

Language requirements

Proof of English proficiency

When looking at each country's educational system, the level of English is a special consideration. For each country, the GSU list indicates if there is an English language skills requirement, along with a number indicating which categories of applicants from a particular country may be exempted.

- 1) Applicants from countries which are members of the EU/EEA and/or the Council of Europe/UNESCO-Cepes, and who studied English as their first foreign language over a period of minimum 7 years at compulsory/upper secondary school, are exempted from the English language test. The applicants must document this or provide proof of having taken a recognised examination/test. In exceptional cases, applicants may provide proof of English proficiency in other ways.
- 2) Applicants who have obtained a Bachelor's degree with English as the language of instruction are exempted from the test.
- 3) Applicants who have passed an A-level examination in English may be exempted.

Applicants satisfy the requirements regarding proficiency in the English language if they have completed and passed one of the secondary school examinations listed below with English in the curriculum.

Botswana

- Botswana General Certificate of Secondary Education (IUA)
- General Certificate of Education O-level
- Cambridge Overseas School Certificate
- General Certificate of Education A-level

Gambia

- West African Examinations Council Senior School Certificate
- General Certificate of Education O-level
- General Certificate of Education A-level

Ghana

- Senior Secondary School Certificate
- West African Senior School Certificate
- West African Examinations Council General Certificate of Education O-level
- West African Examinations Council General Certificate of Education A-level

Cameroon (engelskspråklig del)

- General Certificate of Education O-level
- General Certificate of Education A-level

Kenya

- Kenya Certificate of Education
- Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (fra 1989)
- Kenya Advanced Certificate of Education (t.o.m 1989)

Malawi

- Malawi School Certificate of Education

Nigeria

- Senior School Certificate (fra 1988)
- West African Examinations Council General Certificate of Education O-level
- West African Examinations Council General Certificate of Education A-level
- West African Senior School Certificate (fra 1999)

Sierra Leone

- Senior School Certificate (fra 2000)
- West African Examinations Council General Certificate of Education O-level
- Cambridge Overseas School Certificate O-level
- West African Examinations Council General Certificate of Education A-level

Swaziland

- Cambridge Overseas School Certificate
- General Certificate of Education O-level

South Africa

- Matriculation Certificate
- Senior Certificate

Tanzania

- Certificate of Secondary Education
- East Africa General Certificate of Education O-level
- Advanced Certificate of Secondary Education
- Zanzibar O-level

Uganda

- Ugandan Certificate of Education
- East African Certificate of Education
- Uganda Advanced Certificate of Education
- East African Advanced Certificate of Education

Zambia

- Zambian School Certificate

Zimbabwe

- Cambridge School Certificate
- General Certificate of Education O-level
- Cambridge Higher School Certificate
- General Certificate of Education A-level

Applicants who do not meet the English proficiency requirements may take one of the following tests/courses:

- Completed an English basic course at the Norwegian upper secondary school level, obtaining grade 2 or better
- Tests:
 - ◆ Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 500 for a paper-based test, a score of at least 170 for a computer-based test or minimum 60 for an internet-based test
 - ◆ International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) with a minimum score of 5.0.
 - ◆ Advanced Placement International English Language examination (APIEL) with a minimum score of 3
- University of Cambridge examinations:
 - ◆ First Certificate in English
 - ◆ Certificate in Advanced English
 - ◆ Certificate of Proficiency in English

In addition, applicants will have proof of sufficient English proficiency if they have:

- ◆ Completed one year at university in an English-speaking country (Australia, Canada, Ireland, New Zealand, United Kingdom, USA), provided that the language of instruction was English.
- ◆ Completed university education where the subject English comprised the main component of the course of study.

In exceptional cases applicants may provide proof of English proficiency in other ways.

Documentation of Norwegian language proficiency

All applicants with education outside the Nordic region must document sufficient knowledge of Norwegian, cf. §§ 2- 2 of the Regulations relating to admission to universities and university colleges, as prescribed by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, 31 January 2007.

Norwegian language proficiency must be documented by passing one of the following examinations:

- examination in Norwegian from upper secondary school on the "Vg3-level" ("Knowledge Promotion" (Kunnskapsløftet)) / Norwegian as a second language from upper secondary school on the "VKII-level" ("Reform 94")
- level 3 examination in Norwegian for foreign students at Norwegian universities
- examination from the 1-year university college course in Norwegian language and culture for foreign students
- Test of Norwegian, advanced level (known as "Bergenstesten") with a score of at least 450, or with "Pass" mark after the introduction of the new scoring system beginning fall 2009.

Universities and university colleges may accept other proof of Norwegian language skills.

Applicants from the other Nordic countries with qualifications granting general admission to higher education in their home country, and who have studied their native language at the most advanced level at upper secondary school are not required to take a Norwegian language proficiency test.