

English Language Proficiency Requirements Schedule



1 Purpose

To establish the University's English Language Proficiency requirements for entry into its Award and Non-Award Programs.

2 Scope

This schedule must be read in conjunction with the Program Accreditation Procedure and is subordinate to it.

This schedule should also be read in conjunction with the Admissions Procedure and the Standard Admissions Statements Schedule.

3 Schedule

All Award and Non-Award Programs will be assigned to an English Language Proficiency Category that specifies, through this schedule, how the program's English Language Proficiency entry requirements must be addressed.

Any decision to accept alternate means of satisfying the English Language Proficiency requirements, that is outside of that specified in this schedule, requires the approval of the relevant Executive Dean. It will be only based on demonstrated equivalence to the applicable standards as specified in this section.

Prospective Students who do not meet any requirements listed in this schedule may be able to acquire the necessary proficiency through the University's open access programs. This option will require completion of either the communications or the English Language Proficiency placement tests provided by the [University's Open Access College](#).

3.1 English Language Proficiency Program Category

Program Career	Program	Category
Non-Award	ACEQ, PREP or TPPG - Tertiary Preparation Program	1
	AEPP - Accelerated Entry Pathway Program	
	IHPP - Indigenous Higher Education Pathways Program	
Undergraduate	COUS - Certificate of University Studies	1

	DOUS - Diploma of University Studies	
	PDEV, PDIO - Professional Development Single Courses	2
	EXCS - Exchange	
	SABD - Study Abroad	
Undergraduate & Graduate	All graduate (Honours) and undergraduate programs (Bachelor, Associate Degree, Diploma) except those listed below:	2
	BPSC - Bachelor of Paramedicine	3
	LLBP - Bachelor of Laws	3
	BMID - Bachelor of Midwifery (Graduate Entry)	3
	BSEH - Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science (Honours)	3
	LLBH - Bachelor of Laws (Honours)	3
	BNSG - Bachelor of Nursing	4
	BECH - Bachelor of Early Childhood	5
	BEED - Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood)	5
	BPED - Bachelor of Education (Primary)	5
	BSED - Bachelor of Education (Secondary)	5
Postgraduate (Coursework)	All postgraduate Coursework Programs except those listed below:	3
	GDTI - Graduate Diploma of Information Technology	2
	MADS - Master of Data Science	2
	MCTN - Master of Computer Technology	2
	MCYS - Master of Cyber Security	2
	MISP - Master of Information Systems	2
	MPAC - Master of Professional Accounting	2
	MCPS - Master of Clinical Psychology	4
	MCPA - Master of Clinical Psychology (Advanced Entry)	4
	MPPS - Master of Professional Psychology	4
	MOLT - Master of Learning & Teaching	5
Higher Degree by	All Doctoral programs	3

Research	All Masters programs by research	3
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3.2 English Language Proficiency Program Category groupings

Program Category	
Category 1	
Non-Award	ACEQ, PREP or TPPG - Tertiary Preparation Program AEPP - Accelerated Entry Pathway Program IHPP - Indigenous Higher Education Pathway Program
Undergraduate	COUS - Certificate of University Studies DOUS - Diploma of University Studies
Category 2	
Non-Award	Professional Development Single Courses EXCS - Exchange SABD - Study Abroad
Undergraduate	All undergraduate programs except those nominated in Categories 3, 4 and 5 Diploma programs except those nominated in Category 1
Postgraduate (Coursework)	GDTI - Graduate Diploma of Information Technology MADS - Master of Data Science MCTN - Master of Computer Technology MCYS - Master of Cyber Security MISP - Master of Information Systems MPAC - Master of Professional Accounting
Category 3	
Undergraduate & Graduate	BMID - Bachelor of Midwifery (Graduate Entry) BPSC - Bachelor of Paramedicine BSEH - Bachelor of Sport and Exercise (Honours) LLBP - Bachelor of Laws LLBH - Bachelor of Laws (Honours)
Postgraduate	All postgraduate Coursework Programs except those nominated in

(Coursework)	Categories 2, 4 and 5
Postgraduate (Research)	All Masters programs by research All Doctoral programs
Category 4	
Undergraduate	BNSG - Bachelor of Nursing
Postgraduate (Coursework)	MCPS - Master of Clinical Psychology MCPA - Master of Clinical Psychology (Advanced Entry) MPPS - Master of Professional Psychology
Category 5	
Undergraduate	BECH - Bachelor of Early Childhood BEED - Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood) BPED - Bachelor of Education (Primary) BSED - Bachelor of Education (Secondary)
Postgraduate (Coursework)	MOLT - Master of Learning & Teaching

3.3 English Language Proficiency requirements

To fulfil the English Language Proficiency requirements for the assigned category, Applicants must satisfy one of the following, as subsequently listed:

- English Language Proficiency test requirements (Section 3.5); or
- Alternative English Language Proficiency education requirements (Section 3.6); or
- Approved Pathway and Foundation Program Proficiency requirements (Section 3.7); or
- Approved other prior English language studies (Section 3.8); or
- English Language employment and professional accreditation requirements (Section 3.9).

