



## Language requirements – Bachelor's programmes

- For admission to Dutch-taught bachelor's programmes you must be proficient in **Dutch** and, in most cases, in **English**.
- For admission to English-taught bachelor's programmes you must be proficient in **English**.

You can find specific language requirements and minimum test scores in the [relevant programme descriptions](#).

### Dutch language tests

#### Tests accepted

- Faculty of Science & Faculty of Medicine (LUMC): [Dutch TUL intermediate exam](#) from the Academic Language Centre or [Dutch NT2-II diploma](#)
- All other faculties: [Dutch TUL advanced exam](#) from the Academic Language Centre
- Also accepted by all faculties: [CNAvT](#) Educatief Startbekwaam or Educatief Professioneel

#### Exemptions

- Holders of an [International Baccalaureate™ Diploma](#) (IB DP) with Dutch B Higher or Dutch A SL/HL can be exempted from a Dutch test.
- If Dutch was included in your secondary school diploma, check our [diploma requirements list](#) to find out whether you can be exempted from a Dutch test.

### English language tests

Results may not be more than two years old!

#### Tests accepted

- [IELTS](#): academic modules only, on paper or on computer
  - We do **not** accept the [IELTS Academic Online](#).
  - We do **not** accept IELTS General Training or IELTS Indicator
- [TOEFL](#): internet-based (IBT)
  - We do **not** accept The TOEFL IBT Home Edition™ or the TOEFL IBT Paper Edition™, except in the following situations only:
    - *You took the test before 1 Sept 2022 (and it is not more than 2 years old), or*
    - *you are unable to take an in-person test on location because test centres are inaccessible or closed due to unsafe conditions in a country.*
  - We do **not** accept the following types of test: TOEFL My Best™ scores (multiple test scores combined), TOEFL Essentials™ or institutional tests such as ITP.
- [Cambridge English Exam](#): C2 Proficiency or C1 Advanced, depending on admission criteria.

*Leiden University has strict measures in place for the verification of language test results. Applicants are responsible for ensuring that they submit only authentic test results.*

*Last updated: January 2024*



### Before taking your English test

Always check that you are dealing with a genuine test centre. Unfortunately, fraudulent test centres and websites do exist. If in doubt, check directly with the central test organisation.

### Score equivalency table

IELTS	Toefl (internet based)	Toefl component score	Cambridge C2 Proficiency (CPE), or C1 Advanced (CAE)	Cambridge component score
6.0	80	20	CPE, CAE	169
6.5	90	22	CPE/CAE 180	176
7.0	100	25	CPE/CAE 185	185
7.5	113	27	CPE/CAE 191	191

### Exemptions

You can be exempted from submitting one of the above-mentioned English test results if:

- You have an [International Baccalaureate™ Diploma](#) (IB DP) taught in English or with English A HL.
- You completed your secondary or higher education in the USA, UK, Ireland, New Zealand, Australia, Canada (except French-taught programmes in Canada), Singapore, South-Africa or Malta\*.  
\* This includes diplomas that are issued by schools/institutions from the above-mentioned countries that are located elsewhere but are accredited as part of the education system in the above-mentioned countries - if obtained after having attended for at least 2 years.
- You have a German Zeugnis der Allgemeinen Hochschulreife (Abitur) and English was included in your final year at least at Grundkurslevel.
- Exemptions may be granted on the basis of certain other educational diplomas. Check our [diploma requirements list](#) to find out whether your diploma might entitle you to an exemption.

*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.*

### How to submit your test results

- Upload a copy of your test results in the online application system.
- If you would like to submit a TOEFL IBT Special Home Edition™ or TOEFL IBT Paper Edition™ due to unsafe conditions (as specified under 'Tests accepted' above), also upload a document explaining the situation in your region so the university can verify if you qualify for this ruling.

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