

Undergraduate English Language Proficiency Requirements and International English Language Equivalencies

Overview

The University of Auckland (UoA) sets standards for English Language proficiency for admission to the University for international applicants. All international applicants are required to provide satisfactory evidence of their proficiency in English.

This could take the form of an acceptable English language test, such as IELTS or TOEFL, or previous academic study completed in English. The purpose of this document is to outline what will be accepted as satisfactory evidence for this requirement. Please note that [domestic applicants](#) are not included.

International applicants entering the University on the basis of NCEA, Cambridge International (formerly known as CIE) or IB taken in New Zealand, must meet the standard literacy requirements for admission; refer to the NCEA, Cambridge International and IB requirements on the University of Auckland website. IELTS and TOEFL are not replacements for these literacy requirements. International applicants entering the University on the basis of Cambridge International or IB taken outside of New Zealand may meet the standard literacy requirement through an alternative approved English test as outlined below.

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1 International Applicants from Majority English Speaking Countries

Passport holders of the countries listed below will satisfy English language proficiency requirements if they have completed a senior secondary school qualification with successful study in an English rich subject¹, or successful tertiary study in the English medium:

- Canada
- Ireland
- Singapore
- United Kingdom
- United States of America

Please note that some Education and Social Work programmes require additional evidence of English competency due to professional registration requirements. For initial teacher education programmes view the range of accepted evidence [here](#). Some programmes only accept an IELTS test due to professional registration requirements.

If you have completed senior secondary or tertiary study in the English medium but you are not a passport holder of one of these countries, please refer to [Section 3](#) for further information.

2 English Proficiency Tests

Validity Period - All test results are valid for two years from the date on the test certificate to UoA programme commencement. The requirements must be met within one test certificate.

Exceptions - Some programmes have higher requirements; for these please refer to the degree specific requirements on page [18](#).

Minimum Requirements

| | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| IELTS (Academic) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Internet-based TOEFL(iBT) | Overall score of 80 and a writing score of 21 |
| Paper-based TOEFL | Overall score of 60 and a writing score of 21. |
| C1 Advanced (previously - Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)) | Overall score of 169 and no bands below 162 |

¹ Biology, Classical Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, History, History of Art, Geography

| | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| C2 Proficiency (previously - Cambridge English Proficiency (CPE)) | Overall score of 169 and no bands below 162 |
| Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic | Overall score of 50 and no PTE Communicative score below 42 |
| Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) | 80 |
| Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English (ISE) | ISE II with distinction in all 4 components |
| LanguageCert – International ESOL | C1 Expert (LRWS) with a pass overall and no less than a pass in each skill |
| AEMG English for Academic Purposes Direct Entry Program (AEAP DEP) Final Exam | Overall score of 65% with no section below 60% |
| English New Zealand Accredited Pathway Assessment | Assessment Level 2 overall and no skill below Level 1 |
| Oxford Test of English | Overall score of 126 and no module score below 111 |

3 Prior Study in English

Validity Period – Prior study in English is valid for two years from the date you completed your previous study to the date you begin your study at UoA.

The validity period can be extended to five years with evidence of further study in English, English language work experience, or if you hold a passport from a “predominantly” English-speaking country². The decision to extend the validity period to five years will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Completion of the following qualifications with the required English grade will meet our Undergraduate English Language Proficiency Requirements. Each of these English grades also has an assigned IELTS equivalency which UoA use to indicate the level of English proficiency.

Some of the programmes below only have IELTS equivalency for IELTS 6.0 (no band below 5.5). If you are applying for a programme with a higher IELTS requirement, you will need to sit one of the approved English proficiency tests on page 4.

Please note that the programmes below are not sufficient for meeting the English language requirements for any programme that requires an IELTS 7.5 (no band below 7.0) or IELTS 7.0 (no band below 6.5).

² American Samoa, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Fiji, Gibraltar, Ghana, Guyana, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, South Africa, The Gambia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Zambia, Zimbabwe

3.1 Foundation Studies

3.1.1 Foundation Certificates and Years

| Foundation Certificate/Year (completed and awarded) | English grade required | IELTS equivalence |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| UP International College - UoA Certificate in Foundation Studies (EAP module) | 70% (B grade) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 65% (B- grade) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Study Group – Foundation Studies Certificate (EAP module) | 70% (B grade) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 65% (B- grade) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Australian Group of 8 University Foundation Programmes (one year programmes only, including those from recognised partner institutions) | 70% (or equivalent) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 65% (or equivalent) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| New Zealand University Foundation Programmes (one year programmes only) | 70% (B grade) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 65% (B- grade) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| UP International College - AUT Certificate in Foundation Studies (EAP module) | 70% (B grade) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 65% (B- grade) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Kings Education – Advanced Level Foundation (Communication and Study Skills module) | 65% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 60% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

