

**UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX**  
**UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL (TIER 4) STUDENTS**  
**(EXCLUDING NATIONALS OF MAJORITY ENGLISH SPEAKING COUNTRIES)**

▪ **Overview of English language requirements:**

The table below shows the English language qualifications and tests that are acceptable for entry to the University of Essex and the levels required. The levels are the minimum entry requirements for admission to the University and are also in line with the UK Visas and Immigration's minimum requirements, which apply to all students applying for a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK.

**Nationals of majority English speaking countries:**

- The English language requirements in this table apply to all students who require a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK, excluding nationals of majority English speaking countries (as defined by the UK Home Office list). If you are the national of a majority English speaking country, please contact the Admissions Adviser named on your offer letter if you have already received an offer. If you have not yet received an offer or made an application, please see [www.essex.ac.uk/see/ug-eu-english](http://www.essex.ac.uk/see/ug-eu-english) for the correct English language requirements for nationals of majority English-speaking countries.
- **English qualifications or tests taken over two years ago:**  
The conditions of your offer may include an English language requirement if your previous English language qualification was taken more than two years before the start of the course you are applying for at Essex. This is in line with UK Visas and Immigration requirements and University policy. If you are unsure why your offer specifies an additional English language test, please contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office and we will be happy to clarify this for you.
- **English qualifications or tests not listed in the table:**  
If you are taking an English language qualification that is not specified below, please email [admit@essex.ac.uk](mailto:admit@essex.ac.uk) for advice on whether it is acceptable for entry.
- **Approved test centres and dates:**  
All of the tests specified below are acceptable and, for study at degree-level, these tests can be taken at any test centre, not just approved test centres. For courses below degree-level, please see additional requirements specified in the table below relating to approved test centres and the date your test was taken, in line with changes to Home Office requirements published in April 2015. [For more details of Home Office requirements, please see the information here.](#)
- **Making a visa application:**  
For further information on making an application for a visa, please visit: <https://www.essex.ac.uk/immigration/>
- **Requirements for Social Work, Journalism, Nursing, Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy**  
Please note that there are different IELTS requirements for entry to the following courses:
  - **BSc Nursing (Adult) and BSc Nursing (Mental Health)** - 7.0 overall in IELTS with a minimum of 7.0 in each component.

- **BA Social Work** - 7.0 overall in IELTS with a minimum of 6.5 in each component.
- **BA Multimedia Journalism** - 7.0 overall in IELTS with a minimum of 5.5 in each component.
- **BSc Physiotherapy and BSc Occupational Therapy** - 7.0 overall in IELTS with a minimum of 6.5 in each component.
- **BSc Speech and Language Therapy** – 8.0 overall with 7.5 in each component.

Applicants for these courses who are not taking IELTS should refer to the requirements below.

English Language test/qualification	Minimum Level required				
	Degree-level courses			Below degree-level courses	
	First Year Entry (B2)	Second and Third Year Direct Entry (B2)	Year 0 International Academy courses (B2)	International Year One in Business (B1)	International Foundation Programme (B1) and Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts (B1)
<b>IELTS</b>	6.0 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each component	6.5 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each component	5.5 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each component	5.5 with a minimum of 5.0 in Writing and 4.0 in all other components	5.0 overall with a minimum of 4.0 in each component
				Please note that IELTS tests must be a UKVI IELTS taken at an approved IELTS test centre on the UKVI's list, available <a href="#">here</a> , in order to be accepted for entry to below degree-level courses.	
<b>Pearson Test of English</b>	51 overall, with a minimum of 51 in each component	60 overall, with a minimum of 51 in each component	51 overall, with a minimum of 51 in each component	N/A	N/A

<b>Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English (CAE) or Cambridge Proficiency in English (CPE) taken from January 2015 onwards</b>	A score of 169 overall on the Cambridge English Scale, with a minimum of 162 in each component	A score of 176 overall on the Cambridge English Scale, with a minimum of 162 in each component	A score of 162 overall on the Cambridge English Scale, with a minimum of 162 in each component	N/A	N/A
If you have taken CAE or CPE before January 2015, please email <a href="mailto:admit@essex.ac.uk">admit@essex.ac.uk</a> for confirmation of our requirements.					
<b>Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English (ISE) Level III and IV</b>	Pass (overall and in each component)	Pass (overall and in each component)	Pass (overall and in each component)	Pass (overall and in each component)	Pass (overall and in each component)
<b>GCSE/ IGCSE/ O-Level</b>				N/A	
We accept some syllabi of GCSE, IGCSE and O-level English. If you are planning to take one of these qualifications to meet our English language requirements, please email the Admissions Adviser named on your offer letter with the full name of the qualification you are taking (including the exam board and the syllabus number if possible), to check that we will be able to accept this qualification, or email <a href="mailto:admit@essex.ac.uk">admit@essex.ac.uk</a> if you have not yet received an offer or made an application.  If we are able to accept your GCSE/IGCSE/O-level syllabus, we will require grade C overall and there may be additional component requirements.					
<b>Pre-sessional English course at the University of Essex</b>	If you do not meet our English language requirements and you are not able to take one of the English language tests listed above, you may be interested in the pre-sessional English language programmes offered by our Essex Pathways Department.  For students applying for courses in Essex Business School and the School of Law, we also offer subject-specific pre-sessional programmes. For further information about the pre-sessional courses available and whether you would be eligible, please visit: <a href="http://www.essex.ac.uk/pathways/">http://www.essex.ac.uk/pathways/</a>				

	<p>Please note, if you are an international student requiring a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK please see our immigration webpages for the latest Home Office guidance on English language qualifications. Pre-sessional English language programmes are classified as being below degree level. Therefore, if you opt to study a pre-sessional English programme before your main course starts, then you will need to have a test which is suitable for below degree-level study: <a href="http://www.essex.ac.uk/immigration">http://www.essex.ac.uk/immigration</a></p>
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