

## APPENDIX 1

### Cardiff University English Language Policy (approved 18 August 2010)

1. All prospective students at Cardiff University who will be studying and assessed through the medium of English must demonstrate to the University that their English language competence is at a level which allows them to cope with the demands of higher education and derive full benefit from their chosen programme of study.
2. Whilst minimum standards are set out below, Schools may request a higher level of English language competence than that specified above to reflect the demands of specified programmes of study; where higher levels are required, these will be clearly indicated in the relevant School Admissions Criteria.
3. As a *minimum*, undergraduate and postgraduate applicants should satisfy at least one of the following criteria:

- .1 hold one of the following English language qualifications:

Qualification	Minimum Score
GCSE/GCE 'O' level English language	C
IELTS (Academic Test)	6.5
IGCSE level English language	C
Cambridge Proficiency	C
Cambridge Advanced	B
TOEFL (paper-based)	580 <i>with TWE of 4.0</i>
TOEFL iBT	90
Trinity ISE III, grade 11	Merit
International Baccalaureate Diploma (English language at HL or SL)	Grade 5
A Cardiff University pre-sessional English language course of at least 8 weeks' duration with a minimum of IELTS 6.0 at entry*.	Successful completion

\* Where a School has set a higher IELTS requirement than the University minimum of IELTS 6.5 for admission to an academic programme, correspondingly higher pre-sessional entry levels will be specified. For example, IELTS 6.5 for entry to the pre-sessional programme for academic programmes with a minimum of IELTS 7.0.

- .2 Where an applicant does not hold one of the recognised English language qualifications stipulated at paragraph 3.1,

the applicant must be able to demonstrate the required level of English language competence for the programme of study by means of clear and unambiguous evidence, supported by documentation, to the satisfaction of the University, on the Head of School or nominee's<sup>†</sup> recommendation. This evidence may take the form of one or more of the following:

- .1 An alternative English language qualification at an equivalent level to those specified above in paragraph 3.1 which tests reading, writing, speaking and listening competence;
- .2 Other qualifications pursued through the medium of English which can be demonstrated to be at an equivalent or higher level to those detailed in paragraph 3.1 and which are accepted by the University in lieu of the English language qualifications;
- .3 Evidence from a person (not related) who can comment in detail and with authority about the applicant's English language competence, encompassing both written and spoken communication, gained through professional employment or in another skilled capacity.

4. As a ***minimum***, International Foundation Programme students should either have been awarded one of the qualifications specified below or an accepted equivalent qualification:

Qualification	Score
GCSE/ GCE 'O' level/IGCSE English language	C
IELTS	5.5
TOEFL (paper-based)	525
TOEFL iBT	68
A Cardiff University pre-IFP English language course of at least 8 weeks' duration with at least IELTS 5.0 at entry.	Successful completion

5. English language tests or examinations must have been taken no more than two years before the proposed date of entry to the University. Where more than two years have elapsed since English tests or equivalent qualifications were completed, an applicant must be able to demonstrate that they have maintained or improved their English language competence, as detailed in paragraph 3.2 above.
6. Other qualifications pursued through the medium of English and offered in lieu of an English language test or examination, as

detailed in paragraph 3.2.2 above, must have been completed no more than three years before the proposed date of entry to the University. Where more than three years have elapsed since the qualification was completed, an applicant must be able to demonstrate that they have maintained or improved their English language competence, as detailed in paragraph 3.2 above.

- † The English Language Policy Operational Guidance Notes define the criteria for appointing a nominee who may determine applicants' suitability for admission in lieu of the Head of School.