3.1.2 Foundation English Programmes

| Foundation Programme | English grade required | IELTS equivalence |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| University of Auckland Foundation Certificate in English for Academic Purposes (FCertEAP) | A- | Overall score of 7.0 and no bands below 6.5 |
| | B- | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | C- | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| University of Auckland English Pathway for Undergraduate Studies (EPUS) | B- | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | C- | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Auckland University of Technology Certificate in English for Academic Study | A overall, minimum A in Writing, all other grades B+ or higher | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | B overall, minimum B in Writing, all other grades C+ or higher | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Lincoln University Certificate in English for Academic Purposes | 70% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | 65% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

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| | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| University of Otago English for Undergraduate Academic Purposes (English for Otago) | C | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| University of Waikato Certificate of Attainment in English Language (CAEL) | CAEL level 8 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| NCUK International Foundation Year English for Academic Purposes module (EAP) | B overall with no bands below C | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | C overall with no bands below D | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

3.2 International Secondary Qualifications

Exchange and Study Abroad (COPOS/COPEX) applicants who have successfully completed one of the International Secondary Qualifications or Country Specific Qualifications below will not be subject to the two-year validity period for prior study completed in English. However, if a Study Abroad (COPOS/COPEX) applicant also applies for a degree level programme at UoA, then this application will be subject to the two-year validity period.

3.2.1 General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A-Level)

GCE A-Level³, or any qualification recognised by UK NARIC⁴ as being equivalent to GCE A-Levels, which is fully taught/examined in English.

| GCE A Level English Intensive Subject | IELTS Equivalence |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| C | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| E | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

English intensive subjects include Biology, Business Studies, Classical Studies, Economics, English First Language, English Literature, General Paper, General Studies, Geography and History.

For qualifications recognised as being equivalent to GCE A-Level, the decision is made on a case-by-case basis unless specifically mentioned in [Section 3.3](#).

³ Must be endorsed by Cambridge International, OCR, Edexcel, AQA or other UK authority (independent and school-assessed GCE A-levels are not sufficient).

⁴ National Recognition Information Centre - UK

3.2.2 General Certificate of Education Advanced Subsidiary Level (AS-Level)

GCE AS-Level⁵, or any qualification recognised by UK NARIC as being equivalent to GCE AS-Levels, which is fully taught/examined in English.

| GCE AS Level (English Language, or English Literature) | IELTS Equivalence |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| C | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| E | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

For qualifications recognised as being equivalent to GCE AS-Level, the decision is made on a case-by-case basis unless specifically mentioned in [Section 3.3](#).

3.2.3 General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)

GCSE⁶, or any qualification recognised by UK NARIC as being equivalent to GCSE, which is fully taught/examined in English.

| GCSE (English Language, or English Literature) | IELTS Equivalence |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| B | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| C | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

For qualifications recognised as being equivalent to GCSE, the decision is made on a case-by-case basis unless specifically mentioned in [Section 3.3](#).

⁵ Must be endorsed by Cambridge International, OCR, Edexcel, AQA or other UK authority (independent and school-assessed GCE AS-levels are not sufficient).

⁶Must be endorsed by Cambridge International, OCR, Edexcel, AQA or other UK authority (independent and school-assessed GCSE-levels are not sufficient).

3.2.4 Singapore-Cambridge GCE⁷

Recommended English proficiency requirement equivalent to IELTS overall 6.0, with no bands below 5.5:

| Singapore-Cambridge Subject | H2 Level | H1 Level |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| English Language and Linguistics | E | - |
| Literature in English | E | C |
| General Paper | - | C |
| Knowledge and Enquiry | E | - |
| History | E | - |
| Economics | E | - |
| Principles of Accounting | E | - |
| Management of Business | E | - |
| Geography | E | - |
| Biology | E | - |

Recommended English proficiency requirement equivalent to IELTS overall 6.5, with no bands below 6.0:

| Singapore-Cambridge Subject | H2 Level | H1 Level |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|
| English Language and Linguistics | C | - |
| Literature in English | C | B |
| General Paper | - | B |
| Knowledge and Enquiry | C | - |
| History | C | - |
| Economics | C | - |
| Principles of Accounting | C | - |
| Management of Business | C | - |
| Geography | C | - |
| Biology | C | - |

⁷Must undertake Diagnostic English Language Needs Assessment (DELNA) screening and any stipulated follow-up action within 6 months of enrolment at the University of Auckland.

