ENGLISH LANGAUGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS ENTERING VOCATIONAL COURSES – POLICY AND PROCEDURE

Purpose

MEGT Education Group takes steps to ensure students entering vocational courses have the relevant and required prerequisite qualifications and ability to successfully communicate with teachers and fellow students, and to undertake and complete their course.

The Institute considers it is vital to have reliable and objective English language proficiency information about prospective students and has implemented this policy and procedures to assist in appropriately assessing these skills.

This policy applies to all international students enrolling in MEGT Education Group vocational education programs.

This policy ensures that the MEGT Education Group is compliant with Standard 2.2 of The National Code 2007 and the DIAC requirements for student visas.

PROCEDURE

Approvals

Student Admissions will consider and approve applicants based on English Language proficiency evidence supplied in accordance with this policy.

The required IELTS proficiency level or equivalent must be demonstrated in accordance with the course entry requirements specified by MEGT Education Group providers, subject to exemptions or special circumstances outlined in this policy.

International applicants may package their vocational qualification course/s with a general English course. Minimum entry requirements into MEGT Education Group packaged programs will still need to adhere to the entry requirements for all vocational qualifications applied for. Under a package offer applicants are able to apply for a student visa for the duration of both the English language program and the MEGT Education Group vocational course program/s.

MEGT Education Group reserves the right to request any applicant or existing student to undertake an English proficiency test or formal oral interview where there is any doubt as to the authenticity of documented evidence provided or doubt as to the student's adequate English proficiency.

Applicants and students are responsible for the cost of English language courses and English Language Proficiency tests.

IELTS and Equivalent DIAC Approved English Language Tests
To ensure all students have sufficient English language ability to meet satisfactory course participation and achieve successful outcomes, all courses have a minimum proficiency IELTS level specified for admission into a course/qualification. This is identified as an IELTS level or alternative equivalent proficiency. Such evidence should be current within the past two years.

MEGT Education Group requires IELTS score 5.5 or equivalent for all Certificate level courses, and IELTS score 6.0 or equivalent for direct entry to Diploma and Advanced Diploma courses. Recognised equivalent English tests are:

IELTS 5.5 equivalent	**IELTS 6.0 equivalent**
TOEFL Paper Based Test 527	TOEFL Paper Based Test 550
TOEFL (iBT) 46-59	TOEFL (iBT) 60-78
Pearson PTE 42-49 score range	Pearson PTE 50
Cambridge English – Advanced (CAE) Test 47	Cambridge English – Advanced (CAE) Test 52

Conditional Letter of Offer
A Conditional Letter of Offer may be issued when

- making an offer for a packaged course enrolment which includes an English course
- an applicant still has to complete an English course they are currently undertaking
- formal documentation/confirmation of English Proficiency is not yet available
- the applicant has adequate IELTS level or equivalent for a certificate course, but will be required to demonstrate a higher IELTS or equivalent level prior to commencing in a diploma or advanced diploma course

Applicants will receive a Conditional Letter of Offer indicating that they will undertake English studies from an approved ELICOS partner college prior to their course commencing or undertake whatever requirement is imposed by the Conditional Letter.

Waiver of formal IELTS or Equivalent

The Campus Manager may approve an enrolment with a waiver of the required English Language proficiency requirements for enrolment under special circumstances, and the reasons for the waiver must be clearly documented and placed on the student's file. Examples of this might be:

- Applicants with prior Australian Vocational or Tertiary Qualifications
  Where an applicant can provide certified documentation of having completed full-time study equivalent to at least one year in an Australian qualification at an equivalent or higher AQF or tertiary level to the course being applied for, and where the sole language of instruction and assessment was in English, the applicant may only need to participate in an oral interview to confirm their English language proficiency.

- Mature-age applicants demonstrating extensive vocational experience
  A mature-age applicant with documented evidence of extensive vocational experience in the same field as the qualification being applied for, and whose vocational experience indicates a broad use of the English language, may only need to participate in an informal oral interview to confirm their English language proficiency.

- Students already enrolled with MEGT Education Group providers and moving to a higher level qualification
  A student who has completed a qualification, and seeks enrolment in a higher level qualification requiring a higher IELTS or equivalent, may be exempt from having to provide the higher IELTS formal evidence based on recommendation from the Program Coordinator and an informal oral interview to confirm their English language proficiency for the proposed course.

Citizenship Status and Prior Education in English

Regardless of MEGT Education Group's requirements, International applicants should be aware that they must still satisfy the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) English language requirements for visa applications. Details of DIAC requirements can be found at www.immi.gov.au/students/

Citizens of the countries listed below are not required to provide evidence of English language proficiency for their Visa application where their previous secondary and/or tertiary study is known to have been conducted in English in the national education system (or equivalent)

and/or at a recognised, local university in their home country. However, MEGT Education Group does not automatically exempt applicants from these countries from providing English Proficiency evidence prior to acceptance into a course or study or qualification.

These applicants are required by MEGT Education Group providers to provide certified educational evidence at least to the equivalence of Australia's Year 11/Year 12 exams for course entry *(based on a table of Overseas Qualifications for VCE Equivalence).* Admissions staff will assess the evidence against the equivalence table, or will seek further information on equivalence from a reliable authority. Applicants in this group may also be required to undertake a general pre-enrolment language skills test and/or be interviewed either in person or over the phone.

- Australia
- Canada (excluding Quebec)
- Fiji
- Ireland
- Kenya
- New Zealand
- Papua New Guinea
- Singapore
- Solomon Islands
- South Africa
- United Kingdom (including Northern Ireland)
- United States of America
- Samoa
- Zambia

English Language College Partner Pathways

MEGT Education Group has established partner pathway arrangements with the English language colleges, acknowledging their courses as pertaining to either IELTS 5.5 or 6.0. These colleges are listed in the schedule attached to this Policy.

Rescinding Offers

Where subsequent evidence is required to be provided under a Conditional Letter of Offer, MEGT Education Group providers have the right to rescind the offer if the evidence requirements are not fulfilled.

Responsibility	General Manager
Policy developed by	National Academic & Quality Manager
Policy Endorsed By	Continuous Improvement Committee
Policy Complies with	ASQA SNR Standards and The National Code 2007
Version Number	4.2 2012

ENGLISH LANGUAGE COLLEGE PARTNER RECOGNISED COURSES

English College Provider	Recognised Course	Equivalence
Ability English	Upper-Intermediate General English English EAP Upper-Intermediate Pathway	IELTS 5.5 EAP Both IELTS 5.5 and IELTS 6.0
Apple Study Group	Upper-Intermediate English EAP	IELTS 5.5
CASS Training International College	CTIC students' assessments expressed in terms equivalent to IELTS scores	Assessments expressed in terms of equivalence with IELTS 5.5 and IELTS 6.0
Discover English	Upper Intermediate General English Intermediate English for Academic Purposes Upper Intermediate Business English IELTS Preparation (Pass B) Upper Intermediate English for Academic Purposes Advanced General English IELTS Preparation (Pass A)	IELTS 5.5 IELTS 6.0
English Language Company	EAP 1 or Upper Intermediate Level General English	IELTS 5.5
Greenwich College	Upper Intermediate English EAP (or letter of capability signed by the Academic Manager)	IELTS 5.5
International House Sydney	EAP 1 or Upper Intermediate Level English	IELTS 5.5
Macquarie Education Group	EAP 1	IELTS 5.5
Milton English College	English Course Graduates	IELTS 5.5
Sydney International English College	EAP Courses	Assessments expressed in terms of equivalence with IELTS 5.5 and IELTS 6.0