

English Language requirements



Meeting the language requirements

- To study at Kent, students must be able to demonstrate an excellent level of spoken and written English
- Students who require a visa must meet the language requirements of both the UK university and UKVI
- Different requirements for Foundation, Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes – check the website!
- Multiple ways for students meeting the language requirements:
 1. UKVI list of English-speaking countries
 2. Qualifications including UK and international examinations
 3. English language tests
 4. Pre-sessional English programmes

UKVI list of English-speaking countries



UKVI list of English-speaking countries

Antigua and Barbuda
Australia
The Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
British Overseas Territories
Canada (nationals only)
Dominica
Grenada
Guyana

Ireland
Jamaica
Malta
New Zealand
St Kitts and Nevis
St Lucia
St Vincent and the Grenadines
Trinidad and Tobago
UK
USA

Accepted international qualifications



International Qualifications

International qualifications

- A Level, GCSE, IB will be considered if studying at recognised international school
- Qualifications have a validity – must be granted within 8 years of the start of course at Kent
- Other qualifications considered include:
 - iGCSE
 - European Baccalaureate

A Level, GCSE and IB Students

If you are studying recognised qualifications in English at a school in the UK or an international school, we will consider the following qualifications:

GCE A Level

Grade C or above in English Language or English Literature

Achieved no more than 8 years before the start of the course. Any qualification taken more than 8 years ago will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

GCE AS Level

Grade C or above in English Language or English Literature

Achieved no more than 8 years before the start of the course. Any qualification taken more than 8 years ago will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

GCE O Level

Grade C or above in English Language

Achieved no more than 8 years before the start of the course. Any qualification taken more than 8 years ago will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

GCSE

Grade 4 / C or above in English Language

Achieved no more than 8 years before the start of the course. Any qualification taken more than 8 years ago will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

International Qualifications cont.....

- Foundation courses - Applicants who have studied a Foundation Course at a BALEAP Member Institution may use their English Language but on a case by case basis.
- Qualifications have limited validity period – must be completed within two years of start of course
- In-country qualifications
 - <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/undergraduate/apply/english-language-requirements#ukvi-list>
 - Country qualifications have different validity period – range from 5-8 years
- Not all country qualifications are accepted for English proficiency. Check country pages for more details
- Country qualifications does not guarantee a language exemption – every application is assessed on a case by case basis

English language tests



Secure English Language Tests

IELTS for UKVI

6.0 overall (with a minimum of 5.5 in all components)

IELTS One Skill retake accepted – one permitted per academic year

LanguageCert International ESOL SELT B2

(Listening: 33/50;
Reading: 35/50; Writing:
35/50; Speaking: 33/50)

LanguageCert Academic/General SELT

(all bands minimum 60)

Pearson Academic UKVI

63 overall with 59 in each subtest

Skills for English UKVI

B2 Level: Pass in all components

- Architecture, English, Law, MBA and Social Work have higher level requirements
- Test results must be dated within the two years immediately preceding the start date of your course
- <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/english-language-requirements#approved-english-language-tests>

Other English Language Tests

Cambridge B2 First Certificate

Grade C with minimum of 165 in each sub-test

IELTS Academic

6.0 overall (with a minimum of 5.5 in all components)

IELTS One Skill retake accepted – one permitted per academic year

INTO English Language Assessment

169 - 175

LanguageCert International ESOL B2

(Listening: 33/50;
Reading: 33/50; Writing:
33/50; Speaking: 33/50)

NCUK English for Academic Purposes

Grade C with minimum of D in each sub-test

TOEFL iBT

80 overall (with a minimum of 20 in R; 19 in W&L; 22 in S)

Kaplan Test of English (KTE)

426 – 458 with minimum of 426 in each component

Oxford English Language Test (ELLT)

6.0 overall with no lower than 5 in each component

- Architecture, English, Law, MBA and Social Work have higher level requirements
- Test results must be dated within the two years immediately preceding the start date of your course
- Discount code available for KTE and ELLT – check the Kent website!!
- <https://www.kent.ac.uk/courses/english-language-requirements#approved-english-language-tests>

Pre-Sessional English Courses



Kent Pre-sessional English Courses

- Available for students who do not meet the language requirements for both UG and PG
- Our pre-sessional courses run for 7, 11 and 16 weeks. Offered both on campus and online
- IELTS scores determines length of course needed
- Develop skills in academic reading, writing and critical thinking, listening to lectures, speaking in seminars and delivering presentations
- Assessments include:
 - E-portfolio
 - Final essay
 - Presentation
 - Kent International Test of English
- Students must meet the required exit level to progress directly onto their main programme

Kent Pre-sessional English Courses

- Applications for pre-sessional programmes can be submitted via agent portal
- Fees range between £3,080 (7 weeks) - £6,600 (16 weeks)
- Accommodation available – price ranges from £1,742 - £4,810 depending on programme
- Application deadlines:
 - 7 week course – 23 June 2025
 - 11 week course – 26 May 2025
 - 16 week course – 21 April 2025
- Courses start in May (16 week), June (11 week) and July (7 week)
- Combined CAS for the 7 or 11 Week Pre-Sessional English Programme
- Further details on website: <https://www.kent.ac.uk/international-programmes/pre-sessional-courses>

Few key things to note.....

- Applicants do not need to have met the English language requirements prior to submitting
- We do recommend meeting language conditions as early as possible – allow for re-takes or pre-sessional courses if required
- MOI letters are only accepted in Thailand and on a case by case basis. For all other countries MOI letters are not accepted
- Check the website for course requirements – some programmes have higher entry requirements
- Remember that every qualification or language test has a specific validity period – again check the website!!!
- As well as meeting the course requirements it is important that applicants meet the English language requirements for UKVI visas

Contact the International Team



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