

## INTO Newcastle University Accepted English Language tests for NQF6+

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**Time since qualification**

For Secure English Language Tests which have an expiry date of two years on the Home Office approved list, the test must have been taken within two years of the date of entry to the degree course applied for.  
Where an applicant is to be admitted on the basis of any other English language test or qualification in Appendix B, the test or qualification must have been taken within three years of the date of entry to the degree course applied for at Newcastle University.

**Update April 2015:**

It was agreed that, for 2015 entry:

The University would continue to accept, as evidence of English language proficiency for applicants to degrees, for visa purposes, the following qualifications previously on the UKVI 'SELT' list, under the category of 'HEI Assessment', even though they have been removed from the UKVI list of SELTs from 6 April 2015:

- IELTS taken at a non-approved test centre
- Pearson Test of English Academic
- Cambridge English Language Assessment's Business English Language Assessment
- Cambridge English Language Assessment's Certificate in Advanced English
- Cambridge English Language Assessment's Certificate of Proficiency in English
- Cambridge English Language Assessment's ESOL Skills for Life Level 2
- Other English Language qualifications accepted by Newcastle University for visa purposes are listed in the University's English Language Policy
- Students may have to meet specific additional English Language criteria (eg specific grades or levels) in order to be accepted onto a degree programme, in addition to academic criteria.

**Other exceptions/notes**

Applicants for a degree or higher qualification may also be exempt from the requirement to provide proof of their English language skills at the appropriate level if, within the last 3 Years, they have successfully completed two full academic years of undergraduate degree level study or 12 months of a Masters level programme in one of the exempted countries.

Students applying for postgraduate entry to Newcastle who have completed their undergraduate studies at Newcastle University International Singapore (NUIS) or Newcastle University Medicine Malaysia (NUMed) are exempt from the SELT (Secure English Language Test) requirement.

	Students who are transferring to Newcastle for the final year of a degree of which the first two years were studied at NUMed are exempt from the SELT requirement on their transfer to Newcastle
	<p>Brunei, Malaysia, Mauritius and Singapore:</p> <p>Applicants undertaking pre-university qualifications in Brunei, Malaysia, Mauritius or Singapore will also be exempted from the language conditions set out in the policy, if:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- i) they have a qualification on the University’s list of English language qualifications acceptable for visa purposes (see Appendix B), followed by pre-University level qualifications taught and assessed in English AND</li> <li>- ii) either the English language qualification was taken no more than five years before the date of entry to the degree programme applied for, or the pre-University level qualifications were taken no more than two years before the date of entry to the degree programme applied for.</li> </ul>

<b>INTO English Language Assessment (IELA)</b>	Accepted for Grad Dip, but not accepted for UG or PG
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**KEY TO COLOUR CODING:**

	<b>Approved by Home Office for applicants who need a Tier 4 Visa</b>
	<b>Approved by University for applicants who need a Tier 4 Visa</b>
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Test/Qualification	Examination Board/Organisation	Grade/Score for IELTS 7.0 equivalent	Grade/Score for IELTS 6.5 equivalent	Grade/Score for IELTS 6.0 equivalent	Minimum Sub-skill requirements for visa purposes	Validity period	Comments
Business English Certificate Higher	Cambridge English Language Assessment	A	B	B	‘Weak’ in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	For Business students only
Certificate in Advanced English	Cambridge English Language Assessment	185	176	169	160 in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
Certificate of Proficiency in English	Cambridge English Language Assessment	185	176	169	160 in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	

ESOL Skills for Life Level 2	Cambridge English Language Assessment	Pass	Pass	Pass	'Pass' required in each sub-skill. For Speaking & Listening: 'Borderline' required	3 years before start of course	Not to be confused with Skills for Life Entry qualifications
Pearson Test of English Academic	Pearson	69	62	54	51 in each sub-skill	2 years before start of course	
IELTS (Academic)	Cambridge English Language Assessment/British Council	7	6.5	6	5.5 in each sub-skill	2 years before start of course	
Integrated Skills in English	Trinity College London	ISE III or ISE IV	ISE III or ISE IV	ISE III or ISE IV	ISE II with a Pass in each sub-skill	2 years before start of course	
International Baccalaureate English A: Literature	International Baccalaureate Organisation	Standard Level: 4 Higher Level: 4	Standard Level: 4 Higher Level: 4	Standard Level: 4 Higher Level: 4	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	English taken in Language and Literature Group would be first language English and at a higher level than English Language B. English Literature and Performance not acceptable
International Baccalaureate English A: Literature and Language	International Baccalaureate Organisation	Standard Level: 5 Higher Level: 4	Standard Level: 5 Higher Level: 4	Standard Level: 5 Higher Level: 4	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	English taken in Language and Literature Group would be first language

