

English language requirements guidance

In order to be granted a Skilled Worker Visa, you must meet the English language requirement. Only **one** of the following needs to be applicable to meet the requirement, but please note that these are the **only** means by which it is possible to meet the English language requirement:

1. Exemptions

You are exempt from meeting the English language requirement if you:

- Are aged 65 and over;
- Aged under 18;
- Have a disability (physical or mental condition) which prevents you from meeting the requirement.

2. National of an English speaking country

You will automatically meet the English language requirement if you are a citizen of one of the following countries:

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Australia
- The Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Canada
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Guyana
- Jamaica
- New Zealand
- Malta
- St Kitts and Nevis
- St Lucia
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United States of America

3. Previous grant of visa for the UK

You will automatically meet the English language requirement if you previously met the English language requirement (e.g. Tier 2 or Tier 4/Student visas) as part of a previous successful visa application.

4. Passed an approved English language test at the required level

The full list of approved tests can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/prove-your-english-language-abilities-with-a-secure-english-language-test-selt#approved-test-providers-and-approved-tests>

5. Awarded a degree taught in English

It is possible to meet the English language requirements by holding at least a Bachelor's degree, but this will depend on **firstly**, whether it was taught in English, and **secondly** is recognised by the National Academic Recognition Information Centre for the UK (UK NARIC) as equivalent to at least a UK bachelor's degree.

The guidance below will assist you in determining what evidence/procedure you need to follow to prove your degree meets English Language requirements:

Country in which degree was awarded	Evidence Required
UK	The degree certificate, a transcript or letter confirming the qualification has been awarded
Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, Malta, New Zealand, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America	<p>Where the degree was taught in one of these countries, it will <u>always</u> be assumed by UKVI to have been taught in English.</p> <p>However, the individual must use the Visas and Nationality service (English proficiency) service to verify the degree is equivalent at least a UK bachelor's degree:</p> <p>http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You do not need to also use the NARIC Visas and Nationality service (PhD verification), which is used for a different aspect of the SWV route
Rest of the World	<p>If the degree was awarded in any other country, the individual must use the Visas and Nationality service (English proficiency) service to verify the degree was taught in English and is equivalent at least a UK bachelor's degree:</p> <p>http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You do not need to also use the NARIC Visas and Nationality service (PhD verification), which is used for a different aspect of the SWV route

