

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

This document sets out the policy for FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY'S ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS.

ORGANISATION: FALMOUTH UNIVERSITY

APPLIES TO: STUDENTS

POLICY OWNED BY: DAVID MCCARRON

APPROVED BY: Academic Board

DATE APPROVED: 22 OCTOBER 2025

REVIEW DATE: WEDNESDAY, 14 OCTOBER 2026

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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 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 Universities 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 Student Visa '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.

English language tests

The tests that Falmouth University accepts for both Undergraduate and Postgraduate study can be found on our website: <https://www.falmouth.ac.uk/study/international/english-language-requirements>

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, English Language requirements can also be met if one of the following qualifications have been completed in the last 5 years to at least the standard indicated, evidence of this will be required. Some programmes may require applicants to demonstrate a higher standard where their usual English language proficiency requirements are higher.

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) International qualifications

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

c) 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.