**Policy for Waiving English Language Requirements 2013 Entry**

Last updated August 2013

Students whose first language is not English are required to have an appropriate result in an approved examination in English language before they can register on an academic programme. Details of recognised English Language qualifications are available at:

<http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/academicservices/qualitymanual/recruitmentandadmissions/entry-requirements.aspx>

A number of alternative qualifications are also acceptable and a full list of these qualifications is available at <http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/academicservices/qualitymanual/recruitmentandadmissions/minimum-english-language-entry-requirements.aspx>

Students who have taken their education entirely in the medium of English and can demonstrate that they have completed a recognised degree\* or have successfully completed the whole of their secondary education up to and including the equivalent of year twelve in one of the countries on the following UKBA list of countries will automatically receive an English language waiver.

\* Please note:

Postgraduate Diplomas (PGDip) and Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) qualifications obtained from recognised UK universities within the UK are **NOT ACCEPTABLE** as a SELT alternative. English Language conditions can only be waived if candidates have been awarded a **FULL** Masters’ degree from a recognised UK university within the UK.

With the increase in transnational education and split site degree programmes - students who have taken the **majority** of their previous degree in the medium of English (e.g. 1+3 students) are exempt from SELT as they have an alternative qualification we can vouch for. Students who have **only taken the** **minority** of their previous degree in the medium of English, (e.g. 2+1 students) should be asked for an additional English language qualification – either a SELT or a recognised alternative.

**Home Office List of Countries**

Antigua and Barbuda;

Australia;

The Bahamas;

Barbados;

Belize;

Canada;

Dominica;

Grenada;

Guyana;

Jamaica;

New Zealand;

St Kitts and Nevis;

St Lucia;

St Vincent and the Grenadines;

Trinidad and Tobago;

United States of America.

**Degree Level Studies from other English Language Speaking Countries**

While the following countries are not on the Home Office list, the International Office has agreed that degree level qualifications from certain countries (recognised institutions only) are an acceptable alternative to B2 level English.

**Candidates who have successfully completed degree level study from the below list of countries are NOT required to submit any further evidence of English language ability** (e.g. no SELT, WAEC / high school evidence etc. required)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Country | Level of ‘vouching’ for English equivalent to B2 level: |
| Anguilla | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Barbados | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Bermuda | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Botswana | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Cayman Islands | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Europe | See separate document:[https://workspace.nottingham.ac.uk/display/IOResources/English+Language+Guidance](https://workspace.nottingham.ac.uk/display/IOResources/English%2BLanguage%2BGuidance)  |
| Gambia | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Ghana | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| India | Specified institutions only – as detailed on recognised institutions list |
| Kenya | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Lesotho | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Liberia | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Mauritius | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Montserrat | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Nigeria | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Pakistan | Specified institutions only – as detailed on recognised institutions list |
| Seychelles | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Sierra Leone | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Singapore | Specified institutions only – as detailed on recognised institutions list |
| South Africa | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Tanzania | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Uganda | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Virgin Islands (British & US) | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Zambia | All institutions on recognised institutions list |
| Zimbabwe | All institutions on recognised institutions list |

All international applicants for Non-Integrated Foundation programmes in Arts and Social Sciences are required by the UKBA to have taken a SELT and achieve the University’s minimum requirements for the programme.

If you wish to admit an applicant who does not meet the above criteria or the normal minimum requirements for their course but consider that the applicant has the required proficiency in English language you may submit a [waiver request form](http://www.nottingham.ac.uk/academicservices/documents/qmdocuments/english-language-waiver-request-form.doc) to the Head of Admissions.

Such requests will only be considered where there is strong documented evidence that the student has attained the required level of English to meet the published requirements in all four elements but has not taken a recognised English language qualification. Performance at interview will not be considered as evidence for waiving the English language requirements. Evidence should demonstrate the applicant’s abilities in the four elements of listening, reading, speaking and writing.

August 2013