Applicants who are Australian citizens normally fulfil the English Language Proficiency requirements through the education or pathways requirements.

Other Applicants normally fulfil the English Language Proficiency requirements through the test or pathway requirements. If from a recognised English speaking country, these Applicants may fulfil the education requirements.

Where English language entry requirements are not met, the University reserves the right to ask for English Language Proficiency tests on a case-by-case basis.

3.4 English Language Proficiency for visa purposes

International Students seeking to study onshore who satisfy the University's English Language Proficiency requirements may still need to meet additional Student visa requirements for English Language Proficiency as required by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA).

DHA only accepts certain English tests for visa purposes where evidence of English Language Proficiency is required. For more information, Students should check the local [Australian Diplomatic Mission](#) or the DHA website.

3.5 English Language Proficiency test requirements

English Language Proficiency tests should not be older than two years upon application; any Deferment will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

APPROVED TEST	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2	CATEGORY 3	CATEGORY 4	CATEGORY 5
IELTS (Academic only)	5.5 (or better) (no component lower than 5)	6.0 (or better) (no component lower than 5.5)	6.5 (or better) (no component lower than 6.0)	7.0 (or better) (no component lower than 7.0)	7.5 (or better) (no component lower than 7.0; no less than 8.0 in speaking and listening)
TOEFL (paper based)	525 (or better) (with a minimum Test of Written English Score of TWE 4.5)	550 (or better) (with a minimum Test of Written English Score of TWE 4.5)	570 (with a minimum Test of Written English score TWE 5)	600 (with a minimum Test of Written English score of TWE 5) Not accepted for Bachelor of Nursing	Not accepted because of teacher registration requirements in Queensland
TOEFL (electronic or computer based)	213 (or better) (with essay rating of at least 4.5)	213 (or better) (with essay rating of at least 4.5)	230 (with an essay rating of at least 5)	250 (with an essay rating of at least 5)	Not accepted because of teacher registration requirements in Queensland

TOEFL (internet based)	70 (or better) (with 18 minimum in all bands)	80 (or better) (with 19 minimum in all bands)	90 (or better) (with 20 minimum in all bands)	95 (or better) (with 22 minimum in all bands) Bachelor of Nursing requires 94 (or better) (with minimum of 24 for listening and reading, 27 for writing, and 23 for speaking)	Not accepted because of teacher registration requirements in Queensland
Pearson (PTE Academic)	50 (or better) (with no communicativ e score less than 50)	50 (or better) (with no communicativ e score less than 50)	58 (or better) (with no communicativ e score less than 58)	65 (with no communicativ e score less than 65)	Not accepted because of teacher registration requirements in Queensland
Cambridge English Scale Scores for FCE - Cambridge English First / B2 First (2017+), CAE - Cambridge English - Advanced / C1 Advanced (2017+) and CPE3 - Cambridge English - Proficiency / C2 Proficiency (2017+)	Cambridge English: First (FCE)/ B2 First with a score of 162 or above. No less than 154 in each skill	Cambridge English: First (FCE)/ B2 First with a score of 169 or above. No less than 162 in each skill	Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)/ C1 Advanced or Proficiency (CPE)/C2 Proficiency with a score of 176 or above. No less than 169 in each skill	Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)/C1 Advanced or Proficiency (CPE)/C2 Proficiency with a score of 185 or above. No less than 185 in each skill Not accepted for Bachelor of Nursing	Not accepted because of teacher registration requirements in Queensland
Occupational English Test (OET)				Bachelor of Nursing requires a	

				minimum score of B (in all categories)	
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3.6 Alternative English Language Proficiency requirements

The approved qualification or study must be undertaken in English.

For the approved qualification, where an Applicant has successfully completed a Diploma (AQF5) qualification or higher at a recognised institution in a country on the applicable English Speaking Country list, but does not meet the two year rule, Admissions will assess the Applicant's chance of success as outlined in the Admissions Procedure.

