

Assessing English Language Proficiency of International Student

PURPOSE

Policy #4.11

Adequate English language ability is central to a student's chances of success in their chosen course. This policy sets out the English language proficiency requirements and assessment for admission to all AFTT's vocational courses.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all international applicants seeking entry into any program delivered by AFTT.

The processes and procedures outlined in this document are monitored by JMC as part of the Service Level Agreement held with AFTT.

DEFINITIONS

For definitions not listed here please refer to AFTT's Glossary.

POLICY

1.1 KEY REQUIREMENTS

To ensure students are sufficiently competent in the English language to participate effectively in their studies, AFTT's International Services Division will:

- Establish English language proficiency requirements in accordance with the specifications of external accreditation bodies, and in accordance with the program content.
- Ensure students applying for admission are able to demonstrate each of the English language skills (reading, writing, speaking and listening) at a level required for admission to the relevant course.
- Recognise that students have an adequate level of English to enable them to successfully engage with the academic content of the course or program.

1.2 MONITORING, REVIEW AND ASSURANCE

The Director of International Services is required to monitor the academic performance of international students and, where necessary, propose changes to English proficiency requirements and support.

Proposed changes are first presented to the Campus Manager and the Chief Executive Officer.

PROCEDURE

The Academy of Film, Theatre & Television's (AFTT) core English proficiency requirement for international students is that they satisfy the minimum English test levels specified below. Alternatives are also listed below.

1. English Test Score Requirements

IELTS	Overall score of 5.5 with no single band score below 5.0
TOEFL	iBT: 59 overall; minimum 17 in Writing
Pearson English Test	PTE: 46
Cambridge English Test	CAE with no band below 162

2. Alternative Evidence: Pathway courses

Students may evidence successful completion of, or achieving a minimum standard, a pre-academic English courses delivered by one of AFTT's pathway provider partners. Please contact us for more details about the courses required at each institution.

Ability Education

ELS Universal English College

Embassy English

English Language Company

Holmes English Language College

ILSC Education Group

International House Sydney

Langports English Language College

Macquarie Education Group Australia (MEGA)

Navitas English

3. Alternative Evidence: Other

AFTT also recognizes the following as having satisfied the normal English proficiency requirements for admission to our courses:

- Completion of one year of full-time tertiary study in an English-speaking country or where the language of instruction was English
- Completion of one year of full-time study in a tertiary education program in Australia where the minimum entry requirement was evidenced to be an overall IELTS band score of not less than 5.0 (or equivalent)
- Completion of the final two years of senior high school in an English-speaking country or where the language of instruction was English
- Program-specific alternatives. Please refer to the table below. These alternatives are reviewed at the time of application.

Program	English language requirements
GCE A Levels	C grade or better in the General Paper
International Baccalaureate (IB)	Completion of IB program where the language of instruction was in English OR where the language of instruction was not in English, completion of English A2 or A1

1.3 VERIFICATION OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY RESULTS

The AFTT International Admissions and Inquiries Officer uses the ielts.ucles.org.uk portal to verify all IELTS results and ETS online TOEFL score verification system.

If English requirements have been met by participating in an English for Academic Purposes course delivered by an ELICOS package partner they are required to confirm that the student has satisfied all requirements of the pathway course.

1.4 STUDENT INTERVIEWS

The AFTT International Admissions and Inquiries Officer interviews all applicants who have entered the admissions process by video facility, such as Skype, or in person. This process gives AFTT an additional opportunity to check students' English verbal and aural proficiency. If, despite evidencing satisfactory English proficiency in an internationally benchmarked test, the student displays difficulty communicating in English, they will be referred to an ELICOS pathway partner for further testing. Interview details are noted on an Interview Form.

1.5 STRATEGIES TO ENSURE ENGLISH TESTING RESULTS WERE NOT FRAUDULENTLY OBTAINED

The AFTT International Admissions and Inquiries Officer conducts the following:

- Cross-check passport and IELTS results photos (online and on paper results),
- Checking language proficiency in the mandatory interview,
- Conducting all interviews on Skype or in person.

1.6 ACTION WHERE FRAUD IS DETECTED

In such cases two course of action are taken:

- The applicant will not be offered a place in AFTT,
- We will report the fraud to DoHA within five (5) business days.

1.7 ARRANGEMENTS FOR ENSURING THAT ENGLISH TEST SCORES ARE RECORDED ON THE CoE

IELTS scores are recorded on the CoE in the appropriate place. Test scores other than IELTS, such as those from ELICOS pathway course graduates and other measures of English proficiency, are identified on the CoE as: "Student meets alternative English language requirements."

1.8 STRATEGIES TO ENSURE THAT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CONTINUE TO DEVELOP ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY DURING THEIR STUDIES.

All international students are initially placed on AFTT's Support and Intervention Strategy (Refer to Academic Progression Policy). This strategy seeks to identify in the early part of a student's course any language difficulties or other learning obstacles that may impact on their ability to succeed in their course of study. Any identified language obstacles are then initially addressed through consultation sessions with a **nominated** Academic Support Officer as part of a Transition and Intervention Strategy. AFTT Academic and Admin team members will endeavour to provide substantial remedial support to struggling students and to regularly deliver learning support workshops.

International students who fail to overcome language difficulties after participating in one-on-one academic support sessions may then be referred to part-time ELICOS programs outside of the Academy. In extreme cases AFTT will consider suspending the student's enrolment for one (1) term while they undertake full-time English for Academic Purposes study.

COMPLAINTS and APPEALS

Students may access the Student Complaints and Appeals Policy – and its associated procedures – at any time, against any decisions prescribed in this policy.

POSITIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR IMPLEMENTING POLICY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Inquiries and Admissions Officer` • Director of International Services • Chief Executive Officer • Course Directors • Campus Manager 	
RELATED DOCUMENTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AFTT Policy_2.15_Academic Progression 	
RELATED LEGISLATION	
<p>This Policy supports AFTT's compliance with the following legislation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education Services for Overseas Students (ESOS) Act 2000 (Cth), • National Code of Practice for Registration Authorities and Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ ESOS National Code 2018 Part B, Standard 2 	