

## International student entry requirements

We welcome undergraduate applications from all candidates offering A level or equivalent overseas qualifications (including the International Baccalaureate or a recognised Foundation Programme). All candidates must achieve appropriate grades in their examinations.

### Academic requirements

The A level requirements are listed next to the programme entry in the course finder. To find out what the grade requirements would be for a qualification that you have studied in your own country, please see your individual [country page \(/International/students/country/index.aspx\)](#) information.

### English language requirements

In order to undertake a programme of study here at the University, you will need to demonstrate that you have a good level of written and spoken English. You can demonstrate your level of English with IELTS/PTE or alternative qualifications. The sections below will tell you what grades you need in these qualifications for the subject area you want to study.

**Please note: we will no longer be accepting the TOEFL IBT test for September 2015 entry.**

### Foundation programme requirements

[Open all sections](#)

The following requirements are for programmes from the University's Birmingham Foundation Academy.

#### One-year programmes

#### IELTS

#### Pearson Test of English (Academic)

Birmingham Foundation Academy Programme

5.5 overall with at least 5.0 in each band

A minimum of:

(one-year programme)

Listening - 45

For all pathways and progression routes, except students intending to progress to degrees in Law, English Literature, Pharmacy or Physiotherapy

Reading - 45

Writing - 45

Speaking - 45

Birmingham Foundation Academy Programme

6.0 overall with at least 5.5 in each band

A minimum of:

(one-year programme)

Listening - 53

For students intending to progress to degrees in Law, English Literature or Physiotherapy

Reading - 53

(Four year pathway not available for Physiotherapy)

Speaking - 53

Writing - 53

Birmingham Foundation Academy Programme

6.0 overall, with at least 6.0 in each band

A minimum of:

(one-year programme)

Listening - 55

For students intending to progress to Pharmacy

Reading - 55

(Four-year pathway not available for Pharmacy)

Writing - 55

Speaking - 55

#### Four-year programmes

#### IELTS

#### Pearson Test of English (Academic)

Bachelor's Degree with Integrated Foundation Year (Four-year programme)

5.5 overall with at least 5.5 in each band

A minimum of:

For all pathways and progression routes, except students intending to progress to degrees in Law or English Literature

Listening - 51

Reading - 51

Writing -

51

Speaking - 51

For students intending to progress to degrees in Law or English Literature

Listening - 53

Reading - 53

Writing - 53

Speaking - 53

\* For more information on the Pearson Test of English visit [their website \(http://pearsonpte.com/PTEAcademic/Pages/home.aspx\)](http://pearsonpte.com/PTEAcademic/Pages/home.aspx).

### For entry to undergraduate (Bachelor) degree programmes

	IELTS*	Pearson Test of English (PTE)	Cambridge English (exams taken from 2015)**
Group A	6.0 overall with no less than 5.5 in any band	PTE 51 in all four skills	Cambridge English: Advanced Minimum overall score of 169, with no less than 162 in any component
Group B	6.5 overall with no less than 6.0 in any band	PTE 59 in all four skills	Cambridge English: Advanced Minimum overall score of 176, with no less than 169 in any component
Group C	7.0 overall with no less than 6.5 in any band	PTE 67 in all four skills	Cambridge English: Advanced or Cambridge English: Proficiency Minimum overall score of 185, with no less than 176 in any component
Group D	7.0 overall with no less than 7.0 in any band	PTE 67 in all four skills	Cambridge English: Advanced or Cambridge English: Proficiency Minimum overall score of 185, with no less than 185 in any component

\*\*\* For more information on Cambridge English exams, please visit [their website \(http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams/\)](http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams/). For Cambridge English exams taken before 2015, please see under Alternative Qualifications for the accepted grades.

Group A	Group B	Group C
Biosciences	Business, including Economics	Dental Hygiene and Therapy
Biomedical Materials Science	Education	Law
Chemistry	English, Drama and American and Canadian Studies	Nursing
Chemical Engineering	History and Cultures	Physiotherapy
Computer Science	Language, Cultures, Art History and Music	Social Work
Electronic, Electrical and Computer Engineering	Medical Science BMedSc	<b>Group D</b>
Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences	Philosophy, Theology and Religion	Dentistry (BDS)
Mathematics	Political Science and International Relations	Medicine (MBChB)
Mechanical Engineering	Psychology	Pharmacy
Metallurgy and Materials	Social Policy	
Physics and Astronomy	Sociology	
Urban and Regional Studies	Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Science	

\* For more information on Take IELTS visit their website: <http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org> (<http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/>)

\*\* For more information on the Pearson Test of English visit their website: <http://pearsonpte.com/PTEAcademic/Pages/home.aspx> (<http://pearsonpte.com/PTEAcademic/Pages/home.aspx>)

## Alternative qualifications for undergraduate programmes

Qualification	Minimum University requirement
University of Birmingham pre-sessional English course (see below)	Pass (see the <a href="#">EISU page (/International/eisu/index.aspx)</a> for details)
GCSE English (or Edexcel IGCSE English)	Grade C or above
GCE O Level English	Grade C or above
Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) IGCSE English (first language)	Grade C plus a minimum of C in all bands (or 2 in Speaking and Listening for syllabus 0500)
Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) IGCSE English (second language)	Grade C plus a minimum of C in Reading, Writing and Speaking (or 2 in Speaking for syllabus 0510) and A in Listening
International Baccalaureate English, Standard or Higher Level, First or Second Language	5 or above
HKDSE (Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education) English	Level 3 or above
India Standard XII (CBSE/CISCE/West Bengal)	75% or above
India Standard XII (other Indian state boards)	80% or above
Malaysian SPM 1119 (Cambridge O Level)	Grade C or above
ESOL Cambridge CAE (Certificate in Advanced English) (tests taken before January 2015)	Grade C with a minimum of Borderline in all 4 skills
ESOL Cambridge CPE (Certificate of Proficiency in English) (tests taken before January 2015)	Grade C with a minimum of Borderline in all 4 skills

Please note that the grades stated above are the University minimum and some degree programmes will have higher requirements. Always check your offer letter for full details of your conditions.

### English language courses

If you do not have the required level of English or would like to improve your English before the start of the academic year, you can take one of our [pre-sessional English language courses \(/undergraduate/requirements/international/english-courses.aspx\)](#).

### Learn more

For advice on entry requirements or English language requirements for specific courses, you can contact the Admissions Tutor listed against the course entry in the course finder or visit the relevant department's website.

### Special requirements

For some courses there are very specific entry requirements concerning a student's fitness to practice their chosen course of study. For information concerning these requirements, please visit the following page which also contains important information concerning the University's conditions of study:

- [Terms and conditions \(/undergraduate/requirements/international/Terms.aspx\)](#)

