

ENGLISH LANGUAGE POLICY

THIS DOCUMENT OUTLINES FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS.

English Language Proficiency

All programmes at Falmouth University are taught and assessed in the medium of English. Therefore, all applicants must demonstrate they possess at least a minimum standard of English language proficiency. This document sets out our requirements.

Students requiring a Tier 4 visa to study in the UK

In addition to the University's own English language proficiency requirements, the UK Home Office sets its own minimum standards for applicants requiring a visa to study in the UK. Falmouth University's institutional English language requirements encompass Home Office requirements.

Applicants to courses taught at below degree level must obtain a satisfactory IELTS (Academic) result taken at a UKVI-approved test centre (a list of such centres can be found below and on the IELTS web site).

- [List of approved tests and providers.](#)

As a university with Tier 4 'Track Record' status, Falmouth University is permitted to make our own English language assessment (within Home Office minimum requirements) for study at degree-level and above, which enables us to accept non UKVI approved IELTS Academic Tests, and most other tests listed as being accepted institutionally. The exception to this is TOEFL, which is not accepted for Tier 4 students.

English language tests

Falmouth University accepts the following English language tests for undergraduate courses

- Qualifications equivalent to IELTS 6.0 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
- IELTS Academic: 6.0 overall (minimum 5.5 in each skill)
- Cambridge English scale: 169
- Pearson Academic 55 (minimum 51 in all four components)
- IGCSE Grade C or above

- Singapore Cambridge O-Level English Grade C
- International Baccalaureate English (Min Grade 5 standard or Grade 4 higher level)
- Trinity ISE II with *Distinction* in all four components
- TOEFL iBT 80 (minimum 19 in all four components) (NOT TIER 4)
- BULATS 70
- Norwegian Vitnemal English Grade 4 or above
- INTO IEA 169 (minimum 162 in all four components)

Falmouth University accepts the following English language tests for postgraduate courses

- Qualifications equivalent to IELTS 6.5 on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
- IELTS Academic: 6.5 overall (minimum 6.0 in each skill)
- Cambridge English Scale: 176
- Pearson Academic 60 (with minimum 55 in all four components)
- Trinity ISE III with Pass in all four components
- TOEFL iBT 88 (minimum of 21 in all four components) (NOT TIER 4)
- BULATS 75

English tests must have been taken within the last two years prior to the start date of the course. Applicants whose tests fall outside this timescale will either need to demonstrate how they have kept their English current since the date of the test or retake a suitable English language test.

Additionally, the University will not normally insist upon an applicant providing any further evidence of their English language ability if (s)he has recently taken one of the following qualifications to at least the standard indicated (some programmes may require applicants to demonstrate a higher standard where their usual English language proficiency requirements are higher), within the last 2 years.

a) UK qualifications

GCSE in English or English Language	Grade C or Grade 4, or above
A Level or AS Level English Language or English Language and Literature	Grade C or above
GCE O-Level in English Language	Grade C or above
International O-Level in English	Grade C or above
SQA Scottish Standard Grade in English	Grade 3 or above
SQA Scottish Intermediate 2 or National 5 English	Grade C or above
SQA Scottish Higher/Advanced Higher Grade in English.	Grade C or above

b) European qualifications

As listed on our website: <https://www.falmouth.ac.uk/international/qualifications>

c) International qualifications

As listed on our website: <https://www.falmouth.ac.uk/international/qualifications>

d) Other means of assessing English language proficiency

- Applicants who have successfully completed a degree taught and assessed in English in the two years preceding the date of first enrolment at Falmouth University will be considered for admission.
- Applicants in possession of such a degree completed more than two years, but not more than five years, preceding the date of first enrolment at Falmouth University will be considered on a case by case basis to assess whether they have sufficient evidence demonstrating their proficiency at the appropriate standard in each skill area (listening, speaking, reading and writing). We may request additional evidence that they have maintained their use of academic English sufficiently since their degree.

VERSION CONTROL

PURPOSE/CHANGE	AUTHOR	DATE
Approval of policy at Academic Board	Applicant Services	02/10/2020