



# English Language Requirements Policy

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<b>Amendments</b>	Exemptions update, additional accepted tests updated
<b>Related Policies &amp; Procedures</b>	<a href="#">Postgraduate Taught Admissions Policy</a> <a href="#">Postgraduate Research Degrees Admissions Policy</a>

## 1. SCOPE

1.1 The aim of this policy is to support the admission of students through procedures that are fair, transparent, and applied consistently. LSHTM is committed to providing a professional and efficient admissions service which is consistent with good practices as defined by the [Quality Assurance Agency's UK Quality Code, Advice and Guidance: Admissions, Recruitment and Widening Access](#).

## 1.2 Exemptions

- 1.2.1 Applicants who are a national of a [UKVI-recognised English-speaking country](#) or who have successfully completed an appropriate academic qualification (assessed by UK ENIC as equivalent to a UK Bachelor's degree), which was taught in a country from the UKVI approved country list, automatically meet the School's English Language requirements.
- 1.2.2 Please note that Canadian nationals are exempt from meeting English Language requirements but non-Canadian nationals who have studied in Canada are still required to meet the English Language requirements for their preferred programme due to Home Office regulations.

### 1.2.3 For Distance Learning programmes only:

Applicants will not be required to take an English language test if they have, in the last five years, completed a degree-level course comparable to a UK Bachelor degree at a UK ENIC recognised institution where the medium of instruction and assessment throughout the course is in English.

OR

### 1.2.4 For Distance Learning programmes only:

Applicants will not be required to take an English language test if they have, in the last 5 years, 18-months' work experience conducted in English.



**1.2.5 For Intensive Online intensive MSc, PGDip and PG Cert (Climate Change & Planetary Health and Demography & Health) only:**

Applicants will not be required to take an English language test if they have, in the last five years, completed a degree-level course comparable to a UK Bachelor degree at a UK ENIC recognised institution where the medium of instruction and assessment throughout the course is in English.

**1.2.6 For Intensive Online MSc, PG Cert & PGDip Sexual & Reproductive Health Policy and Programming only:**

Applicants will not be required to take an English language test if they have in the last ten years, successfully completed a degree-level course comparable to a UK Bachelor's Degree at a UK ENIC recognised institution where the medium of instruction and assessment throughout the course is entirely in English.

**1.2.7** Applicants studying on the following 'assessed' **Short Courses** only will not be required to take an English language test if they have 18 months experience working in the UK or Republic of Ireland.

- Professional Diploma in Tropical Nursing
- Professional Diploma in Tropical Medicine & International Health (London)
- Professional Diploma in Tropical Medicine & International Health (East African Partnership)
- Professional Certificate in Pharmacoepidemiology & Pharmacovigilance

## **2. PURPOSE AND OVERVIEW**

2.1 It is essential that all students have a good command of the English language to benefit from their studies at the School. Alongside meeting the academic entry requirements, all students must meet the minimum English language requirement for their chosen programme.

As part of the application process, applicants are required to demonstrate how they meet the School's minimum English language requirements. This is particularly important for applicants requiring a Student Visa, as the UK Home Office requires every student from outside the UK and Ireland to show evidence of a minimum level of English language proficiency.

2.2 The academic English language requirements for each of the School's programmes are categorised into two bands:

**Band B (standard requirement)**  
**Band C (lowest requirement)**

Please refer to the appropriate Course Description pages for the English language requirement Bands of specific programmes.



### 3. POLICY

#### 3.1 Proficiency Tests

3.1.1 The School accepts the following English proficiency tests:

- [IELTS | Academic](#)
- [LanguageCert Academic SELT](#)
- [Pearson PTE Academic](#)
- [Skills for English](#)
- [Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English - ISE III](#)
- [Qualification and Language Service \(QLS\)](#)

3.1.2 Applicants requiring a student visa **must** obtain one of the English proficiency tests in 3.1.1.

3.1.3 The School will only accept proficiency tests that were completed and passed within two years of the start of the programme. English tests taken prior to this date will not be considered as valid.

3.1.4 The School does not accept combined scores from multiple tests with the exception of IELTS One Skill Retake tests, which are accepted.

3.1.5 Online tests, including IELTS Online, are not accepted.

3.1.6 The School requires the following minimum proficiency test scores:

Test name	Band B	Band C
<b>IELTS Academic</b>	7.0 overall with 6.5 in each component	6.5 overall with 6.0 in each component
<b>Language Cert Academic SELT</b>	75 overall with 70 in each component	70 overall with 65 in each component
<b>Pearson PTE Academic</b>	76 with 76 in each component	59 with 59 in each component
<b>Skills for English</b>	Pass with <u>Merit</u> in Skills for English Secure English Language Test for speaking, listening, reading, and writing at CEFR level B2	Pass in Skills for English Secure English Language Test for speaking, listening, reading, and writing at CEFR level B2



<b>Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English - ISE</b>	Level III with: Pass in each component	Level II with: Distinction in one component Merit in two components Pass in one component
<b>Qualification and Language Service (QLS)</b>	CEFR C1	CEFR C1

If applicants do not achieve the required scores, they will be required to improve their English proficiency and take another test.

#### Qualification and Language Service (QLS)

Applicants who were taught in English in a country not recognised by the UK Home Office, may request for the UK Home Office to assess their qualification to determine the level of English proficiency. All LSHTM programmes require a QLS CEFR level C1 (proficient user) score.

## 4. Appeals

- 4.1.1 If an offer-holder believes that they should not be required to take an English language test (and does not require a student visa), they may appeal the English Language condition of their Offer of Admission.
- 4.1.2 Appeals should be emailed to [admissions@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@lshtm.ac.uk) as a written statement outlining the reasons for exemption. Supporting documentary evidence of any previous education, professional work or published work which demonstrates proficiency in reading, writing, speaking, and listening in English should be attached.
- 4.1.3 The appeal will be reviewed by the Admissions Managers, MSc Programme Director or Research Supervisor, and the Head of Admissions.
- 4.1.4 If the appeal is accepted, the English Language offer condition will be met.
- 4.1.5 If the appeal is rejected, the English Language requirement will remain as a condition of the Offer of Admission.
- 4.1.6 English language appeals may only be submitted after an offer has been issued.



### Enquiries

Applicants with any queries related to LSHTM's English language requirements, or the validity of a current English language proficiency test or qualification, should contact Admissions at [admissions@lshtm.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@lshtm.ac.uk).