

ANNEX A - IN CONJUNCTION WITH SECTION 2J - for 2016-2017 admission

Southampton Solent University: English language entry criteria

1. This Annex states the English language entry requirements for admission to University undergraduate and postgraduate taught courses and should be used in conjunction with the country specific admissions document which will outline country specific English Language requirements/waivers.
2. The Annex indicates what will be accepted for Tier 4 applicants. These applicants must meet the Home Office English language proficiency requirements for visa purposes only, to which the University standards are aligned. Tier 4 applicants are advised that:
 - For degree level courses at NQF 6 and above, The Home Office require CEFR B2 equivalent (IELTS 5.5) in all components (reading, listening, writing and speaking). As a Tier 4 Sponsor, for degree level and above the University is able to use its own methods of assessment to evidence language proficiency. This includes the University's internal English Language test Password, PTE Academic (Pearson), Cambridge ESOL and IB.
 - For sub-degree courses the Home Office require CEFR B1 equivalent (IELTS 4.0) in all four components, This must be evidenced via a Home Office recognised Secure English Language Test (SELT) - IELTS taken around the world and Trinity College ISE level 2 & 3 taken in the UK only.
 - All non-specified courses/awards below NQF 3-5 require minimum language entry at CEFR B1 in all four components e.g IELTS: 4.0 in all elements.
3. Tests used must be within their validity date for visa purposes only. The Home Office stipulates 'specific tests' need to be within 2 years of the date of the Tier 4 application; indicated on table below. *SSU internal test has a two year validity at date of student application.*
4. The University's English Language internal assessment Password can be used for EU/EEA markets for foundation, degree level and above. Where this is not a viable option, for this cycle, the University's offline internal test will be used. Where Password is not a viable option (i.e. no online access), for this cycle, the University's offline internal test may be used. This applies to EU/EEA markets and for degree level and above for Tier 4 applicants.
5. Please see Home Office Secure English Language Tests (SELT) list for what paperwork is required for tests taken after 6 April 2015 https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/405631/selt_transitional.pdf
6. Students who have previously completed an academic qualification equivalent to a UK degree, which was taught in the Home Office's list of 'majority English-speaking countries do not have to confirm English language competence. Also those who are nationals of one of the countries listed.
7. International Foundation Courses from another institution will not be accepted unless supported by a SELT or University internal English Language Test (exempt if point 5 applies) or a partnership agreement exists outlining whether or not an English Language test is required as part of the entry criteria (e.g. Kaplan, INTO, Navitas, NCUK etc).
8. English language requirements for postgraduate research are aligned with Nottingham Trent University's regulations for research degrees. (IELTS: minimum of 6.0 in all four components with 6.5 overall).
9. The Annex is influenced by the Governments' immigration regulations for a Tier 4 applicant. Thus, is subject to change throughout the admissions cycle.
10. If you have an English qualification that is not listed in the table, please contact Academic Services for advice. Please do not accept it before discussing further.

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		International Foundation Year (IFY - attached to degree - register as a 4 year course) (IFC - stand-alone course) International Foundation Year (Football)	Foundation Degree Business Foundation (3) Sport, Event Tourism Foundation (3) Music Foundation (3) Football Foundation Year(3) HNC (4), HND (5)	First Degree (including all journalism courses) Direct entry into Level 6 Technology Foundation Programme	Postgraduate Taught	Test Validity
NQF LEVELS		NQF 3	NQF 3-5	NQF 6	NQF 7	
PASSWORD (SSU Internal test) (Accepted for all markets. For UKVI degree level & above)	SSU	4.5 overall with a minimum of 4.5 in each individual component	5.5 overall with a minimum of 5.0 in each individual component	6.0 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each individual component	6.5 overall with minimum of 6.0 in writing and a minimum of 5.5 in reading, listening and speaking	2 years
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	HEI own assessment	HEI own assessment	
IELTS (Accepted for all markets. For UKVI all levels but from a recognised test centre - worldwide)	SSU	4.5 overall with a minimum of 4.5 in each individual component	5.5 overall with a minimum of 5.0 in each individual component	6.0 overall with a minimum of 5.5 in each individual component	6.5 overall with minimum of 6.0 in writing and a minimum of 5.5 in reading, listening and speaking	2 years
	UKVI	Minimum of 4.0 in all four components	Minimum of 4.0 in all four components	Minimum of 5.5 in all four components	Minimum of 5.5 in all four components	

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Trinity College London Integrated Skills in English (ISE) <small>(Accepted for all markets for degree level and above. For UKVI taken in UK centres only)</small>	SSU	N/A	N/A	ISE Level II With pass in all four components	ISE Level III With pass in all four components	2 years
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	ISE Level II With pass in all four components	ISE Level III With pass in all four components	
Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic <small>(Accepted for all markets. For UKVI degree level & above)</small>	SSU	Average score of 36 with a minimum of 36 in each individual component	Average score of 43 with a minimum of 43 in each individual component	Average score of 56 with a minimum of 51 in each individual component	Average score of 61 with a minimum of 56 in writing and a minimum of 51 in reading, listening and speaking	2 years
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	HEI own assessment	HEI own assessment	
TOEFL IBT <small>(Accepted for all markets. For UKVI degree level & above)</small>	SSU	57 overall with a minimum of 17 in <u>all</u> <u>four</u> components	71 with a minimum of 19 in in each individual component	80 with a minimum of 19 in each individual component	92 with minimum of 22 in writing and a minimum of 19 in reading, listening and speaking	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	HEI own assessment	HEI own assessment	
SQA Intermediate II ESOL <small>(EU/EEA market only)</small>	SSU	N/A	N/A	Grade C	Grade B	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	

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Cambridge ESOL (Accepted for all markets. For UKVI degree level & above)	SSU	FCE Grade C	FCE Grade B	CAE Grade C	CAE Grade B or CPE Grade between 45-59%.	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	HEI own assessment Weak in all components	HEI own assessment Weak in components C1/C2	
IGCSE (EU/EEA market only)	SSU	N/A	Grade D	Grade C	N/A	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
IB Diploma (Accepted for all markets. For UKVI degree level & above)	SSU	2	3	English A1 or B Grade 5 (Standard level) or Grade 4 (Higher level)	English A1 or B Grade 5 (Standard Level) or Grade 4 (Higher Level)	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	HEI own assessment	HEI own assessment	
IB Certificate (Accepted for all markets. For UKVI degree level & above)	SSU	2	3	English A1, A2 or B Grade 4 (Standard Level) or Grade 3 (Higher Level)	English A1, A2 or B Grade 4 (Standard Level) or Grade 3 (Higher Level)	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	HEI own assessment	HEI own assessment	

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European Baccalaureate English <small>(EU/EEA market only) Lg 1 - highest</small>	SSU	Lg 4 or above: 6.0	Lg 3 or above: 6.0/ Lg 4 or above: 6.5	Lg 2 or above: 6.0/ Lg 3: 7.0/ Lg 4: 7.5	Lg2 or above: 7.0/ Lg 3: 7.5/ Lg 4: 8.0	No expiry
	UKVI	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	