

Ashton College English Language Requirements

To enrol in Ashton College VET courses, applicants are required to provide evidence of their English language ability. Students must have a proficient level of English in order to undertake studies in a course through English.

English language ability may be determined by satisfactory standard achieved from:

- English language test scores (refer to the table 1 below)
- Ashton College Pre-Entry Placement Test
- English Language exemptions (refer to Section 2 below)

Applicants with insufficient ability in English language may be required to undertake an ELICOS program (English Language Intensive Courses for International Students) at Ashton College.

The Ashton College pre-entry placement test must be completed by every student at Orientation to determine/confirm their English Language ability. For students wishing to enrol directly into ELICOS, it is used to determine which level they will undertake.

For direct entry to most Certificate, Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses, the following language standards may apply as shown in the table below:

1. Table: English language test score

English language test providers	Minimum test score	Minimum test score where combined with at least 10 weeks ELICOS	Minimum test score where combined with at least 20 weeks ELICOS
International English Language Testing System	5.5	5	4.5
*Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) paper based	527	500	450
TOEFL internet based test	46	35	32
Cambridge English: Advanced (Certificate in Advanced English)	162	154	147
Pearson Test of English Academic	42	36	30
Occupational English Test	Pass**	N/A	N/A

*The TOEFL paper-based test will only be accepted from limited countries

**The Occupational English Test includes a mark between A and E. An A or B is considered a pass.

The applicable test must have been undertaken no more than two years before you apply for your student visa.

2. English language exemptions

If one of the following applies, you do not need to provide evidence of an English test score with your visa application:

- you are enrolled in full-time school studies as a principal course including in a secondary exchange programme, a postgraduate research course, a standalone English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students (ELICOS), and Foreign Affairs or Defence sponsored students.
- you have completed at least five years' study in one or more of the following countries: Australia, UK, USA, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, or the Republic of Ireland.
- you are a citizen and hold a passport from UK, USA, Canada, NZ or Republic of Ireland.
- in the last two years, you completed, in Australia and in the English language, either the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education or a substantial component of a course leading to a qualification from the Australian Qualifications Framework at the Certificate IV or higher level, while you held a student visa.

Australian migration rules are based on Assessment Level (degree of safety) assigned to every immigrant nationality that goes from level 1 to level 4. The higher the Assessment Level means it can be difficult to get a visa. For further information, please visit Department of Home Affairs website at <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/trav/visa-1/500>. However, for Assessment Level 1 countries, you may not be asked to provide evidence of English Language with your Visa Application.

You must still take the Ashton College pre-entry placement test at Orientation. It is used as a guide to determine the level of language, literacy and numeracy required for competent performance.

3. ELICOS pathways for overseas students

For Assessment Level 1 and Assessment Level 2 applicants who do not meet the minimum English Language requirement for direct entry to VET programs, you are required to undertake an English Language Intensive Course Overseas Student (ELICOS) program from 10 weeks – 50 weeks.

For Assessment Level 3 and Assessment Level 4 applicants, if packaging, must demonstrate the English Language prior packaging with ELICOS and VET courses.

Note: Changing your course duration and eCOE may affect your student visa. Please seek advice from the Department of Home Affairs as to how it may affect your student visa or speak to one of our student support staff.

For further course information, fees and how to enrol; please visit our website www.ashtoncollege.edu.au.

4. Entry requirements for mature students

Special entry for mature-aged students (over 18 years of age) is also available and will be considered based on previous study, employment skills and/or your work experience. Please refer to Recognition of prior learning/credit transfer policy on Ashton College website or contact our staff for more information.

www.ashtoncollege.edu.au