

## English language requirements guidance

In order to be granted a Tier 2 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. 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
- St Kitts and Nevis
- St Lucia
- St Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago
- United States of America

### 2. Previous grant of leave in the UK

You will automatically meet the English language requirement if you already hold one of the following types of visa:

- Any Tier 1 visa
- Tier 2 (General)
- Tier 2 (Minister of Religion)
- Tier 4 – **but only** if your CAS was assigned to you on or after 21 April 2011. You **must** check this before submitting your application.

### 3. Passed an approved English language test at the required level

The required level for an English language test is **minimum B1**.

For visa applications made **outside the UK**, the following are approved tests:

- IELTS for UKVI: <https://www.ielts.org/what-is-ielts/ielts-for-migration/united-kingdom>
- Pearson PTE Academic for UKVI: <https://pearsonpte.com/pte-academic-ukvi/>
- LanguageCert: <https://www.languagecert.org/uk-visa-exams>

For visa applications made **inside the UK**, the following are approved tests:

- IELTS for UKVI: <https://www.ielts.org/what-is-ielts/ielts-for-migration/united-kingdom>
- The Trinity College London test: <https://www.trinitycollege.com/site/?id=3218>
- Pearson PTE Academic for UKVI: <https://pearsonpte.com/pte-academic-ukvi/>

- LanguageCert: <https://www.languagecert.org/uk-visa-exams>

#### 4. 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 <b>original</b> degree award letter/certificate  |
| Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland, Jamaica, New Zealand, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America | 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.<br><br><b>However</b> , the individual must use the <b>UK NARIC Visas and Immigration service</b> to verify the degree is equivalent at least a UK bachelor’s degree:<br><br><a href="http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality/">http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality/</a> |
| Rest of the World   | If the degree was awarded in any other country, the individual must use the <b>UK NARIC Visas and Immigration service</b> to verify the degree was taught in English <b>and</b> is equivalent at least a UK bachelor’s degree:<br><br><a href="http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality/">http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality/</a>  |

#### Further Guidance

For full details of how to meet the English language requirement, please see the Tier 2 applicant policy guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-application-for-uk-visa-as-tier-2-worker>