October 2017

**English language Proficiency – Master’s programmes**

You must be proficient in English if you want to be admitted to most Master’s programmes. You can find the exact language requirements per programme under each programme description.

**Exams accepted**

- **IELTS**: academic modules only
- **TOEFL**
- **Cambridge English Exam**

**Equivalent test scores**

You can find the equivalent scores for IELTS, TOEFL and Cambridge English tests in our English test score equivalency table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IELTS</th>
<th>Toefl (internet based)</th>
<th>Toefl component score</th>
<th>Cambridge (Proficiency: CPE, or Advanced: CAE)</th>
<th>Cambridge component score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>79</td>
<td>20 CPE, CAE</td>
<td>169</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>90</td>
<td>22 CPE/CAE 180</td>
<td>176</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.0</td>
<td></td>
<td>100</td>
<td>25 CPE/CAE 185</td>
<td>185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.5</td>
<td></td>
<td>113</td>
<td>27 CPE/CAE 191</td>
<td>191</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cambridge English Exam equivalencies**

- For programmes requiring an IELTS score of 6.5 is: Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE), with a grade of at least ‘C’
- For programmes requiring an IELTS score of 7.0 or higher: Cambridge Proficiency in English (CPE)

**Other exam criteria**

- Exam results may not be more than two years old.
- Institutional exams, such as ITP-TOEFL, cannot be accepted.
- Chinese students who need a [Nuffic certificate](#) should take either an IELTS or a TOEFL IBT exam.
**Exemptions**
You can be exempted from submitting one of the above-mentioned English exam results if:
- You have an (English-taught) International Baccalaureate.
- You completed your secondary or higher education in the USA, the UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia or Canada (except French-taught programmes in Canada).
- For certain master’s programmes, you have an English-taught, university-level degree from a Dutch research university. Refer to the relevant programme description.
- At the discretion of the Board of Admissions, if you are a Dutch student with pre-university education (VWO) level English.

*In exceptional cases, students who otherwise qualify for an exemption but whose application documents cast doubt on their English proficiency, may be asked to sit an English exam.*

**Submitting your exam results**
All English exam results must be uploaded to the online application system. Your English exam results must be checked for authenticity by the Admissions Office before the deadline for applying for a visa/residence permit (if applicable), or before the start date of your programme. To make this possible, please do the following:
- TOEFL exam: tell ETS to send your original results report to Leiden University Admissions Office – institution code 0504.
- Cambridge certificate: send your ID number and your “secret number” (check the Candidate Results Online service) to Leiden University Admissions Office.
- IELTS: a scanned exam result is sufficient - no further steps will be require.