3.2.5 International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma

| Level | English Subject | English Grade Required | IELTS Equivalence |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Higher level | English A: Literature, or Language and Literature | 5 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 4 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | English Language B | 6 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 5 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Standard level | English A: Literature, or Language and Literature | 6 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 5 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

3.3 Country Specific Qualifications

These academic qualifications are accepted as meeting the minimum English language requirement for entry to the University when the required English grades are also achieved. Some of these qualifications do not meet higher IELTS requirements (unless stated) and are not accepted for those programmes where IELTS is required to meet professional registration requirements. Please refer to the degree specific requirements on page 18 for this information.

| Country | Qualification | Grade | IELTS Equivalence |
|-----------|------------------------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------|
| Australia | Grade 12 English-intensive subject | 60% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 50% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Canada | Grade 12 English-intensive subject | 60% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 50% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Denmark | Studentereksamen English A | 10 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Studentereksamen English A | 7 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Studentereksamen English B | 12 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Studentereksamen English B | 10 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

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| Country | Qualification | Grade | IELTS Equivalence |
|-----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Fiji | Fiji Year 13 Certificate Examination (Form 7) English-intensive subject | 70% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 60% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Finland | Ylioppilastutkinoto or Studentexamen, English Language | 6 (0-7 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Ylioppilastutkinoto or Studentexamen, English Language | 5 (0-7 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Upper Secondary School Certificate English A or English A Language | 9 (4-10 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Upper Secondary School Certificate English A or English A Language | 8 (4-10 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| France | Option Internationale du Baccalauréat (American and British) | 12 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Germany | Abitur English Language | 2 (1-6 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Abitur English Language | 3 (1-6 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Abitur English Language | 13 (1-15 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Abitur English Language | 10 (1-15 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | DAAD test | B2 in all three sections | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Hong Kong | Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) English | Level 5 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) English | Level 4 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| India | Indian School Certificate, All India Senior School Certificate, and Grade 12 English from specified Higher Secondary State Boards ⁸ | 75% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | 70% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Grade 12 English from all other Higher Secondary State Boards | 85% | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |

⁸Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education, Karnataka Secondary Education Examination Board and West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education

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| Country | Qualification | Grade | IELTS Equivalence |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| | | 80% | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Malaysia | STPM English | C | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | D | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | SPM English 1119 (English as a First Language) | B | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | C | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| New Zealand | New Zealand Certificate in English Language Level 5 (Academic) | Successful completion | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | New Zealand Certificate in English Language Level 4 (Academic) | Successful completion | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Refer to Study within New Zealand (page 15) for other NZ qualifications | | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Norway | Vitnemal English Language | 6 (1-6 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Vitnemal English Language | 4 (1-6 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Samoa | National University of Samoa Foundation Certificate HEN004 Foundation English | B1 (75-79%) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | National University of Samoa Foundation Certificate HEN004 Foundation English | C1 (60-64%) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Singapore | National University of Singapore (NUS) High School Diploma | Successful completion | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Three-year full-time diploma from: Singapore Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic, Nanyang Polytechnic, or Republic Polytechnic | Successful completion | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Sweden | Högskoleförberedande examen English 7 | B | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Högskoleförberedande examen English 7 | C | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| South Africa | National Senior Certificate/Senior Certificate/Matriculation English | 6 or B | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |

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| Country | Qualification | Grade | IELTS Equivalence |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| | National Senior Certificate/Senior Certificate/Matriculation English | 5 or C | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| South Pacific countries | South Pacific Form Seven Certificate English | Excellence | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | | Merit | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| The Netherlands | Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO) (Gymnasium A/B and Atheneum A/B) Diplomas (university preparatory education) English Language | 9 (0-10 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO) (Gymnasium A/B and Atheneum A/B) Diplomas (university preparatory education) English Language | 7 (0-10 grading scale) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| Tonga | Tonga National Form Seven Certificate English | Merit | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| USA | Recognised two-year Associate degree | Successful completion | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | High School Diploma | Successful completion (minimum 2 years of attendance) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | Advanced Placement (AP) | 3 in AP English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | ACT ELA Score | 28 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | ACT ELA Score | 25 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| | SAT Reasoning Test Evidence-based Reading & Writing | 650 | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| | SAT Reasoning Test Evidence-based Reading & Writing | 550 | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |
| <i>English-intensive Subjects (see Australia, Canada, Fiji)</i> | <i>Biology, Classical Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, History, History of Art, Geography)</i> | | |

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3.4 Tertiary Study in the English Medium

For prior tertiary study, applicants are required to have successfully completed a minimum of one year of full time study at a university or polytechnic institution recognised by UK ECCTIS⁹ or NOOSR¹⁰ and the degree must be comparable to a New Zealand bachelor degree.

