

IELTS Equivalence List (Effective from Academic Year 2025-26)

Students attaining a qualification equivalent to or above the requisite score in IELTS could be exempted from taking the Password test and are considered as having fulfilled the IELTS graduation requirement.

Qualification Name	Overall 6.0 in IELTS Academic Module	Overall 6.5 in IELTS Academic Module	Overall 7.0 in IELTS Academic Module
HKDSE English Language	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Password	Overall 6.0	Overall 6.5	Overall 7.0
GCE (A Level) System	Grade C in GCE A Level English	Grade C in GCE A Level English	Grade C in GCE A Level English
International Baccalaureate (IB) English A	Grade 4 in HL or Grade 5 in SL	Grade 5 in HL or Grade 6 in SL	Grade 6 in HL or Grade 7 in SL
International Baccalaureate (IB) English B	Grade 5 in HL or Grade 6 in SL	Grade 6 in HL or Grade 7 in SL	Grade 7 in HL (not applicable in SL)
TOEFL (IBT) (Note 3)	60-74 overall, minimum component scores: 16 in listening (range 16-19) 15 in reading (range 15-17) 16 in speaking (range 16-19) 13 in writing (range 13-16)	75-97 overall, minimum component scores: 20 in listening (range 20-24) 18 in reading (range 18-23) 20 in speaking (range 20-24) 17 in writing (range 17-23)	98-112 overall, minimum component scores: 25 in listening (range 25-28) 24 in reading (range 24-28) 25 in speaking (range 25-28) 24 in writing (range 24-28)

Pearson PTE Academic / UKVI	50 overall, minimum 38 in all components	58 overall, minimum of 42 in all components	65, minimum 50 in all components
Cambridge English Scale (Note 4)	169-175 overall with at least 169 in each element	176-184 overall with at least 176 in each element	185-190 overall with at least 185 in each element
Trinity ISE (Paper Edition)	ISE II Distinction or ISE III Pass (Note 5)	ISE II Distinction or ISE III Pass	ISE III Distinction or ISE IV Pass
LanguageCert Academic	Overall score of 60-67 (with at least a score of 60 for each skill)	Overall score of 68-74 (with at least a score of 68 for each skill)	Overall score of 75-89 (with at least a score of 75 for each skill)

Note 1: The above-mentioned qualifications will only be accepted if they are within their respective validity periods (e.g., Password Test results expire after two years).

Note 2: CEAL only accepts the results of the examinations/tests on this equivalence list that have been conducted at official examination centres with on-site invigilators. At home tests are not accepted.

Note 3: TOEFL scores are only accepted from a single test sitting; MyBest™ scores are not accepted.

Note 4: Any English language test that uses the Cambridge English Scale will be accepted if the student meets the equivalent score listed in the above table.

Note 5: No appropriate conversion can be made for IELTS 6.0; hence only the score or level equivalent to or above IELTS 6.5 would be considered.