

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS POLICY AND PROCEDURE



CONTENTS

1	PURPOSE.....	1
2	SCOPE.....	1
3	POLICY STATEMENT	1
4	PROCEDURE	2
	CQUniversity English language entry requirements	2
	CQUniversity - approved Recognised English Entry Providers (REEP).....	2
5	RESPONSIBILITIES	5
	Compliance, monitoring and review.....	5
	Reporting.....	5
	Records management.....	5
6	DEFINITIONS	5
7	RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS.....	5
8	FEEDBACK.....	5
9	APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS.....	6

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 English language requirements must be consistent across all students accepted into CQUniversity courses, as defined by Academic Board.
- 1.2 International or domestic students born outside of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa or the United States of America need to meet English language proficiency requirements at specified levels in order to be eligible for entry to any higher education or vocational education course offered by CQUniversity, whether foundation studies, certificate courses, diploma courses, undergraduate courses, postgraduate coursework courses, or research higher degrees.
- 1.3 This policy and procedure sets out the minimum requirements, and the alternative evidence of achievement pathways, which are acceptable to CQUniversity.

2 SCOPE

- 2.1 Admissions staff will apply this policy and procedure when considering applications for places in any CQUniversity higher education or vocational education course.

3 POLICY STATEMENT

- 3.1 The English language requirements outlined in this document are the minimum levels determined by CQUniversity's Academic Board for admission to its various higher education and vocational education courses.
- 3.2 Independent of this, the [Department of Home Affairs](#) sets requirements for students to obtain a student visa. At the time of writing these requirements, international students applying for degree studies from countries determined by the [Department of Home Affairs](#) to be Assessment Level 3 must provide a satisfactory academic International English Language Testing System (IELTS) test score or equivalent when applying for a student visa. Students should refer to the [Application Guide](#) to view current Australian Government regulations.

- 3.3 To be eligible for admission to CQUniversity's academic courses, in addition to academic prerequisites, international applicants or domestic students born outside of Australia, Canada, New Zealand, United Kingdom, Ireland, South Africa or the United States of America for all courses are required to have an acceptable level of competence in writing, reading, speaking and understanding English. In general, test results are valid for two years prior to the date of the applicant's first commencement term.

4 PROCEDURE

- 4.1 The following table provides a guide to the English entry requirements. Each student will be assessed individually, and other equivalent English preparation, or combinations of English preparation, will be considered. Competence needs to be equivalent to one of the following:

CQUniversity English language entry requirements

Test or other English preparation	Foundation or Certificate or Diploma *	Undergraduate or postgraduate coursework course or study abroad ** Exceptions apply	Postgraduate research degree
IELTS (Academic) www.ielts.org	5.5 (with no individual band score of less than 5.0).	6 (with no individual band score of less than 5.5).	6.5 (with no individual band score less than 6.0).
TOEFL (Internet-based) www.toefl.org	Overall score of 65 with no score less than 15.	Overall score of 75 with no score less than 17.	Overall score of 79 with no score less than 21.
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic) www.pearsonpte.com	Overall score of 42 with no score less than 35.	Overall score of 50 with no score less than 42.	Overall score of 58 with no score less than 50.
Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE) http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams/advanced	Overall test score of 162 (with no individual band score of less than 154).	Overall test score of 169 (with no individual band score of less than 162).	Overall test score of 176 (with no individual score less than 169).

* These students are required to undertake further communications and language study as part of their degree.

** There are a number of courses for which different requirements have been separately approved by Academic Board. These requirements can be accessed from the CQUniversity [website](#) or [Handbook](#).

A comprehensive listing of CQUniversity approved Recognised English Entry Providers (REEP) is also available from the CQUniversity [website](#).