This is valid for the following countries and territories:

- Australia
- Barbados
- Botswana
- Canada (if the degree has been taught in English)
- Cayman Islands
- Cyprus (if the degree has been taught in English)
- Fiji
- Ghana
- Guyana
- Hong Kong (if the degree has been taught in English)
- India (if degree has been taught in English, and awarding institution is on this [list](#))
- Ireland
- Jamaica
- Kenya
- Lesotho
- Malaysia (if the degree has been taught in English)
- Malta
- Mauritius
- Nigeria
- New Zealand - refer to for details
- Papua New Guinea
- Philippines
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Samoa
- Sierra Leone
- Singapore
- South Africa (if the degree has been taught in English)
- Sri Lanka (if the degree has been taught in English)
- Sweden
- Tanzania
- The Netherlands
- Uganda (if the degree has been taught in English)
- UK
- USA
- Zambia
- Zimbabwe

⁹ National Recognition Information Centre - UK

¹⁰ National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition – Australia

Also:

- University of the South Pacific: all campuses
- University of West Indies: all campuses

Note: Some of the country specific qualifications in [Section 3.3](#) and above are offered in a number of locations around the world, and are accepted regardless of location. The same applies for [Section 3.4](#) where tertiary institutions have campuses in other countries, or agreements with institutions in other countries.

3.5 Study within New Zealand

Applicants will be considered proficient in English if they meet one of the two following requirements:

1. Successfully completed a minimum of one-year full-time bachelor degree level study at a University or Polytechnic in New Zealand; OR
2. Completed a diploma accredited by the New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA) AND:
 - The Diploma is two years in duration
 - The Diploma is in an academic subject
 - A minimum B grade average is achieved over the last year

4 Study Abroad and Exchange

The requirements in this section apply only to exchange and study abroad applicants who are not applying for degrees at the University of Auckland.

4.1 Tertiary Study in the English Medium

Prior enrolment in bachelor degree level study (must be NZ comparable) or above at a University or Polytechnic Institution from a country listed in [Section 3.4](#).

4.2 Certificat de Competences en Langues de l'Enseignement Superieur (CLES) - in English

Successful completion and award of the CLES at level 2.

4.3 General English Proficiency Test (GEPT)

The High/Intermediate level of the GEPT, or above. All four components must be passed and a Certificate of General English Proficiency awarded.

4.4 Letter of Recommendation

A letter of recommendation from a professor at their home university, from one of the countries below, stating that the applicant has sufficient proficiency in English to cope with tertiary study in the English medium. This letter must be based on the applicant's study of English as a Second Language or study in the English medium. The countries are:

- Denmark
- Finland
- Germany
- Norway
- Sweden
- The Netherlands

5 Special Cases

5.1 The Occupational English Test

The Occupational English Test (OET) will be accepted for all Faculty of Medical and Health Science programmes.

| OET Score | IELTS Equivalence |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| B (or 400 out of 500) | Overall score of 7.5 and no bands below 7.0 |
| C+ (or 300 out of 500) | Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0 |
| C (or 200 out of 500) | Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5 |

Please note that the same validity period which is stated in [Section 2](#) also applies here.

6 English Language Waivers

Applicants who have not met English proficiency through the above standards may in some circumstances be granted a waiver. An applicant's eligibility for a waiver will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by Applications and Admissions and may require further supporting evidence. All applicants who are awarded a waiver will also be required to sit a Diagnostic English Language Needs Assessment ([DELNA](#)) no later than two weeks after commencement of their first semester. Any recommended enrichment/support must be undertaken.

Note: Applicants applying for the Bachelor of Social work or Initial Teacher Education Programmes are not eligible for English Language Waivers.

6.1 English Language Waiver Conditions

For a waiver to be considered, an applicant needs a combination of at least two of the following:

- One year of successful full time study towards a bachelor degree from a University, or Polytechnic Institution from a country NOT listed in [Section 3.4](#). The medium of instruction during this study must have been English and study must not have been completed more than 2 years before the beginning of study at UoA.
- One year of successful full time study towards a bachelor degree from a University, or Polytechnic Institution from one of the countries listed in [Section 3.4](#). This prior study must have been completed at least 5 years before the start of study at UoA.
- Evidence of work experience in English.