In this table:

- 'recognised overseas secondary qualification' refers to the national senior secondary school award considered equivalent to Australia Year 12 completion qualification, and
- 'recognised institution' refers to an institution nationally registered for delivery of the relevant Award or period of study in English, and
- 'completion' is defined as achieving a passing grade or higher for all academic components necessary for the respective qualification to be awarded.

The Extended, Standard and Restricted English Speaking Country lists follow this table.

- Any decision to accept education outside of that specified in this section, requires approval from the relevant Executive Dean. It will be only based on demonstrated equivalence to the applicable standards as specified in this section at study, institution and English speaking standard levels.
- For entry into a Higher Degree by Research program, academic qualifications normally should have been completed within the last five years.

APPROVED QUALIFICATION	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2	CATEGORY 3	CATEGORY 4	CATEGORY 5
Australian Secondary Schooling	Completion of a recognised Australian Year 12 including English 4 SA or equivalent.				Completion of a recognised Australian Year 12
	Not accepted for Master Psychology programs (MCPS, MCPA,				

	MPPS)				including English 4 SA or equivalent.
Overseas Senior Secondary Schooling	Completion of a recognised overseas secondary qualification including any specified English Language Standard requirements, from a country on the Extended English Speaking Countries list.	Completion of a recognised overseas secondary qualification including any specified English Language Standard requirements, from a country on the Standard English Speaking Countries list.	Completion of a recognised overseas senior secondary schooling qualification including any specified English Language Standard requirements, from a country on the Restricted English Speaking Countries list.	Completion of a recognised overseas senior secondary schooling qualification including any specified English Language Standard requirements, from a country on the Restricted English Speaking Countries list.	Completion of a recognised overseas senior secondary schooling qualification including any specified English Language Standard requirements, from a country on the Restricted English Speaking Countries list.
Other Post-Secondary Study (Certificate level - AQF Level 1 to 4 or equivalent)	Successful completion of two years fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Standard English Speaking Countries list	Successful completion of two years fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Standard English Speaking Countries list	Successful completion of two years fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Restricted English Speaking Countries list	Successful completion of AQF Level 3 or 4 three years fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Restricted English Speaking Countries list	Not accepted
				Not accepted for Master Psychology programs (MCPS, MCPA, MPPS)	
				Not accepted for Master Psychology	

			programs (MCPS, MCPA, MPPS)	
Tertiary Study* (Diploma level or higher - AQF Level 5 or higher)	Successful completion of one year fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Extended English Speaking Countries list	Successful completion of two years fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Standard English Speaking Countries list	Successful completion of two years fulltime equivalent at a recognised institution in a country on the Standard English Speaking Countries list	Successful completion of three years fulltime equivalent study at a recognised institution, within the last 5 years in a country on the Restricted English Speaking Countries list.

English Speaking Country Lists

The Restricted English Speaking Country list is of countries accepted by the applicable accreditation bodies.

The Standard English Speaking Country list is of countries defined as English speaking by QTAC.

The Extended English Speaking Country list is of countries recognised as English Speaking by QTAC and UK NARIC.

Restricted List	Standard List	Extended List
Australia	<i>Restricted list plus</i>	<i>Standard list plus</i>
Canada	American Samoa	Antigua
Republic of Ireland	Bahamas	Belize
New Zealand	Barbados	Botswana
UK - Channel Islands	Bermuda	Dominica
UK - England	Cook Islands	Gambia
UK - Northern Ireland	Falkland Islands	Ghana
UK - Scotland	Fiji	Guyana

UK - Wales	Gibraltar	Kenya
United States of America	Grenada	Kiribati
South Africa (Bachelor of Nursing only)	Jamaica	Liberia
	Nauru	Malawi
	Papua New Guinea	Maldives
	Samoa	Mauritius
	Singapore	Namibia
	South Africa	Nigeria
	Trinidad & Tobago	Philippines
		Seychelles
		Sierra Leone
		Solomon Islands
		St Kitts and Nevis
		St Lucia
		Tanzania
		Uganda
		Vanuatu
		Zambia
		Zimbabwe

3.7 Approved pathway and foundation program Proficiency requirements

The approved qualification or study must be undertaken in English.

