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. Please note that domestic applicants are not included.

International students 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 students 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 Students from Majority English Speaking Countries

Passport holders of the countries listed below will be deemed to have satisfied English language proficiency requirements if they have completed a senior secondary school qualification with successful study in an English rich subject\(^1\), 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 tertiary or senior secondary study in the English medium but you are not a passport holder of one of the countries listed above please refer to the sections below 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 17.

Minimum Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Type</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IELTS (Academic)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet-based TOEFL(iBT)</td>
<td>Overall score of 80 and a writing score of 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper-based TOEFL</td>
<td>Overall score of 60 and a writing score of 21.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^1\) Biology, Classical Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, History, History of Art, Geography
3 Prior Study in English

Validity Period – Prior study in English is valid for two years from the completion of study to UoA programme commencement. With evidence of residence in New Zealand or another predominately English-speaking country\(^2\), further study in English, or English language work experience, the validity period is five years. This will be assessed on a case-by-case basis at the time of application.

The following qualifications/scores are acceptable IELTS equivalencies. 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 7.0).

3.1 Foundation Studies

3.1.1 Foundation Certificates and Years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foundation Certificate/Year (completed and awarded)</th>
<th>English grade required</th>
<th>IELTS equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

\(^2\) American Samoa, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Canada, Fiji, Gibraltar, Ghana, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, The Gambia, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, UK, USA, Zambia, Zimbabwe

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

3 Students who enter the University with lower than IELTS 6.5 overall with no band below 6.0 or English minimum grade B+ from UP Education will be required to study and pass an academic English language course during their first year of study. This course will be included as part of the programme of study.

4 Students who enter the University with lower than IELTS 6.5 overall with no band below 6.0 or English minimum grade 75% from Taylors will be required to study and pass an academic English language course during their first year of study. This course will be included as part of the programme of study.

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3.2 International Secondary Qualifications

Exchange and Study Abroad (COPOS/COPEX) applicants who do not also have an application to a degree programme at UoA, and who have successfully completed one of the international secondary qualifications below will not be subject to the two-year validity period.

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

GCE A-Level\(^5\), or any qualification recognised by UK NARIC\(^6\) as being equivalent to GCE A-Levels, which is fully taught/examined in English.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GCE A Level English Intensive Subject</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

English intensive subjects include; Biology, Business Studies, Classical Studies, Economics, English First Language, English Literature, General Paper, General Studies, Geography, 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 “3.3 Country Specific Qualifications”.

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

GCE AS-Level\(^7\), or any qualification recognised by UK NARIC as being equivalent to GCE AS-Levels, which is fully taught/examined in English.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GCE AS Level (English Language, or English Literature)</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^5\) Must be endorsed by CIE, OCR, Edexcel, AQA or other UK authority (independent and school-assessed GCE A-levels are not sufficient).

\(^6\) National Recognition Information Centre - UK

\(^7\) Must be endorsed by CIE, OCR, Edexcel, AQA or other UK authority (independent and school-assessed GCE AS-levels are not sufficient.)

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For qualifications recognised as being equivalent to GCE AS-Level, the decision is made on a case-by-case basis unless specifically mentioned in “3.3 Country Specific Qualifications”.

**3.2.3 General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE)**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>GCSE (English Language, or English Literature)</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For qualifications recognised as being equivalent to GCSE, the decision is made on a case-by-case basis unless specifically mentioned in “3.3 Country Specific Qualifications”.

**3.2.4 Singapore-Cambridge GCE®**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singapore-Cambridge Subject</th>
<th>H2 Level</th>
<th>H1 Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English Language and Linguistics</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Literature in English</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Paper</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knowledge and Enquiry</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Accounting</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management of Business</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

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

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3.2.5 International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>English Subject</th>
<th>English Grade Required</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Higher level</td>
<td>English A: Literature, or Language and Literature</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>English Language B</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard level</td>
<td>English A: Literature, or Language and Literature</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3 Country Specific Qualifications

These academic qualifications and required results are accepted as meeting the minimum English language requirement for entry to the University. These are generally not accepted for programmes with higher IELTS requirements (unless stated) or for those programmes where IELTS is required to meet professional registration requirements. Please refer to the degree specific requirements on page 17 for this information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Grade 12 English-intensive subject</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>Grade 12 English-intensive subject</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Qualification</td>
<td>Grade</td>
<td>IELTS Equivalence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Studentereksamen English A</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Studentereksamen English B</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji</td>
<td>Fiji Year 13 Certificate Examination (Form 7) English-intensive subject</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>Ylioppilastutkinoto or Studentexamen, English Language</td>
<td>6 (0-7 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5 (0-7 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upper Secondary School Certificate English A or English A Language</td>
<td>9 (4-10 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8 (4-10 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Option Internationale du Baccalauréat (American and British)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abitur English Language</td>
<td>2 (1-6 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3 (1-6 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Abitur English Language</td>
<td>13 (1-15 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>10 (1-15 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>DAAD test</td>
<td>B2 in all three sections</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE) English</td>
<td>Level 5</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)</td>
<td>Level 4</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>Year 12 Indian School Certificate (ISC) or All-India Senior School Certificate (AISSCE) English</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>STPM English</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SPM English 1119 (English as a First Language)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>New Zealand Certificate in English Language Level 5 (Academic)</td>
<td>Successful completion</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>New Zealand Certificate in English Language Level 4 (Academic)</td>
<td>Successful completion</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Refer to Study within New Zealand (page 14) for other NZ qualifications</td>
<td></td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>Vitnemal English Language</td>
<td>6 (1-6 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Vitnemal English Language</td>
<td>4 (1-6 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samoa</td>
<td>National University of Samoa Foundation Certificate HEN004 Foundation English</td>
<td>B1 (75-79%)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National University of Samoa Foundation Certificate HEN004 Foundation English</td>
<td>C1 (60-64%)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>National University of Singapore (NUS) High School Diploma</td>
<td>Successful completion</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Three-year full-time diploma from: Singapore Polytechnic, Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic, Nanyang Polytechnic, or Republic Polytechnic</td>
<td>Successful completion</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Högskoleförberedande examen English 7</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Högskoleförberedande examen English 7</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>National Senior Certificate/Senior Certificate/Matriculation English</td>
<td>6 or B</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>National Senior Certificate/Senior Certificate/Matriculation English</td>
<td>5 or C</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Pacific countries</td>
<td>South Pacific Form Seven Certificate English</td>
<td>Excellence</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Netherlands</td>
<td>Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO) (Gymnasium A/B and Atheneum A/B Diplomas (university preparatory education) English Language</td>
<td>9 (0-10 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Voorbereidend Wetenschappelijk Onderwijs (VWO) (Gymnasium A/B and Atheneum A/B Diplomas (university preparatory education) English Language</td>
<td>7 (0-10 grading scale)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonga</td>
<td>Tonga National Form Seven Certificate English</td>
<td>Merit</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>Recognized two-year Associate degree</td>
<td>Successful completion</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High School Diploma</td>
<td>Successful completion (minimum 2 years of attendance)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACT ELA Score</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACT ELA Score</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SAT Reasoning Test Evidence-based Reading &amp; Writing</td>
<td>650</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>SAT Reasoning Test Evidence-based Reading &amp; Writing</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English-intensive Subjects (see Australia, Canada, Fiji)</td>
<td>Biology, Classical Studies, Economics, English Language, English Literature, History, History of Art, Geography</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 3.4 Tertiary Study in the English Medium