							English and at a higher level than English Language B. English Literature and Performance not acceptable.
International Baccalaureate English Language B	International Baccalaureate Organisation	Standard Level: 6	Standard Level: 6	Standard Level: 6	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	English Ab Initio Standard Level not considered
International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) 0500 & 0522 (English 1st language)	Cambridge International Examinations	C	C	C	Reading – E Writing – E Speaking – D (0522) or 2 (0500) Listening – D (0522) or 2 (0500)	3 years before start of course	Need to obtain breakdown of component grades.
International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE) 0510 & 0511 (English 2nd language)	Cambridge International Examinations	B	B	B	Reading – D Writing – D Speaking – C (0511) or 2 (0510) Listening – A	3 years before start of course	Need to obtain breakdown of component grades.
INTO Newcastle English for Academic Purposes Assessment	INTO Newcastle	70	65	60	55% in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
INTO Newcastle Pre-Sessional English Programme		70	65	60	55% in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
INTO English for Academic Purposes Assessment	INTO UK Centres other than Newcastle	70	65	60	55% in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	For entry to undergraduate degree programmes only

							and on a case by case basis only, and based on an admissions tutor's knowledge and experience of the INTO course being taken.
O Level English Language 1115, 1119, 1120, 1123, 1125, 1126, 1127	Cambridge International Examinations	C	C	C	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
Singapore Integrated Programme		Achievement of conditions of offer	Achievement of conditions of offer	Achievement of conditions of offer	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	Achieving the required grades in the A levels / IB / National University of Singapore High School Diploma through the IP route is evidence of good English Language skills.
Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL IBT)	ETS	100	90	79	Reading – 18 Writing – 17 Listening – 17 Speaking – 20	2 years before start of course	

**Tests and Qualifications which are considered acceptable for applicants who do not need a Tier 4 Visa**

Test/Qualification	Examination Board/Organisation	Grade/Score for IELTS 7.0 equivalent	Grade/Score for IELTS 6.5 equivalent	Grade/Score for IELTS 6.0 equivalent	Minimum Sub-skill requirements for visa purposes	Validity period	Comments
GCSE in English Language	All UK examination boards	C	C	C	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
AS or A Level in English Language and/or Literature	All UK examination boards	C	C	C	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
European Baccalaureate (English 1st language)		7	6	6	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	English would be the mother tongue and at a level comparable with GCE A level/IB Higher Level.
European Baccalaureate (English 2nd language)		7	7	7	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
HKEAA Use of English	Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority	B	C	C	Sub-skills assessed but not reported individually.	3 years before start	The Board suggests that a D equates to an O

						of course	level pass, but TOEFL published equivalents suggest that these grades are safer.
Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination in English Syllabus B	Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority	A	B	B	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	The board suggests that a C grade on this exam equates to a D in the Use of English exam.
Denmark: Studentereksamen (Upper Secondary School Leaving Examination) Also: Hojere Forberedelseksamen (HF) (Higher Preparatory Examination) and Hojere Handelseksamen (HHX)		Grade 10 in English	Grade 10 in English	Grade 9 in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
Finland: Ylioppilastutkintotodistus/ Studentexamensbetyg (Finnish National Matriculation)		5 (Magna cum Laude) in English	5 (Magna cum Laude) in English	5 (Magna cum Laude) in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
Norway: Vitnemål – videregående opplæring (School Leaving Certificate)		Grade 5 in English	Grade 4 in English	Grade 4 in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
Sweden: Slutbetyg från Gymnasieskolan (School Leaving Certificate)		VG (Pass with distinction) in English	VG (Pass with distinction) in English	VG (Pass with distinction) in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	The highest pass, MVG (Pass with Special Distinctio

							n) in English, indicates exceptional performance.
Netherlands: VWO		Grade 8 in English	Grade 8 in English	Grade 8 in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
Germany: Abitur		Grade 11 in English	Grade 11 in English	Grade 11 in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
France: French Baccalaureate		Grade 12 in English	Grade 12 in English	Grade 12 in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	
12th Standard Examination – All India Senior Secondary School Certificate	CBSE/ISC (National Boards)	70% in English	70% in English	70% in English		3 years before start of course	
	West Bengal (State Board)				Not tested in each sub-skill		
West African Senior School Certificate Examination (WASSCE)	West African Exams Council	C4 in English	C5 in English	C6 in English	Not tested in each sub-skill	3 years before start of course	

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