

English Language Assessment Policy (VET)

1. Purpose

1.1 This policy provides a framework for Stanley College's English language assessment for admission into VET courses.

2. Scope

2.1 This policy applies to all students of Stanley College, as well as staff involved in the assessment of English language capability.

3. Responsibility

3.1 The Admissions Manager is responsible for the monitoring and oversight of the English language assessment processes.

4. Definitions

AQF	The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is the national policy for regulated qualifications in Australian education and training. It incorporates the qualifications from each education and training sector into a single comprehensive national qualifications framework.
Cambridge English (CAE)	Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE), also known as the Certificate in Advanced English (CAE), is an international English language examination developed by Cambridge English Language Assessment (previously known as University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations).
Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR)	The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is an international standard for describing language ability.
Duolingo English Test	The Duolingo English Test is an English proficiency assessment used to evaluate a person's ability to read, write, speak, and listen to English.
Domestic Students	A student who is an Australian citizen, a New Zealand citizen, the holder of an Australian Permanent Resident visa or the holder of an Australian humanitarian visa.
English Language Proficiency	The ability of students to use the English language to make and communicate meaning appropriately in spoken and written forms in the context of their studies. English language proficiency is assessed by Stanley College before a student is enrolled in a course.
English Language Registration Standard	The Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) English Language Registration Standard applies to all nurses and midwives applying for initial registration, regardless of whether they qualified in Australia or overseas.

IELTS	International English Language Testing System (IELTS) is an international standardised test of English language proficiency. It is jointly managed by University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations, the British Council and IDP Education Pty Ltd.
International Student	A student studying in Australia on a student visa issued by DoHA.
Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA)	The NMBA operates as an independent authority and its functions include: overseeing practitioner registration, developing professional standards, codes and guidelines, handling notifications and complaints in relation to the profession, assessing overseas-trained practitioners who wish to practice in Australia and approving accreditation standards and courses of study.
OET	The Occupational English Test (OET), developed specifically for healthcare professionals.
Pearson Test of English Academic	PTE Academic is a computer-based academic English language test aimed at non-native English speakers wanting to study abroad. It tests Reading, Writing, Listening and Speaking.
TOEFL	Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is a standardized test to measure the English language ability of non-native speakers wishing to enrol in English-speaking education institutions.
VET	Vocational Education and Training.

5. Policy Provisions

Principles

5.1 English language entry requirements into VET courses at Stanley College are:

- 5.1.1 clearly indicated in Stanley College's admission information and on the College's website;
- 5.1.2 at a standard as expected of a course set at the appropriate AQF level; and
- 5.1.3 benchmarked against other VET institutions offering similar courses.

5.2 All students, whether domestic or international, must provide evidence that their English language ability meets the minimum requirements for admission into a course.

5.3 Stanley College reserves the right to request that a student undergoes an English test in addition to any other evidence of English proficiency provided.

5.4 A review is to be undertaken by Stanley College every three years to ensure the English language proficiency standards for admission are sufficient. This review will be undertaken by the Vice President Business Development for reporting to the Academic Board.

English Language Requirements for VET Courses (Domestic Students)

5.5 Students may be deemed to have satisfied the College's English language requirements if they can provide evidence they meet one of the following principles:

- 5.5.1 an English Language pass level in an Australian Senior Certificate of Education (Year 12) or equivalent;
- 5.5.2 satisfactory completion of an accredited Australian qualification equivalent to AQF Level 5 or above;

- 5.5.3 satisfactory completion of an accredited tertiary award in English; or
- 5.5.4 the student has undertaken an acceptable English language test.

5.6 Where a student is required to provide a statement or certificate to demonstrate English language proficiency, the documentation must:

- 5.6.1 be an original scanned copy; and
- 5.6.2 be accompanied by a certified translation if the qualification is not in English.

English Language Requirements for VET Courses (International Students)

5.7 The minimum standards of achievement in English language tests approved for VET study at Stanley College are:

- 5.7.1 Certificate II – IV: IELTS 5 or equivalent
- 5.7.2 Diploma or Advanced Diploma: IELTS 5.5 or equivalent
- 5.7.3 HLT54121 Diploma of Nursing: IELTS 7.0 with no band less than 7.0 in listening, reading, and speaking, and a minimum score of 6.5 in writing or equivalent
- 5.7.4 Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma: IELTS 6.0 or equivalent

5.8 To ensure adequate English language ability, students must meet the following language proficiency requirements for Certificate II, Certificate III and Certificate IV courses:

Approved Test	Required score (Intermediate Level of English)
Cambridge English	154
IELTS (Academic)	Test score of 5.0
TOEFL iBT	Test score of 35-45
Duolingo English Test	75-80
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE)	Test score of 36
OET	D grade
CEFR Levels/Oxford Test	B1
OR Completion of Australian qualifications, evidence of certificate III level or above	

5.9 To ensure adequate English language ability, students must meet the following language proficiency requirements for Diploma courses:

Approved Test	Required score (Upper- Intermediate Level of English)
Cambridge English	162
IELTS (Academic)	Test score of 5.5
TOEFL iBT	Test score of 46-59
Duolingo English Test	85-90
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE)	Test score of 42
OET	C grade
CEFR Levels/Oxford Test	B2
OR Completion of Australian qualifications, evidence of certificate III level (minimum duration 26 weeks) or above	

5.10 To ensure adequate English language ability, students must meet the following language proficiency requirements for Advanced Diploma courses:

Approved Test	Required score (Upper- Intermediate Level of English)
Cambridge English	162
IELTS (Academic)	Test score of 5.5
TOEFL iBT	Test score of 46-59
Duolingo English Test	85-90
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE)	Test score of 42
OET	C grade
CEFR Levels/Oxford Test	B2
OR Completion of Australian qualifications, evidence of certificate IV level or above	

5.11 To ensure adequate English language ability, students are required to complete 'HLT54121 Declaration of English Proficiency' and must meet the following language proficiency requirements for HLT54121 Diploma of Nursing (English Language test scores below apply from April 2025):

Approved Test	Required score (Proficient Level of English)
Cambridge (C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency)	Minimum overall score of 185 and a minimum overall score of 185 in each of the first three components (listening, reading, speaking) and a minimum score of 176 in the final component (writing)
IELTS (Academic)	Overall score of at least 7.0 and a minimum score of 7 in each of the first three components (listening, reading, speaking) and a minimum score of 6.5 in the final component (writing)
TOEFL iBT	Minimum total score of 94, with minimum score of 24 for listening, 24 for reading, 24 for writing and 23 for speaking
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE)	Minimum overall score of at least 66 and a minimum score of 66 in each of the first three communicative skills (listening, reading, speaking) and a minimum score of 56 in the final communicative skill (writing)
OET	Minimum score of B in each of the first three components (listening, reading, speaking) and a minimum score of C+ in the one component (writing)
OR Satisfactorily completed at least six years of Primary and Secondary education taught and assessed in English in one of the recognised countries* , including at least two years between years 7 and 12. *Countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Anguilla, Australia, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Indian Ocean Territory, Canada, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands, Gibraltar, Grenada, Guernsey, Guyana, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Jersey, Malta, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, Saint Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, United States of America, US Virgin Islands.	

Acceptable volume of Proficiency Test Results*

The above results can be from one test sitting, or a maximum of two test sittings in a 12-month period only if:

- Cambridge (C1 Advanced or C2 Proficiency):
 - the applicant is tested in all four components in each sitting
 - the applicant achieves a minimum score of 185 in each component for listening, reading and speaking and a minimum score of 176 for writing across the two sittings, and
 - when using two test sittings, no score in any component of the test(s) for either test sitting is below 176.
- IELTS Academic:
 - the applicant achieves a minimum overall score of 7 in each sitting, and
 - the applicant achieves a minimum score of 7 in each component for listening, reading and speaking and a minimum score of 6.5 for writing across the two sittings, and
 - when using two test sittings, no score in any component of the test(s) for either test sitting is below 6.5
- PTE Academic:
 - a minimum overall score of 66 is achieved in each sitting, and
 - the applicant achieves a minimum score of 66 in each of the communicative skills of listening, reading and speaking and a minimum score of 56 in writing across the two sittings, and
 - when using two test sittings, no score in any of the communicative skills for either test sitting is below 56
- OET:
 - the applicant is tested in all four components in each sitting, and
 - the applicant achieves a minimum score of B in each component for listening, reading and speaking and a minimum score of C+ for writing across the two sittings, and
 - when using two test sittings, no score in any component of the test(s) for either test sitting is below C+.
- TOEFL iBT:
 - a minimum total score of 94 is achieved in each sitting, and
 - the applicant achieves a minimum score of 24 for listening, 24 for reading, 24 for writing and 23 for speaking across the two sittings, and
 - when using two test sittings, no score in any of the test sitting sections here is below; 20 for listening, 19 for reading, 24 for writing, and 20 for speaking

*English Language test scores detailed here apply from April 2025. If the applicant is providing test results from two sittings, the applicant may only provide results from any two tests taken within a 12-month period from one provider. **Results cannot be combined from different test providers**

5.12 To ensure adequate English language ability, students must meet the following language proficiency requirements for Graduate Certificate or Graduate Diploma courses:

Approved Test	Required score (Upper-Intermediate Level of English)
Cambridge English	169
IELTS (Academic)	Test score of 6.0
TOEFL iBT	Test score of 60-78
Duolingo English Test	95-100
Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE)	Test score of 50
OET	C+ grade
CEFR Levels/Oxford Test	B2

OR Completion of Australian qualifications, evidence of diploma level or above	
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5.13 Students are eligible to get an exemption from English proficiency, if a student has competed a Certificate IV level qualification or higher qualification in Australia (award should be no more than 10 years old, conditions apply). *This exemption does not apply to the HLT54121 Diploma of Nursing, where applicants are required to meet the English Language Registration Standard as prescribed above.*

Conditional Offers

5.14 Stanley College reserves the right to make any offer conditional on meeting English language requirements if the student fails to demonstrate their English language ability is sufficient.

5.15 This conditional offer means that the student is not permitted to be accepted in the course until English language proficiency is reassessed once further evidence of proficiency has been provided by the student.

5.16 A full offer will only be issued once English language proficiency requirements have been met.

6. Policy Information

Policy Area	Admissions
Authorised Officer	Vice President Business Development
Supporting documents, procedures & forms of this policy	<i>English Language Assessment Procedure (VET)</i> <i>Admissions Procedure – Domestic Students (VET)</i> <i>Admissions Procedure – International Students (VET & ELICOS)</i> <i>Admissions Checklist</i> <i>HLT54121 Declaration of English Proficiency</i>
Related Legislation and Codes of Practice	Standards for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs) 2015 National Code of Practice for Providers of Education and Training to Overseas Students 2018 Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia (NMBA) Registration Standard: English Language Skills 2025
Audience	Public