CQUniversity - approved Recognised English Entry Providers (REEP)

Test or other English Preparation	Foundation or Certificate or Diploma *	Undergraduate or postgraduate coursework course or study abroad **	Postgraduate research degree
CQUniversity Recognised English Entry Providers (REEP)***	Successful completion with a special entry level requirement as outlined on the REEP Listing.	Successful completion with a special entry level requirement as outlined on the REEP Listing.	
Tertiary Studies Foundation Course (minimum of 1 year of study)	Successful completion.	Successful completion.	
International Second Language Proficiency Rating (ISLPR) (formerly ASLPR)	3 in all four skill areas.	3 in all four skill areas.	

Test or other English Preparation	Foundation or Certificate or Diploma *	Undergraduate or postgraduate coursework course or study abroad **	Postgraduate research degree
Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE) Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE) Cambridge English: First (FCE)	Overall FCE or CAE score of 162 (with no individual band score of less than 154).	Overall FCE or CAE score of 169 (with no individual band score of less than 162).	Overall CAE or CPE score of 176 (with no individual score less than 169).
International Baccalaureate Diploma/Certificate	Grade 4 or above in either A1 or A2 level at Standard Level (SL) or Higher Level (HL), or Grade 5 in English B (HL).	Grade 4 or above in either A1 or A2 level at Standard Level (SL) or Higher Level (HL), or Grade 5 or above in English B (HL).	Grade 4 or above in either A1 or A2 level at Standard Level (SL) or Higher Level (HL), or Grade 5 or above in English B (HL).
Germany – DAAD Or Abitur	Minimum grade of B in all areas. English results on Higher School Certificate with a grade no lower than 4.	Minimum grade of B in all areas. (No lower than 7 points in all four areas). English results on Higher School Certificate with a grade no lower than 4.	Minimum grade of A in writing, grade of B in other areas. English results on Higher School Certificate with a grade no lower than 3.
Austria – Matura	Minimum grade of 4 for English on Secondary Education Certificate.	Minimum grade of 4 for English on Secondary Education Certificate.	Minimum grade of 4 for English on Secondary Education Certificate.
Sweden – Upper Secondary School	A grade of 3 or better (VG or MVG) in final year English.	A grade of 4 or better (VG or MVG) in final year English.	A grade of 4 (MVG) in final year English.
Norway – Upper Secondary School	A grade of 3 or better (ng tf) in final year English.	A grade of 4 (tf) or better in English.	A grade of 4 (tf) or better in English.
Denmark – Upper Secondary School 2007 onwards	A minimum grade of 7 in English.	A minimum grade of 7 in English.	A minimum grade of 9 in English.
Finland – High School	A grade of 7 or better in English.	A grade of 8 or better in English.	A grade of 8 or better in English
Hong Kong Advanced Level Examination (HKALE)	Pass in English at E or better.	Pass in English at grade of D or better.	Pass in English at grade of D or better.
Hong Kong Certificate of Education Examination (HKCEE)	Pass in English at grade of D or better.	Pass in English at grade of C or better.	Pass in English at grade of C or better.
Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)	Foundation Courses Level 2 in English, Diploma Courses Level 3 in English.	Level 3 in English or better.	Pass in English at Grade 5 or better.
Malaysia – SPM – STPM – Malaysian Independent Chinese Secondary Schools Unified Examination Certificate		Minimum grade of C6 in English. Minimum grade of 8 in English. Grade of B5 in English.	Minimum grade of C6 in English. Minimum grade of 8 in English. Minimum grade of B5 in English.
GCSE or IGCSE	A grade of C or better in English – First Language or English – Second Language.	A grade of C or better in English – First Language or English – Second Language.	A grade of B or better in English – First Language or English – Second Language.

