

English language requirements guidance for Tier 2

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 full list of approved tests can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applying-for-uk-visa-approved-english-language-tests>

- You must sit and pass an approved test and score at least 'B1' in reading, writing, speaking and listening. **For IELTS tests**, you can take either the 'General' or 'Academic' version of the test for UKVI purposes.

- **English language test results awarded before 5 April 2015 are no longer valid for submission.** Therefore a new test would be required prior to making an application.

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 original 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	<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 UK NARIC Visas and Immigration service to verify the degree is equivalent at least a UK bachelor's degree:</p> <p>http://www.naric.org.uk/visasandnationality/</p>
Rest of the World	<p>If the degree was awarded in any other country, the individual must use the UK NARIC Visas and Immigration 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>

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>