Students are required to have successfully completed a minimum of one year of full time study at a university or polytechnic institution recognised by UK NARIC\(^{10}\) or NOOSR\(^{11}\) and the degree must be comparable to a New Zealand Bachelor degree. The study must have been completed no more than two years before the commencement of the programme at UoA. 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 "3.5 Study within New Zealand" 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

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\(^{10}\) National Recognition Information Centre - UK

\(^{11}\) National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition – Australia

Approved by Education Committee in July 2019 and effective for applications received on or after 1 August 2019, for commencement in Semester 1 2020 and onwards.
Also:

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

Note: Some of the qualifications in sections 3.3 and 3.4 above are offered in a number of locations in the world, and are accepted regardless of location.

3.5 Study within New Zealand

Students 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 students 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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OET Score</th>
<th>IELTS Equivalence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B (or 400 out of 500)</td>
<td>Overall score of 7.5 and no bands below 7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C+ (or 300 out of 500)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.5 and no bands below 6.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C (or 200 out of 500)</td>
<td>Overall score of 6.0 and no bands below 5.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that the duration of validity for section 2 applies here.

6 English Language Waivers

Students who have not met English proficiency through the above standards may in some circumstances be granted a waiver. Applicants will be assessed by Applications and Admissions on a case-by-case basis at the time of application. All applicants for whom a waiver is granted will be required to sit a Diagnostic English Language Needs Assessment (DELNA) within two weeks of commencement of study, and to undertake any recommended enrichment/support. Circumstances under which an applicant may be considered for a waiver include the following:

6.1 Marginal Test Scores

**IELTS:** Where the student 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 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 student has submitted a TOEFL (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 student 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.

6.2 Other

A combination of at least two of the following factors:

- One year of successful full time study toward a Bachelor degree from a University, or Polytechnic Institution located in one of the countries listed in section 4, and completed more than 5 years prior to the commencement of study at UoA
- Medium of instruction for Bachelor degree is English
- Published research in English and presented in English at conference(s)
- Evidence of extensive work experience in English
# 7 Degree-Specific English Language Proficiency Requirements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Programmes</th>
<th>IELTS Overall Score</th>
<th>IELTS Minimum Band Score</th>
<th>TOEFL Internet-based Overall Score</th>
<th>TOEFL Internet-based Writing Score</th>
<th>TOEFL Paper-based Overall Score</th>
<th>TOEFL Paper-based Writing Score</th>
<th>CAE or CPE Overall Score</th>
<th>CAE or CPE Minimum Band Score</th>
<th>FCertEAP Overall Score</th>
<th>FCertEAP Overall Score</th>
<th>PTE Academic Overall Score</th>
<th>PTE Academic Minimum Communicative Skills Score</th>
<th>MELAB Overall Score</th>
<th>MELAB Overall Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Advanced Science (Honours)</td>
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<td>6.0</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>169</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Architectural Studies</td>
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<td>80</td>
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<td>162</td>
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<tr>
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<td>550</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Education (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)</td>
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<td>60</td>
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<td>B-</td>
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<td>85</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Sport, Health and Physical Education</td>
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<td>80</td>
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<td>Engineering, Health Sciences and Nursing Conjoint Degrees</td>
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<td>50</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diplomas in Arts and Commerce</td>
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<td>90</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>4.5</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>85</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Due to professional registration requirements, only IELTS can be accepted for this programme

Approved by Education Committee in July 2019 and effective for applications received on or after 1 August 2019, for commencement in Semester 1 2020 and onwards.
7.1 English Language Proficiency Requirements for Initial Teacher Education Programmes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate Teaching Programmes*</th>
<th>IELTS</th>
<th>TOEFL Internet-based</th>
<th>CAE or CPE</th>
<th>PTE Academic</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall score</td>
<td>Minimum band score</td>
<td>Overall score</td>
<td>Reading score</td>
<td>Listening score</td>
</tr>
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<td>94</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diplomas in Teaching*</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* 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](#).