

# English Language Proficiency Policy

Clause 1.1 of the Standards for RTOs says

The RTO's training and assessment strategies and practices, including the amount of training they provide, are consistent with the requirements of training packages and VET accredited courses and enable each learner to meet the requirements for each unit of competency or module in which they are enrolled.

In order to enable learners to full the unit requirements, SIA has determined a minimum English language proficiency level for all students.

This policy describes SIA guidelines and procedures for determining English language proficiency.

## Policy and procedure

1. General English / ELICOS courses have no minimum English language entry requirement
2. All SIA VET courses unless otherwise noted in their respective Training and Assessment Strategies (TAS) have an entry requirement of IELTS 5.5 or equivalent
3. Acceptable equivalencies to the benchmark of IELTS 5.5 are listed in Schedule A
4. English proficiency tests are valid for a period of two years from the date of test.
5. An English proficiency test is not required in the following circumstances, and with the following conditions
  - a. Applicants holding a passport from one of the countries listed in Schedule B, provided a SIA LLN test is completed according to the SIA LLN Policy
  - b. Applicants who have studied an AQF qualification in Australia where
    - i. The medium of instruction was English, and
    - ii. At least 50% of the qualification has been successfully completed, and
    - iii. The AQF level was Certificate IV or higher, and
    - iv. The studies were completed within the last two years, and
    - v. The mode of instructions was face-to face, and
    - vi. Unit of competency outcomes do not include RPL or Credit transfer, and
    - vii. The applicant takes a SIA LLN test according to the SIA LLN Policy
  - c. Applicants who have completed the Senior Certificate of Education in Australia where
    - i. The medium of instruction was English, and
    - ii. The applicant takes a SIA LLN test according to the SIA LLN Policy

## Schedule A

Equivalencies to IELTS 5.5

Test	Score	Reference
IELTS	5.5	
PTE Academic	36	<a href="https://www.pearsonpte.com/scoring/score-comparison">https://www.pearsonpte.com/scoring/score-comparison</a>
Cambridge Assessment English (CAE)	162	<a href="https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/images/461626-cambridge-english-qualifications-comparing-scores-to-ielts.pdf">https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/images/461626-cambridge-english-qualifications-comparing-scores-to-ielts.pdf</a>
TOEFL iBT	46	<a href="https://www.ets.org/toefl/score-users/scores-admissions/compare/">https://www.ets.org/toefl/score-users/scores-admissions/compare/</a>

## Schedule B

Passport country
UK
USA
Canada
New Zealand
Republic of Ireland

Reference: <https://immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/english-language/competent-english>