USQ Pathway Program requirements

APPROVED QUALIFICATION	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2	CATEGORY 3	CATEGORY 4	CATEGORY 5
USQ English for Academic	As per the IELTS 6.0 requirements *		As per the IELTS 6.5	Not accepted	

Purposes Program (EAPP)		requirements#
USQ Certificate of University Studies (COUS) (available only to Domestic Students)	Successful completion of the Certificate of University Studies (COUS) program	Not accepted
USQ Diploma of University Studies (DOUS)	Successful completion of the Diploma of University Studies (DOUS) program Not accepted for Bachelor of Nursing	

It is possible that the University's Tertiary Preparation Program (TPP) may satisfy English Language Proficiency requirements for undergraduate programs, with the exception of the Bachelor of Nursing, but this requires individual advice. This option is not available to onshore International Students. Applicants seeking entry to the [English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students \(ELICOS\)](#) and [English for Academic Purposes \(EAPP\)](#) program can undertake the Oxford Online Placement Test, which is administered by the [USQ Open Access College](#). This test can be taken from any online location and the results will provide an indication of the most appropriate commencement level in the ELICOS or EAP programs. Upon arrival at the University, Applicants will be required to undertake a further test to confirm the online test result.

*** IELTS 6.0 requirements:**

To successfully pass the EAP program and be recommended for entry into Category 1 and Category 2 Undergraduate and Postgraduate Coursework Programs at the University, Students must pass required Courses in the EAPII program.

IELTS 6.5 requirements:

Students entering Category 3 programs must achieve the following results:

Postgraduate Coursework Awards in Category 3	'B' Grades across all EAPII Courses
LLBP - Bachelor of Laws and LLBH - Bachelor of Laws (Honours)	'A' Grades in EAP7320 and EAP7340 and 'B' Grades in all other EAPII Courses
All Masters programs by Research and all Doctoral programs	Students entering at the EAPI level must have 'B' Grades in all EAPI Courses and 'A' Grades in all EAPII Courses

Students entering at the EAPII level must have 'A' Grades in all EAPII Courses
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Approved foundation pathway articulation from other institutions' English preparation/foundation programmes is subject to regular review and possible change. Therefore, potential Applicants seeking to address English Language Proficiency requirements via this means should check directly with the University as to acceptability.

3.8 Recognition of other prior English language studies

If Applicants have completed some or all of their academic study in English in an institution outside the English Speaking Country list, the University may waive the required English Language Proficiency test result required for Admission into a Course or program.

To qualify for recognition of prior English language studies, Applicants need to have achieved one of the scores or qualifications listed below.

The University will not waive the required English Language Proficiency test for Courses or programs that have higher English language entry requirements than those listed in this section, or for Courses or programs where specific English language entry requirements are required.

3.8.1 Approved other prior English language studies

APPROVED ALTERNATE QUALIFICATION*	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2	CATEGORY 3	CATEGORY 4	CATEGORY 5
GCE A-Levels (Malaysia includes STPM & Higher School Certificate, Singapore and the UK)	A grade of C (or better) in the subject English language	Not accepted			
Malaysian Cambridge English Language 1119	Grade of C6	Not accepted			
Malaysian	Grade of B5	Not accepted			

Independent Chinese Secondary Schools Unified Examination Certificate	in English	
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Examination Authority: A grade of C or better in 'Use of English'. Hong Kong Diploma in Secondary Education (HKDSE): A grade of 3 (or better) in core English language	Not accepted
International General Certificate (A Level)	A grade of D (or better) in GCE A-level English	Not accepted
Australian University Foundation Program	Completion of a recognised foundation program where English is the language of instruction and assessment (with a minimum grade of 60% in the English subject)	Not accepted
Tertiary Study (Study	Successful completion of	Not accepted

Abroad and Student Exchange Applicants) at Diploma Level or higher (AQF Level 5 or higher)	one year full-time equivalent at a recognised partner or exchange institution	
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* Applicants may still be eligible for entry if they have successfully completed English language subjects in secondary qualifications recognised by the University, with the required results.

Applications that do not meet the requirements of the other prior English language studies lists above may only be considered if:

- the most recent studies were of at least two years in duration from a recognised institution;
- studies were conducted solely in English (language of instruction and assessment);
- studies were completed no more than two years prior to applying for Admission the University of Southern Queensland; and
- certified and verifiable documentation is provided to evidence equivalence to an applicable English language standard in this section, when requested by the University.

3.9 Employment and professional accreditation requirements

Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations (ANZCO) of the Australian Bureau of Statistics. This table should be read in conjunction with the full list of ANZCO Codes, *Australian Bureau of Statistics First Edition 2006*.

