

Full English Language Comparisons

				UCD Standard requirement	Option 1 Taught masters	Option 2 Taught masters
IELTS	5.0 and a minimum of 4.5 in each band on the Academic Version.	5.5 and a minimum of 5.0 in each band on the Academic Version.	6.0 and a minimum of 5.5 in each band on the Academic Version.	6.5 and a minimum of 6.0 in each band on the Academic Version.	7.0 and a minimum of 6.5 in each band on the Academic Version.	7,5 and a minimum of 7.0 in each band on the Academic Version.
TOEFL	60 in Internet based TOEFL (iBT) with at least Reading: 12 Listening: 12 Speaking: 16 Writing: 15	70 in Internet based TOEFL (iBT) with at least Reading: 14 Listening: 14 Speaking: 17 Writing: 17	80 in Internet based TOEFL (iBT) with at least Reading: 16 Listening: 16 Speaking: 19 Writing: 19	90 in Internet based TOEFL (iBT) with at least 21 in writing and 19 in each of the other sections	100 in Internet based TOEFL (iBT) with at least 23 in writing and 20 in each of the other sections	110 in Internet based TOEFL (iBT) with at least 25 in writing and 21 in each of the other sections
Cambridge Examinations	154 + on Cambridge English scale (with no less than 149 in each skill and use of English) Examinations with CEFR level B2, C1, C2 acceptable	162+ on Cambridge English scale (with no less than 157 in each skill and use of English) Examinations with CEFR level B2, C1, C2 acceptable	169+ on Cambridge English scale (with no less than 164 in each skill and use of English) Examinations with CEFR level C1 or C2 acceptable	176+ on Cambridge English scale (with no less than 169 in each skill and use of English) Examinations with CEFR level C1 or C2 acceptable	185+ on Cambridge English scale (with no less than 178 in each skill and use of English) Examinations with CEFR level C2 acceptable	191+ on Cambridge English scale (with no less than 184 in each skill and use of English) Examinations with CEFR level C2 acceptable
PTE Academic (Pearson English Language Test)	Minimum of 39 and at least 35 for each item in the Communicative Skills section.	Minimum of 47 and at least 43 for each item in the Communicative Skills section.	Minimum of 55 and at least 51 for each item in the Communicative Skills section.	Minimum of 63 and at least 59 for each item in the Communicative Skills section.	Minimum of 71 and at least 63 for each item in the Communicative Skills section.	Minimum of 79 and at least 71 for each item in the Communicative Skills section.
UCD PSP/IPMP				Overall grade C+ with at least grade C- in all components.	Overall grade B- with at least grade C in all components.	Overall grade B+ with at least grade B in all components.

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UCLES			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate (UCLES): English at grade C or above (incorporating the Oxford Examining Body's English as a Foreign Language (Higher Paper) (Malaysia) Cambridge English Language (1119) conducted overseas by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate: B4 or better. 		N/A	N/A
Oxford Test of English	Minimum score of 100 overall with a minimum score of 90 in each skill.	Minimum score of 111 overall with a minimum score of 105 in each skill.	Minimum score of 126 overall with a minimum score of 120 in each skill.	Minimum score of 130 overall with a minimum score of 125 in each skill.	N/A	N/A
UK Examining Boards/Bodies	GCSE English Language/Literature at Grade C or above	GCSE English Language/Literature at Grade C or above	GCSE English Language/Literature at Grade C or above	GCSE English Language/Literature at Grade C or above	N/A	N/A
ETAPP English Test for Academic and Professional Purposes	Grade B2 or better	Grade B2 or better	Grade C1 or better (i.e. CEFR Level C1 or C2)	Grade C1 or better (i.e. CEFR Level C1 or C2)	Grade C1 or better (i.e. CEFR Level C1 or C2)	Grade C2 (i.e. CEFR Level C2)
Trinity ISE	Trinity ISE 2 with at least merit in each skill category	Trinity ISE 2 with at least merit in each skill category	Trinity ISE 3 with at least merit in each skill category	Trinity ISE 3 with at least merit in each skill category	Trinity ISE 4 with at least merit in each skill category	Trinity ISE 4 with at least merit in each skill category
QQI FET ESL	N/A – students who have taken FET should not be going the IFY route			Merit or Distinction in the level 5 modules "English as a Second language" or "Communications"	Distinction in the level 5 modules "English as a Second language" or "Communications"	Distinction in the level 5 modules "English as a Second language" or "Communications"
Duolingo English Test (DET)	90 with at least 80 in each subscore	100 with at least 90 in each subscore.	110 with at least 100 in each subscore.	The minimum requirement will be a DET score of 120 is required with at least 110 in each subscore ¹	The minimum requirement will be a DET score of 130 is required with at least 120 in each subscore	The minimum requirement will be a DET score of 140 is required with at least 130 in each subscore

¹ Prior to October 2022, 110 with 100 in each subscore was published. In 2023, leniency may be allowed for students attaining between 110-120.

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LanguageCert ESOL NB must be taken with no more than 3 months between components	B1 Achiever High Pass with no less than 33 in each skill (min 38 in speaking)	B1 Communicator Pass with no less than 25 in each skill	B2 Communicator Pass with no less than 29 in each skill	B2 Communicator High Pass with no less than 33 in each skill	C1 Expert with no less than 36 in each skill	C1 Expert High Pass with no less than 39 in each skill
School Leaving Examinations²	Matriculation/school-leaving examinations from most European Countries and many non-EU countries will meet the requirements, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> where English is presented as a subject at an acceptable level. For example, in the International Baccalaureate English A1, A2 or B: 5 at Higher Level (4 @ either Level if presenting IB through English) will meet the requirement. where an English proficiency test which is scored on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) is presented as part of a school-leaving qualification, grade must be C1 or C2					

An equivalent level of English

Other evidence of proficiency in English may be accepted at the discretion of the school, e.g. degree through English or English major in degree. For further advice please contact

For EU undergraduate applicants: [UCD Admissions](#)

For non-EU applicants: [UCD Global](#)

For graduate applicants: contact the school to which you are applying

References

<https://www.nacel.org/en/blog/compare-english-language-test-scores>

<https://www.trinitycollege.com/qualifications/english-language/ISE>

<https://pearsonpte.com/organizations/researchers/score-comparison-vs-competitors/>

<https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/Images/461626-cambridge-english-qualifications-comparing-scores-to-ielts.pdf>

<https://englishtest.duolingo.com/scores>

<https://www.ets.org/toefl/score-users/scores-admissions/compare>

² Where the examination has been taken more than 2 years previously candidates may be required to take a proficiency test.