



## English Language Requirements

In order to undertake an exchange programme at the University of Birmingham, Study Abroad and Exchange students will need to demonstrate a suitable level of English proficiency.

To assess the student's English language level we will look at the following:

### 1. Nationals from EU / EEA and Switzerland

- For students from our European partners who do not need a VISA to come to the UK, we will consider the English level achieved by the student at the end of his/her secondary education as long as the qualification is listed in the Country Specific Table below.
- COUNTRY SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS ACCEPTED AS PROOF OF ENGLISH LEVEL:

Partner Country	Qualification	Minimum score/grade required in 'English'
<b>Austria</b>	Matura/Reifeprüfung	2 (written and oral)
<b>Belgium</b>	Getuigschrift Van Hoger Secundair Onderwijs/ Certificat d'Enseignement Secondaire Supérieur/ Abschlusszeugnis der Oberstufe des Sekundarunterrichts	7.5 or 75%
<b>Denmark</b>	Studentereksamen	10
<b>Finland</b>	Ylioppilastutkinto/ Studentexamen	5
<b>France</b>	Baccalauréat	14/20
<b>Germany</b>	Abitur	10
<b>Netherlands</b>	Voorbereidend wetenschappelijk onderwijs (vwo)	8
<b>Norway</b>	Vitnemål fra den Videregående Skole	3
<b>Spain</b>	"6/10 in English Language I in the European Baccalureat or 8/10 in English Language II in the European Baccalaureate"	8
<b>Sweden</b>	Fullständigt Slutbetyg från Gymnasieskolan/ Slutbetyg från Komvux/ Avgangsbetyg	15 / C
<b>Switzerland</b>	Certificat de Maturité Federale / Maturitätszeugnis/ Attestato Di Maturità	5



**Only qualifications listed in the Country Specific Table are accepted as sufficient proof of the required level of English.**

- Should the country or qualification not be listed in the Country Specific Table above, or the student not have the required English grade, we can also accept an official certificate produced by the home institution. The B2 Certificate must be signed by the student's academic tutor, certifying that the student's standard of English is equivalent to the minimum of the B2 level based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. It must be produced on the home institution's letterhead and uploaded together with the application. **The B2 certificate is acceptable for nationals from EU / EEA and Switzerland only.**
- Students who do not fall under any of the above categories must provide an **Approved English test** (e.g. IELTS or TOEFL). Details of all accepted qualifications are available at <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/requirements/international/index.aspx>
- No proof of English language proficiency is required from Irish nationals.
- As part of the nomination process, the institution will confirm the English level of the student on the nomination form.

## 2. Non-EU nationals (except EEA countries and Switzerland)

- If the nationality of the student is from a recognised **English Speaking Country (as defined by the UKVI)**, no proof of English language proficiency is required. Canadian Nationals are an exception: although Canada is not listed as an English Speaking Country by the UKVI, we do not need a proof of English unless the student is taught in French. In this case a high school certificate should be submitted to demonstrate the student's English language proficiency.

The full list of UKVI English Speaking countries is available at <https://www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa/knowledge-of-english>

- Singapore nationals are an exception: although English is widely spoken in Singapore, it is not listed as an English Speaking Country by the UKVI. This means we do need a proof of English from the students' but this can be their O Level, A Level or Integrated Programme certificate from the student's pre-university education to demonstrate the student's English language proficiency.
- If the nationality of the student is from a country outside the UKVI list, the student must provide an **Approved English test** (e.g. IELTS or TOEFL). Details of all accepted qualifications, including some country specific qualifications, are available at <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/requirements/international/index.aspx>



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- If the nationality of the student is from a country outside the UKVI list but they are studying at a partner university in a recognised **English Speaking Country (as defined by the UKVI)**, excluding students taught in French in Canada – then the below applies:
  - a student that is applying for a full year placement and will apply for a TIER 4 visa, will need to prove their English language proficiency by providing an acceptable qualification listed here:  
<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/undergraduate/requirements/international/index.aspx>
  - a student that is applying for a one semester placement and will be on a Short Term Study Visa, will not need to prove their English language proficiency.