



2023-24 Accepted Evidence of English Language Proficiency for Exchange/Erasmus/Study Abroad Students coming to Surrey

All non-native English speakers and some native speakers are required to provide evidence that they meet the English language requirement of their course at the University of Surrey. English language requirements vary between courses – see the Entry Requirements section on each of our [undergraduate](#) / [postgraduate](#) course pages.

Please note that we are unable to accept students on exchange who provide evidence that they do not meet the required English language level for their course. In addition, we must accept your most recent test scores and cannot accept best overall scores.

Students Applying for a Student Visa

Students who are non-native English speakers, coming to Surrey for more than 6 months and/or planning to work part-time whilst studying at Surrey, will need to apply for a Student visa. For the University to issue a Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies (CAS) for your visa application, you must provide one of [our accepted English language qualifications](#) at the required level for your chosen Surrey programme(s) – please check the required level for all programmes in which you are planning to take modules to ensure you meet the highest requirement.

Also, note the exemption for postgraduate students who are nationals of or who, in the last 5 years, have completed a higher education degree in the majority-English speaking countries listed or at a Russell Group university campus outside the UK – for full details see [here](#).

The University reserves the right to ask some native English-speakers for evidence of their high school/secondary school English language qualification before a CAS can be issued.

However, you do not need to prove your knowledge of English for the Student visa if you've completed a qualification equivalent to a UK degree in one of the following countries, or are from one of the following countries:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Antigua and Barbuda | • Jamaica |
| • Australia | • Malta |
| • the Bahamas | • New Zealand |
| • Barbados | • St Kitts and Nevis |
| • Belize | • St Lucia |
| • Dominica | • St Vincent and the Grenadines |
| • Grenada | • Trinidad and Tobago |
| • Guyana | • UK |
| • Ireland | • USA |

You also do not need to prove your knowledge of English for the Student visa if one of the following applies:

- you're a national of Canada
- you're applying to come to the UK for a study abroad programme as part of a university degree course in the USA
- you proved your level of English in a previous visa application

Students Applying for a Standard Visitor visa or coming as a Visitor without a visa

Non-native English speakers coming as Visitors to the UK can also provide one of [our accepted English language qualifications](#) at the highest level required for their chosen Surrey programme(s).



Alternatively, the table below lists alternative evidence of English language proficiency that we can accept from Visitors, when combined with other evidence. It includes other English language qualifications or assessments, as well as country-specific English language high school/secondary school/university entrance exams.

In addition to these, other evidence you could submit with your application could include one or more of the following:

- a formal [CEFR assessment](#) of your 4 skills (reading, writing, listening, speaking) by your home institution's languages department, ideally at C1 level (which equates approximately to IELTS 6.5)
- exam results from a university English course
- evidence that you have been taught in and are doing assessments in English or partially in English for at least a year at higher education level
- an English language entrance exam for your home institution course
- a letter from your home institution confirming that you meet the requirement for your proposed Surrey programme(s)
- proof of a significant period of time spent living or working in a majority English-speaking country
- a bilingual upbringing by a native English-speaking parent

Other English language qualifications				
IELTS (overall) requirement:		6.0	6.5	7.0
	International Baccalaureate English	4 in English A at Higher or Standard Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or 4 in English B at Higher Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or 5 in English B at Standard Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma.	4 in English A at Higher or Standard Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or 4 in English B at Higher Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or 5 in English B at Standard Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma.	5 in English A at Higher or Standard Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or 5 in English B at Higher Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma, or 6 in English B at Standard Level in the International Baccalaureate Diploma.
	European Baccalaureate	6 L1 at 60% or 6 L2 at 70% or 7 L3 at 80% or 8	6.5 L1 at 60% or 6 L2 at 70% or 7 L3 at 80% or 8	7 L1 at 70% or 7 L2 at 80% or 8 L3 at 80% or 8
	Common Framework of Reference (CEFR) formal assessment	B2	High B2 or C1	C1
	LanguageCert International ESOL SELT (English for Speakers of Other Languages)	B2 High Pass C1 Pass At least 33/50 in all four components	B2 High Pass C1 Pass At least 33/50 in all four components	C1 Pass At least 33/50 in all four components
	TOEIC	785-940	900-960	945-965



