

**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 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). 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

▪ **Nationals of majority English speaking countries:**

If you are a National of a majority English speaking country 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.

▪ **English qualifications or tests taken over five years ago:**

The conditions of your offer may include an English language requirement if your previous English language qualification was taken more than five years before the start of the course you are applying for at Essex. 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.

▪ **TOEFL:**

All TOEFL tests must be verifiable online by the University at the point that any offer is made. Verification is only available online within 2 years of the date of the test.

▪ **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 UKVI test centres. For courses below degree-level (currently Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts), 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.](#)

▪ **Requirements for Nursing, Social Work, Journalism, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech and Language 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 with 6.5 in writing, and 7.0 in all other components.
- **BA Multimedia Journalism** - 7.0 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each component.
- **BA Social Work, BSc Physiotherapy and BSc Occupational Therapy** - 7.0 overall with a minimum of 6.5 in each component.

- **BSc Speech and Language Therapy** – 8.0 overall with a minimum of 7.5 in each component.

Applicants for these courses who are not taking IELTS should contact the Undergraduate Admissions Office ([admit@essex.ac.uk](mailto:admit@essex.ac.uk)) for information on our requirements from other English language tests/qualifications.

| English Language test/qualification | Minimum Level required (excluding courses with non-standard requirements, listed above)   |   |  |
|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|
|                                     | Degree-level courses (excluding courses with non-standard requirements, listed above)   |   | Below degree-level courses   |
|                                     | First Year Entry  | Second and Third Year Direct Entry  | Certificate of Higher Education in Theatre Arts  |
| <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   | 5.0 overall with a minimum of 4.0 in each component<br><br>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.<br><br>Tests must be taken within two years of the start of your course. |
| <b>TOEFL (iBT)</b>                  | 76 overall, with a minimum of 17 in listening, 18 in reading, 20 in speaking and 17 in writing<br><br>Must be verifiable online at the point of offer. Note that online verification is only available within 2 years of the test date. | 88 overall, with a minimum of 17 in listening, 18 in reading, 20 in speaking and 17 in writing<br><br>Must be verifiable online at the point of offer. Note that online verification is only available within 2 years of the test date. | N/A  |

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| <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   | N/A  |
| <b><u>Cambridge English Qualifications</u></b><br><br><b>C1 Advanced (Certificate in Advanced English)</b><br>Or<br><b>C2 Proficiency (Certificate of Proficiency in English)</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 | N/A  |
| <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)<br><br>Please note that Trinity tests must be taken at an approved Trinity test centre on the UKVI's list, available <a href="#">here</a> , in order to be accepted for entry to below degree-level courses.<br><br>Tests must be taken within two years of the start of your course. |
| <b>International Baccalaureate</b>  | Standard Level or Higher Level grade 4 in any of the below modules:<br><br>English A: Language and Literature<br>English A: Literature<br>English B<br>English Literature and Performance |  | N/A  |
| <b>GCSE/ IGCSE/ O-Level</b>   | Grade C or 4  |  | N/A  |

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| <b>Pre-sessional English course at the University of Essex</b> | If you do not meet the IELTS requirements then you may be able to take a pre-sessional English pathway that enables you to meet our English language requirements without retaking IELTS. These courses are delivered by the University of Essex International College. Please see our website for further information: <a href="https://www.essex.ac.uk/international/pre-sessional">https://www.essex.ac.uk/international/pre-sessional</a> . Our pre-sessional English courses are only valid for entry to a main course which starts immediately after the pre-sessional course. |
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