3.9.1 Employment requirements

APPROVED EMPLOYMENT	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2	CATEGORY 3	CATEGORY 4	CATEGORY 5
Australian Employment Experience	4 years FTE ANZCO skill level 2 (or higher)		4 years FTE ANZCO skill level 2 (or higher). Not accepted for Bachelor	5 years FTE ANZCO skill level 1 Not accepted for Bachelor of Nursing	Not accepted

		of Midwifery (Graduate Entry)		
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3.9.2 Professional accreditation requirements

APPROVED ACCREDITATION	CATEGORY 1	CATEGORY 2	CATEGORY 3	CATEGORY 4	CATEGORY 5
Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA)	Current AHPRA Registration in any profession				Not accepted
Queensland College of Teachers (QCT)	Current QCT Provisional or Full Registration Not accepted for Bachelor of Nursing				

4 References

Approved Resources

- Australian Education International (AEI-NOOSR) Country Education Profiles:
<https://internationaleducation.gov.au/services-and-resources/services-for-organisations/pages/services-for-organisations.aspx>
- UK NARIC:
<http://ecctis.co.uk/naric/>
- International Association of Universities: The International Handbook of Universities states the only language of instruction for the institution is English:
<http://www.iau-aiu.net/content/international-handbook-universities>
- UCAS (UK) International Qualifications publication indicates the language of instruction is English (mainly for secondary qualifications)
- Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC) Schedules
- WHED: International Association of Universities Worldwide Database of Higher Education Institutions, Systems and Credentials:

<http://whed.net/home.php>

- CHEA (USA): Centre for Higher Education Accreditation:
<http://www.chea.org/>
- China Qualifications Verification:
<http://www.chinadegrees.cn/en/>
- QTAC List 1 of English Speaking countries

5 Schedule Information

Accountable Officer	Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
Responsible Officer	Pro Vice-Chancellor (Students)
Policy Type	University Procedure
Policy Suite	Academic Programs and Courses Policy
Approved Date	12/2/2020
Effective Date	12/2/2020
Review Date	18/7/2019
Relevant Legislation	
Related Policies	
Related Procedures	Admissions Procedure Program Accreditation Procedure
Related forms, publications and websites	Standard Admissions Statements Schedule The following form may be accessed in SharePoint (restricted access): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Program Proposal Form English Language Intensive Courses for Overseas Students (ELICOS) English for Academic Purposes (EAPP) USQ Open Access College
Definitions	Terms defined in the Definitions Dictionary

[Admission](#)

The process of submission and assessment of applications for entry to study at the University.

[Applicant](#)

A person who applies for any program or Course of study offered by the University whether the application is made through the Queensland Tertiary Admission Centre (QTAC) or directly to the University.

[Award](#)

The qualification conferred upon a Student following the successful completion of an Academic Program. The categories of Award include: Associate Degree, Diploma, Bachelor Degree, Bachelor Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma, Master Degree (both Coursework and research), Doctoral Degree (both Coursework and research) and Higher Doctorate.

[Course](#)

The basic unit of study and assessment for which a Student may be awarded a grade, and may accumulate credit units towards completion of a Program.

[Coursework](#)

A method of teaching and learning that leads to the acquisition of skills and knowledge and does not include a major research component.

[Coursework Program](#)

A sequence of study consisting predominantly of Coursework.

[English Language Proficiency](#)

English Language Proficiency is the ability of Students to use the English language to make and communicate meaning in spoken and written contexts while completing their program of study.

[Non-Award Program](#)

A sequence of study which does not lead to an Award.

[Pathway Program](#)

Generally programs of study designed to provide access to higher education to Students who have not qualified through prior study for direct entry; they generally act as an entry point into an appropriate higher education degree for those who successfully complete the program. They normally focus on getting potential Students ready for higher education by helping them to build the skills they need for university such as literacy, numeracy and critical thinking. These are programs normally offered under the heading of Pathways to University and include Tertiary Preparation, Diploma of University Studies and English Language (preparation) programs.

[Student](#)

A person who is admitted to an Award Program or Non-Award Program offered by the University and is: currently enrolled in one or more Courses or study units; or not currently enrolled but is on an approved Leave of Absence or whose admission has not been cancelled.

[University](#)

The term 'University' or 'USQ' means the University of Southern Queensland.

Definitions that relate to this schedule only

Keywords

Record No

14/707PL