or better in English in the final examinations of Bevis for Almen Studentereksamen (STX) and Bevis for Hojere Forberedelseseksamen (HF) are exempt from IELTS. |

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| GAMBIA | WAEC/NECO C6 or above in English are exempt from IELTS (A1 is highest grade) |
| GERMANY | Abitur grade 12/2.0 in English or above |
| GHANA | WAEC/NECO C6 or above in English are exempt from IELTS (A1 is highest grade) |
| HONG KONG | HKDSE grade 3 or better in English, can exempt from IELTS. |
| ICELAND | Matriculation Examination (Stúdentsspróf) grade 7 or better in English, can exempt from IELTS. |
| INDIA | 70% in English from Standard XII* No Standard XII waiver from Punjab, Haryana, Utter Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttarakhand |
| IRELAND | Nationals of Ireland are exempt from IELTS as nationals of a English majority speaking country For Non-Irish Nationals: Irish Leaving Certificate - O4 or H4 and above or equivalent Otherwise, standard UG IELTS requirements |
| KENYA | KCSE grade A-D in English, can exempt from IELTS. |
| KOSOVO | Diploma for High School Graduation grade 4 or better in English, can exempt from IELTS. |
| MALAYSIA | SPM CEFR English grade A-C or UEC English grade A1-C8 or 1119 English Grade C or better |
| MALTA | grade C in English in Secondary Certificate/Matriculation Certificate Examination (MCE) with grade C |
| MAURITIUS | HEI confirms English if Grade C obtained in Cambridge School Certificate/O Level |
| MOLDOVA | Baccalaureate Diploma grade of 8 or better in English, can exempt from IELTS. |
| MONTENEGRO | Secondary School Leaving Diploma/Vocational Exam Diploma with grade of 4 or better in English |
| NETHERLANDS | grade of 8 or better in English with Diploma Middelbaar Beroepsonderwijs (MBO) or Diploma Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO), can exempt from IELTS. |

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| NEW ZEALAND | <p>Nationals of New Zealand + graduates of a bachelor/masters degree from New Zealand are exempt from IELTS</p> <p>For Non-New Zealanders: Complete National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA) Level 2 in English with Pass or IELTS/Equivalent</p> |
| NIGERIA | <p>WAEC/NECO C6 or above in English are exempt from IELTS</p> <p>(A1 is highest grade)</p> |
| NORWAY | <p>Vitnemal-videregaende opplæring grade 4 in English, can exempt from IELTS.</p> |
| SINGAPORE | <p>GCSE / O Level English grade C or better, can exempt from IELTS.</p> |
| SOUTH AFRICA | <p>Senior Certificate/National Senior Certificate grade 5/C, can exempt from IELTS.</p> |
| ESWATINI (fka SWAZILAND) | <p>SGCSE English A*-C, can be exempted from IELTS.</p> |
| SWEDEN | <p>Fullständigt Slutbetyg Fran Gymnasiesk grade C in English, can exempt from IELTS.</p> |
| TANZANIA | <p>CSE English Grade C , can be exempted from IELTS</p> |
| UGANDA | <p>HEI confirms English with UCE grades 1-6 equivalent to GCSE grades A-C, can exempt from IELTS</p> |
| UKRAINE | <p>Secondary School Diploma (new system only) grade 10 in English, may be exempt from IELTS</p> |
| USA | <p>Nationals of USA exempt from IELTS</p> <p>For Non-USA Nationals completing US High School Diploma in the USA, English can be met by passing one of the following modules at Grade 12: Communication, Composition, Fiction, Journalism, Language, Literature, Poetry, Shakespeare, Writers, Writing or similar.</p> |
| ZAMBIA | <p>ZSC English grade C or better, can exempt from IELTS.</p> |
| ZIMBABWE | <p>ZGCSE English grade C or better, can exempt from IELTS</p> |

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