

# English Language Proficiency Requirements for Coursework Award Courses and Topics

## Table of Contents

1. Governing Policy
2. Purpose
3. Requirements
  - 3.1. Minimum requirements
  - 3.2. Currency of proficiency
  - 3.3. Special circumstances
  - 3.4. Transnational Education
4. Authorities
5. Forms

## 1. Governing Policy

- a. [Admissions Policy \(re admission to coursework award courses\)](#)
- b. [Enrolment Policy \(re admission as an incoming cross-institutional award student, incoming exchange or study abroad award student, or non-award student\)](#)

## 2. Purpose

- a. This document sets out the minimum required English language proficiency requirements for admission to all Flinders University coursework award courses or topics.
- b. Specific courses may have higher requirements than those specified here, if approved by the delegated University authority.
- c. Further details about English language requirements are available on the University's admissions web pages.
- d. For applicants to a higher degree by research candidature—see the [English Language Proficiency Requirements for HDR Candidature](#).

## 3. Requirements

### 3.1. Minimum requirements

The minimum English language proficiency requirement for applicants to be considered for admission:

- to a Flinders University undergraduate or postgraduate coursework award course, or
- to study a topic or topics as
  - an incoming cross-institutional award student, or
  - an incoming exchange or study abroad non-award student

is one of the following:

- a. The applicant's first language is English.
- b. The applicant has successfully completed their prior study in English, i.e., the applicant has:
  - i. an Australian secondary school year 12 qualification
  - ii. a secondary qualification deemed equivalent to completion of the SA Certificate of Education, taught in the English language in a country where English is the official language or the main language spoken

- iii. a grade of 'C' or better in the General Certification of Secondary Education/International General Certificate of Secondary Education (GCSE/IGCSE) Ordinary (O) Level subject 'English'
  - iv. an Australian tertiary qualification at AQF Level 4 or higher
  - v. an overall grade of Pass or better in a program of full-time study over at least one year at a level deemed equivalent to AQF Level 4 or higher, taught in the English language in a country where English is the official language or the main language spoken, or
  - vi. completed an Australian foundation studies or bridging program deemed equivalent to Flinders Foundation Studies.
- c. The applicant has sat the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic proficiency test and has achieved an overall score of at least 6.0 with a minimum score of 6.0 in the Writing and Speaking components, or has sat one of the following other international English language proficiency tests and has achieved equivalent scores as determined by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students). Equivalent scores are published on the [English language requirements webpage](#):
- i. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) internet-based test (iBT)
  - ii. C1 Advanced by Cambridge Assessment English
  - iii. Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic
  - iv. Occupational English Test (OET)<sup>1</sup>
  - v. Duolingo English Test (DET)<sup>2</sup>.
- d. The applicant has successfully completed an approved English language course from a registered English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS) Provider.
- e. The applicant's overall performance in the Skills for Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) meets the University's admission requirements.
- f. The applicant is registered with an Australian professional registration body relevant to the applicant's proposed course of study.

Equivalents to these requirements may be determined from time to time by the delegated authority specified in the [Admissions Policy](#).

### 3.2. Currency of proficiency

- a. The evidence of proficiency under 3.1.b. must be not more than five years old on the proposed date of commencement of the course.
- b. The evidence of proficiency under 3.1.c. or d. must be not more than two years old on the proposed date of commencement of the course.

### 3.3. Special circumstances

- a. As provided in the [Student Admission Procedures](#), applicants who do not meet the applicable admission criteria are not further considered for admission, unless there are special circumstances.
- b. Where special circumstances apply, no student whose English language proficiency is based on an international English language proficiency test may be admitted with a score below an IELTS Academic overall score of 5.5 or equivalent.

---

<sup>1</sup> OET scores are accepted for applications to selected coursework programs in the College of Medicine and Public Health and College of Nursing and Health Sciences only.

<sup>2</sup> DET scores are accepted for applications to all undergraduate and postgraduate coursework programs except for courses requiring English Level 5 according to the University's English language requirements as published on the [English language requirements webpage](#).

### 3.4. Transnational Education

Where a Transnational Education course is being delivered wholly or partly in a language other than English, these requirements may be varied in accordance with the [Student Admission Procedures](#).

## 4. Authorities

Delegate	Authority
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Students)	Approve the equivalent scores for the other international English language proficiency tests specified in 3.1.c to the specified minimum IELTS scores.

## 5. Forms

[Equivalency of Qualifications Request Form – International Coursework Students](#)

Approval Authority	Academic Senate
Responsible Officer	Director, Student Administration Services (re domestic applicants) Director, International Recruitment (re international applicants)
Approval Date	8 October 2024
Effective Date	8 October 2024
Review Date*	2025
Last amended	Academic Senate, 7 May 2025
CM file number	CF18/312

\* Unless otherwise indicated, this policy or procedures still apply beyond the review date.

Printed versions of this document are not controlled. Please refer to the [Flinders Policy Library](#) for the latest version.