

UK immigration changes for EU, EEA and Swiss nationals

English requirements from January 2021



With our qualifications and tests EU, EEA and Swiss nationals can still:

study in the UK

work in the UK

live in the UK



What is the SELT list?

- A list of Secure English Language Tests – UKVI approved list of tests and providers
- The SELTs are taken by people who need to demonstrate their English language skills to obtain British Citizenship, Settlement or a visa for work or study

Remember: A SELT is not always needed (or accepted) when applying for a visa in the UK – it depends on purpose and organisation or institution

SELT Providers

- IELTS SELT Consortium (UK or overseas)
- LanguageCert (UK or overseas)
- Trinity College London (UK only)
- Pearson (UK and overseas)

The approved IELTS SELT Consortium tests are:

- IELTS for UKVI
- Life Skills

The approved LanguageCert tests are:

- LanguageCert International ESOL SELT
- LanguageCert International ESOL SELT (Speaking and Listening)

The approved Trinity College London tests are:

- Integrated Skills in English (ISE)
- Graded Examinations in Spoken English (GESE)

The approved Pearson tests are:

- Pearson PTE Academic UKVI
- Pearson PTE Home

Undergraduate and postgraduate study

Very little change to English language requirements

- Higher education institutions, which are visa 'Licensed Sponsors', can choose how to assess a student's English
- Cambridge English Qualifications C1 Advanced and C2 Proficiency can still be used for both admissions and visa purposes
- These in-depth qualifications help students prove their skills and offer the best possible preparation

Please check the website of your chosen institution/course for full details about their requirements and how to apply.

If an applicant already has an IELTS certificate, this may also be sufficient, as all UK universities accept IELTS as proof of English ability.

IELTS is produced by Cambridge Assessment English and delivered with our partners British Council and IDP: IELTS Australia.



Foundation, pathway and other courses below degree level

Students may need a Secure English Language Test (SELT) to support their visa application

- Students should check this with the institution directly
- If the institution requires a SELT, we recommend IELTS for UKVI
- Students must achieve CEFR Level B1 in each skill (4.0 to 5.0 score in IELTS)
- IELTS for UKVI is designed to meet the requirements of the UK Home Office and is taken at a UKVI approved test centre

Please check the website of your chosen institution/course for full details about their requirements and how to apply.

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Working in the UK (non-healthcare professionals)

From January 2021, EU citizens who want to work in the UK will need a visa

- A Secure English Language Test (SELT) is required to support their visa application
- IELTS for UKVI is a Secure English Language Test, recognised for all categories of UK visa
- Skilled worker applicants must achieve CEFR Level B1 in each skill (4.0 to 5.0 score in IELTS)

A SELT is **not** needed if:

- you plan to study at undergraduate level, or above
- you are sponsored as a doctor, dentist, nurse or midwife
- you are a national of a majority English-speaking country
- you have an academic degree taught in English
- you have met the required level in a previously successful immigration application

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Working as a healthcare professional in the UK

Very little change to English language requirements

- Doctors, nurses and midwives can use OET or IELTS to prove their English language proficiency
- Choosing OET or IELTS means only one test is needed for both professional registration and visa purposes

Please check the website of your chosen professional registration body for full details.

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Useful links

Our website: [**cambridgeenglish.org/visas-and-immigration/uk**](https://cambridgeenglish.org/visas-and-immigration/uk)

IELTS for UKVI: [**ielts.org/what-is-ielts/ielts-for-migration/united-kingdom**](https://ielts.org/what-is-ielts/ielts-for-migration/united-kingdom)

OET: [**occupationalenglishtest.org**](https://occupationalenglishtest.org)

UK Visas and Immigration: [**gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration**](https://gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-visas-and-immigration)

Student route: [**gov.uk/study-uk-student-visa**](https://gov.uk/study-uk-student-visa)

Child student route: [**gov.uk/child-study-visa**](https://gov.uk/child-study-visa)

Short-term study visa: [**gov.uk/study-visit-visa**](https://gov.uk/study-visit-visa)

Standard visitor visa: [**gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa**](https://gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa)

UKCISA: [**ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice**](https://ukcisa.org.uk/Information--Advice)

