

### 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.

<b>Test</b>	<b>IELTS 5.5 equivalent</b>	<b>IELTS 6.0 equivalent</b>	<b>IELTS 6.5 equivalent</b>	<b>IELTS 7.0 equivalent</b>
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

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)	Grade C/4 (unless stated otherwise)	Grade C/4 (unless stated otherwise)	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
<b>IELTS (One Skill retake is accepted - expiry date is based on the original test not the retake)</b>	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

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 ( <b>NOTE: this test is only accepted when invigilated by a member of University staff or with invigilation controls pre-approved by the University</b> )	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

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
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: <b>Antigua &amp; Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts &amp; Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent &amp; Grenadines, Trinidad &amp; Tobago</b> <b>OR</b> 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 Højere Forberedelseseksamen (HF) are exempt from IELTS.

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 (Stúdentspróf) grade 7 or better in English, can exempt from IELTS.
INDIA	70% in English from Standard XII* <b>No Standard XII waiver from Punjab, Haryana, Utter Pradesh, Gujarat, Uttarakhand</b>
IRELAND	Nationals of Ireland are exempt from IELTS as nationals of a English majority speaking country  <b>For Non-Irish Nationals:</b> 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.

NEW ZEALAND	<p>Nationals of New Zealand + graduates of a bachelor/masters degree from New Zealand are exempt from IELTS</p> <p><b>For Non-New Zealanders:</b> 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	Vitnemal-videregaende opplæring grade 4 in English, can exempt from IELTS.
SINGAPORE	GCSE / O Level English grade C or better, can exempt from IELTS.
SOUTH AFRICA	Senior Certificate/National Senior Certificate grade 5/C, can exempt from IELTS.
ESWATINI (fka SWAZILAND)	SGCSE English A*-C, can be exempted from IELTS.
SWEDEN	Fullständigt Slutbetyg Fran Gymnasiesk grade C in English, can exempt from IELTS.
TANZANIA	CSE English Grade C , can be exempted from IELTS
UGANDA	HEI confirms English with UCE grades 1-6 equivalent to GCSE grades A-C, can exempt from IELTS
UKRAINE	Secondary School Diploma (new system only) grade 10 in English, may be exempt from IELTS
USA	<p>Nationals of USA exempt from IELTS</p> <p><b>For Non-USA Nationals</b> completing US High School Diploma <b>in the USA</b>, 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	ZSC English grade C or better, can exempt from IELTS.
ZIMBABWE	ZGCSE English grade C or better, can exempt from IELTS

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