6.2 Marginal Test Scores

Applicants who have not achieved the required scores in an IELTS, TOEFL or PTE Academic test may be considered for an English Language Waiver. To be considered for a Marginal test score waiver, an applicant must satisfy at least one of the conditions listed in [Section 6.1](#) as well as the score requirement listed below.

IELTS: Where the applicant has submitted an overall IELTS result which is lower than the minimum requirement by 0.5-1.0 point, but the written and reading scores meet the minimum. That is, an IELTS overall, speaking or listening score may be lower by 0.5-1.0 point but an IELTS with a low writing or reading score will NOT be considered.

TOEFL: Where the applicant has submitted a TOEFL overall score (internet based or paper based) which is lower than the minimum requirement by up to 2 points, but the written English score meets or exceeds the minimum.

PTE: Where the applicant has submitted an overall PTE result which is lower than the minimum requirement by up to 8 points, but the communicative score meets the minimum.

7 Degree-Specific English Language Proficiency Requirements

| | IELTS | | TOEFL | | | | CAE or CPE | | FCertEAP | PTE Academic | | MELAB | AEMG AEAP DEP Final Exam | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| | | | Internet-based | | Paper-delivered (from 2017) | | | | | | | | | |
| Undergraduate Programmes | Overall score | Minimum band score | Overall score | Writing score | Overall score | Writing score | Overall score | Minimum band score | Overall score | Overall Score | Minimum communicative skills score | Overall score | Overall score | Minimum section score |
| Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours) | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Architectural Studies | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Arts | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Commerce | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Communication | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Dance Studies | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Design | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 550 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Education (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Fine Arts | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Global Studies | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Health Sciences | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Laws (Part I) | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Laws (Part II) | 7.0 | 6.5 | 98 | 24 | 75 | 24 | 185 | 176 | A- | 65 | 58 | 90 | N/A | N/A |
| Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBChB) | 7.5 | 7.0 | 106 | 24 | 79 | 24 | 191 | 185 | N/A | 73 | 65 | 92 | N/A | N/A |
| Bachelor of Medical Imaging (Honours) | 7.0 | 6.5 | 100 | 24 | 75 | 24 | 185 | 176 | A- | 65 | 58 | 90 | N/A | N/A |
| Bachelor of Music | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Nursing | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Optometry | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Pharmacy | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical Education | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Urban Planning (Honours) | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Property | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Science | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Bachelor of Social Work* | 7.0 | 7.0 | 98 | 27 | | | | | | | | | | |
| Conjoint Degrees | 6.0 | 5.5 | 80 | 21 | 60 | 21 | 169 | 162 | C- | 50 | 42 | 80 | 65% | 60% |
| Advanced Science (honours), Engineering, Global Studies, Health Sciences and Nursing Conjoint Degrees | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
| Graduate Diplomas | As per the related undergraduate degree except for those noted below: | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Approved by Education Committee in June 2021 and effective for applications received on or after 1 August 2021, for commencement in Semester 1 2022 and onwards.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|
| Graduate Diplomas in Arts and Commerce | 6.5 | 6.0 | 90 | 21 | 68 | 21 | 176 | 169 | B- | 58 | 50 | 85 | 70% | 65% |
|----------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|

* Due to professional registration requirements, only IELTS or TOEFL Internet-based test (iBT) can be accepted for this programme.

7.1 English Language Proficiency Requirements for Initial Teacher Education Programmes

| | IELTS | | TOEFL Internet-based | | | | | CAE or CPE | | PTE Academic | |
|------------------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------------|
| | Overall score | Minimum band score | Overall score | Reading score | Listening score | Speaking score | Writing score | Overall score | Minimum band score | Overall score | Minimum score in each Communicative Skill |
| Undergraduate Teaching Programmes* | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bachelor of Education (Teaching)* | 7.0 | 7.0 | 98 | 24 | 24 | 23 | 27 | 185 | 185 | 65 | 65 |
| Graduate Diplomas in Teaching* | 7.0 | 7.0 | 98 | 24 | 24 | 23 | 27 | 185 | 185 | 65 | 65 |

* Applicants must provide evidence to demonstrate their English language competency, as per the requirements of the Teaching Council NZ. View the range of accepted evidence [here](#).

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