

**UNSW ENGLISH LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS**

***Approved Academic Board 5 November 2002***

***RESOLVED AB02/114***

At its meeting of 5 November 2002, the Academic Board considered the recommendations of the Policy Advisory Committee meeting of 15 October 2002 and

***RESOLVED AB02/114***

That the Academic Board approves with effect from 1 January 2004:

1. That Academic Board Resolutions AB00/97 and AB02/70 be rescinded.
2. All applicants for admission to a UNSW undergraduate or postgraduate program either in Australia or overseas whose first language is not English must provide evidence that their English language ability meets the requirements for admission.
3. The acceptable tests of English language competence are the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS), the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the Combined Universities Language Test (CULT), the University English Entry Course (UEEC), and the UNSW Foundation Year Academic English and Studies Skills (FY Academic English). The test must have been taken within the 2 years prior to commencement of the UNSW program.
4. Applicants whose first language is not English who have undertaken a degree or other post-secondary program of a minimum of 1 year full-time duration in which English was the sole language of instruction will not be required to undertake an English language test if the program was undertaken within the 2 years prior to commencement of the UNSW program.
5. Students presenting IELTS results must have undertaken the academic test modules. The minimum overall score for entry to all UNSW undergraduate and postgraduate programs from 1 January 2004 is 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each of the academic test modules of reading, writing, listening and speaking.
6. The minimum scores for students who have undertaken another accepted test are:
  - TOEFL (paper-based test)  
An overall score of at least 577 with a Test of Written English (TWE) score of at least 5.0.
  - TOEFL (computer-based test)  
An overall score of at least 233 with a score of at least 5.0 in the essay component.
  - CULT  
An overall score of at least 70 with a minimum of 17.0 in each of the 4 sub-tests of reading, writing, listening and speaking.

UEEC

An overall score of at least C+ (grade point = 70) with a minimum score of 20 in the writing component.

FY Academic English

An overall score of at least C+.

7. English requirements can be waived in certain circumstances. The procedures to be followed are set out in 8. and 9. below. A program authority considering a waiver must be aware that students from Assessment level 3 or 4 countries [DIMIA classification] must present an IELTS test result and achieve an overall score of 6.0 in order to be granted a student visa for university level study. This restriction does not currently apply to students from Assessment level 1 or 2 countries. Details of the DIMIA requirements and the Assessment level of countries can be found at [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au).
8. The procedure for granting waivers of the English proficiency requirements for students will require: The program authority to justify the waiver in writing; the justification for the waiver to be forwarded to the Manager, Admissions Office, for liaison with the Presiding Member of the relevant Faculty Board; and the approval of the waiver by the Presiding Member to be subject to compliance with the ***Migration Regulation*** and the ***National Code***.
9. In cases where a student is being considered for a waiver, he/she must have achieved an overall IELTS score of at least 6.0 or a TOEFL score (paper-based test) of at least 550, with a minimum score of 4.5 in the TWE or a TOEFL score (computer-based test) of at least 213, with a minimum score of 4.5 in the essay component. When waivers include a requirement to undertake English language improvement or support, then the program authority is responsible for costs associated with this improvement or support whether this is provided by the Learning Centre, UNSWIL, or the Faculty's own program.

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