Test or other English Preparation	Foundation or Certificate or Diploma *	Undergraduate or postgraduate coursework course or study abroad **	Postgraduate research degree
GCE A Level studies	A grade of D or better in GCE A-level English.	A grade of D or better in GCE A-level English.	A grade of C or better in GCE A-level English.
At least two years full-time secondary study where the medium of instruction was English [#]	Successful completion.	Successful completion.	Successful completion.
At least one year full-time University level study where the medium of instruction was English [#]	Successful completion.	Successful completion.	Successful completion.
At least two years full-time of other post-secondary study where the medium of instruction was English [#]	Successful completion.	Successful completion.	Successful completion.
If your first language is English, or your permanent residence is in a country where English is the official language, and you completed your secondary education or an approved undergraduate degree via the medium of English [#]	Successful completion within the last ten years.	Successful completion within the last ten years.	Successful completion within the last ten years.
Successful completion of Year 12 secondary schooling in Australia	Minimum of 1 school year to be completed in Australia within the last 2 years.	Minimum of 1 school year to be completed in Australia within the last 2 years.	Minimum of 1 school year to be completed in Australia within the last 2 years.
Successful completion of an Australian qualification recognised as at least AQF (Australian Qualifications Framework) Certificate IV (Taught in English)	Minimum period of study of 1 academic year completed within the last 2 years.	Minimum period of study of 1 academic year completed within the last 2 years.	Minimum period of study of 1 academic year completed within the last 2 years.

[#] Medium of instruction for English is assessed against the Country Education Profiles on Australian Education International (AEI). English instruction will only be accepted if Australian Education International states that English is the language of instruction relevant to the country, education level or institution. In these instances, however, CQUniversity reserves the right to request proof of English language proficiency.

*** English language studies will be CQUniversity-approved if they satisfy the conditions of:

- NEAS accreditation
- CRICOS registered provider and course, and
- required an entry test (Academic IELTS or TOEFL). Calculation of the equivalence of outcome will be based on incremental improvement of 0.5 Academic IELTS for each 10 week course of language study (e.g. entry with Academic IELTS of 5.0 followed by 10 weeks study will be equivalent to an outcome of Academic IELTS 5.5).

4.2 Exceptions:

- Students should refer to the CQUniversity [Handbook](#) for details of English language requirements and exceptions before applying for entry into a course.

4.3 Prospective students will be required to provide certified documentation to verify any of the above circumstances, including the entry testing for English language studies.

4.4 If a student is unable to meet the above criteria, language courses are available at Rockhampton, Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne campuses.

5 RESPONSIBILITIES

Compliance, monitoring and review

- 5.1 This document incorporates all current English language requirements, many of which have been separately approved as part of a course approval. At this time, there are no changes to the requirements.
- 5.2 If changes are required, the Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor (International and Services) will be responsible for researching the industry, developing change proposals, and planning the implementation of the change.
- 5.3 The Deputy Director, International Operations and the Manager, Student Admissions and Advice Centre are responsible for ensuring compliance by auditing student files.

Reporting

- 5.4 The University will report any information or data as prescribed in regulatory reporting requirements.

Records management

- 5.5 Staff must maintain all records relevant to administering this policy and procedure in a recognised University recordkeeping system.

6 DEFINITIONS

- 6.1 Terms not defined in this document may be in the University [glossary](#).

7 RELATED LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS

[Admission to CQUniversity Coursework Courses Policy and Procedure](#)

[Australian Qualifications Framework \(AQF\)](#)

[CQUniversity Handbook](#)

[Central Queensland University Act 1998](#) (Qld)

[Education Services for Overseas Students \(ESOS\) Act 2000](#)

[Full Time Student – Duration of Study Policy and Procedure](#)

[Higher Education Standards Framework \(Threshold Standards\) 2015](#)

[National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018](#) (The National Code)

[Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency \(TEQSA\) Act 2011](#)

8 FEEDBACK

- 8.1 University staff and students may provide feedback about this document by emailing policy@cqu.edu.au.

9 APPROVAL AND REVIEW DETAILS

Approval and Review	Details
Approval Authority	Academic Board
Advisory Committee to Approval Authority	Learning and Teaching Committee
Administrator	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Learning and Teaching)
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Notes	