

ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 It is essential that all students have a good command of the English language to benefit from their studies at the School.
- 1.2 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 dictates that every student from outside the UK and Ireland must show evidence of a minimum level of English language ability (called CEFR¹ B2 level), in order for a Student visa to be issued for entry to the UK.
- 1.3 Additionally, the School asks applicants to have minimum English language proficiency levels that are necessary for our academic programmes. These levels are **higher** than the CEFR B2 minimum level.
- 1.4 The academic English language requirements for each of the School's programmes are categorised into one of three profiles:²
 - Band A (highest requirement)
 - Band B (standard requirement)
 - Band C (lowest requirement)

Please refer to the appropriate [Course Description](#) pages for the English language requirement Band of your preferred programme.

2. EXEMPTIONS

- 2.1 Applicants who are a national of a majority English-speaking country or who have successfully completed an appropriate academic qualification (at least equivalent to a UK Bachelor's degree), which was taught in a majority English speaking country from the [UKVI approved country list](#), automatically meet the School's English Language requirements.

Please note, 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.

- 2.2 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 for the NHS.
 - 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

3. PROFICIENCY TESTS

- 3.1 The School accepts the following English proficiency tests:
 - [Cambridge Advanced English \(CAE\)](#)

¹ Common European Framework for Languages

² See Section 3.4 for details

- [Cambridge English: Proficiency \(CPE\)](#)
- [IELTS \(Academic\)](#)³
- [Pearson PTE Academic](#)
- [TOEFL Internet Based Test \(IBT\)](#)⁴ – ***not accepted for applicants requiring a student visa.***

- 3.2 Applicants requiring a Student visa are strongly recommended to obtain one of these English proficiency tests, as other tests may not meet the minimum requirements to support a visa application. **Please note however, that TOEFL IBT is not accepted for applicants requiring a student visa to study in the UK.**
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 The School does not combine scores from multiple tests.
- 3.5 The School requires the following minimum proficiency test scores:

	Band A	Band B	Band C
IELTS (Academic)	7.5 overall with 7.0 in each component	7.0 overall with 6.5 in each component	6.5 overall with 6.0 in each component
Cambridge CAE / CPE	191 overall with 185 in each component	185 with 176 in each component	173 with 169 in each component
Pearson PTE Academic	73 overall with 65 in each component	65 with 58 in each component	58 with 50 in each component
TOEFL IBT	110 overall with 27 in each component	100 overall with 26 in each component	90 overall with 22 in each component

** The School will not accept TOEFL IBT from applicants requiring a Student Visa. The School will not consider TOEFL “my best” score results.*

5. ENQUIRIES

- 5.1 Applicants with any queries related to the School’s English language requirements, or the validity of a current English language proficiency test or qualification, should contact our Admissions team: admissions@lshtm.ac.uk.

*Last updated: October 2020
Head of Admissions*

³ IELTS General Training is **NOT** accepted

⁴ Please enter the School’s institution code **0499** on your answer sheet when you take the TOEFL IBT test