Country-Specific High School or Lower/Upper Secondary School English language exam scores/grades				
IELTS (overall) requirement		6.0	6.5	7.0
Austria	Matura / Reifeprüfung	Grade 2 (gut) when both written and oral exams have been taken	Grade 2 (gut) when both written and oral exams have been taken	Grade 2 (gut) when both written and oral exams have been taken
Belgium	Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur (CESS) / Diploma van secundair onderwijs (DSO)	8 / 80% or Grote avec grande distinction	8 / 80% or Grote avec grande distinction	8 / 80% or Grote avec grande distinction
Canada	Alberta			75% in English Language Arts 30-1 or 70% in English Language Arts 30-2
	British Columbia			70% in English 12 or 70% in English Literature 12
	Manitoba			75% in ELA 40S/C or 70% in ELA 40U
	Ontario			75% in ENG4C or 70% in ENG4U
	Quebec			Not accepted
China	National College Entrance Examination (NCEE) or popularly known as gaokao	CET-4 – 500 to 530	CET-4 – 500 to 530	CET 4 - 530
	OR			
	The National College English Test (CET)	CET 6 – 470 TO 500	CET 6 – 470 TO 500	CET 6 - 500
Czech Republic	Matura	Grade 2	Grade 2	Grade 2
Denmark	Bevis for Studentereksamen	Grade 7	Grade 7	Grade 10
Finland	Ylioppilastutkinto/Studentexamen	Grade 5 (magna cum laude approbatur)	Grade 5 (magna cum laude approbatur)	Grade 5 (magna cum laude approbatur)
France	L'Option International English (OIB)	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 12
	Baccalauréat General	Grade 14 (bien)	Grade 14 (bien)	Grade 14 (bien)
Germany	Abitur, English	12 (gut) Leistungskurse; 13 (sehr gut) Grundkurse when taken as an achievement/ main/intensive course and examined in Abitur	12 (gut) Leistungskurse; 13 (sehr gut) Grundkurse when taken as an achievement/ main/intensive course and examined in Abitur	13 (sehr gut) Leistungskurse; 14 (sehr gut) Grundkurse when taken as an achievement/ main/intensive course and examined in Abitur
Greece	Apolytirion of Geniko Lykeio	17	17	18
Hong Kong	HKDSE	Grade 4	Grade 4	Grade 5
	HKAL	C	C	B
	HKCEE	Taken pre-2007 – C; Taken post-2007 – 3	Taken pre-2007 – C; Taken post-2007 – 3	Taken pre 2007 – B; Taken post-2007 – 4
Hungary	Matura	Grade 2	Grade 2	Grade 2



Country-Specific High School or Lower/Upper Secondary School English language exam scores/grades				
IELTS (overall) requirement		6.0	6.5	7.0
India	National Board Standard XII (from CBSE/ISC boards)	70%	70%	80%
	State Board Standard XII (Excluding Andhra Pradesh/Telangana/U.P/Bihar/ Gujrat/Punjab)	80%	80%	90%
Italy	Diploma di Esame di Stato (formerly Diploma di Maturità)	80% in English as a second language	80% in English as a second language	90% in English as a second language
Japan	Upper-Secondary School English exam	3	3	3
	National Center Test for University Admission (to 2020)			
	The Common Test for University Admissions (2021 onwards)	C-B or 60-79% Average-Good	C-B or 60-79% Average-Good	C-B or 60-79% Average-Good
Luxembourg	Diplôme de Fin d'Études Secondaires	45 (bien)	45 (bien)	45 (bien)
Korea, Republic	College Scholastic Ability Test (CSAT) – English section (100 points)			
	Test of English Proficiency (TEPS)	3+	2	2
Malaysia	Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) English Language GCE-O (Syllabus 1119)	6C or C	4B or B	1A or A
	Malaysian University English Test (MUET)	4.5	4.5	5
Netherlands	VWO, English	Grade 7	Grade 8	Grade 8
New Zealand	National Certificate of Educational Achievement (NCEA)	Level 3 at Merit	Level 3 at Merit	Level 3 at Excellence
Norway	Vitnemål - videregående opplæring (VVO)	Grade 4	Grade 5	Grade 5
Poland	Matura, Extended Level English language	70%	75%	80%
Singapore	Singapore/Cambridge GCE O-Level	C	C	B
	Secondary Four English Language or Language Arts (for IP students)	C or CAP 2.0	C or CAP 2.0	B or CAP 3.0
	National University of Singapore Diploma	B (grade point 3.5)	B (grade point 3.5)	A (grade point 4.5)
Spain	Título de Bachillerato (or Curso de Orientación Universitaria / COU)	8/10 in English as a second language	8/10 in English as a second language	9/10 in English as a second language
Sri Lanka	O-level in English	Credit	Credit	Distinction
Sweden	Slutbetyg från Komvux / Fullständigt från Gymnasieskolan, English	C/VG (val godkant)	C/VG (val godkant)	B/VG (val godkant)
		English 6 at grade C	English 6 at grade C	English 7 at grade C
Switzerland	Certificat de Maturité / Maturitätsausweis / Attestato di Maturità	Grade 4 (gut/bien/bene)	Grade 5 (gut/bien/bene)	Grade 5 (gut/bien/bene)