



TRB English Language Proficiency Policy current from May 2007

Unless teachers have completed their pre-service program of teacher education in an exempted country, they are required, as a condition of eligibility for teacher registration, to satisfy the Board that they have a level of English proficiency which enables them to communicate in English at a professional level with students, parents, colleagues, and other educational professionals.

WHO IS EXEMPT?

The countries currently exempted are:

- Australia
- Canada
- New Zealand
- Republic of Ireland
- United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales)
- United States of America

Graduates from the University of the South Pacific are also exempt from satisfying the Board of their English proficiency.

BOARD REQUIREMENTS

Applicants who do not qualify under the above exemption must sit the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

The Board requires that the applicant be awarded scores of 7 or higher in the academic modules of Speaking, Listening, Reading and Writing.

However an applicant whose English language assessment scores are marginally down in one skill area may be granted provisional registration 'with the English language proviso'. Such a person will need to clearly satisfy the Board that she/he satisfies the required professional level in English within 2 years of being granted provisional registration.

Notes:

1. The Board will accept the results of an IELTS test (academic modules) undertaken by the applicant, provided it was taken within 12 months from the date the Teachers Registration Board receives the application.
2. On a case-by-case basis, the Board may also accept 'A' scores on all modules for the NSW PEAT test.
3. If an applicant considers this requirement unreasonable they may seek an exemption from the Board. They will be required to submit detailed evidence in support of their case.

HOW CAN I SIT THE TEST?

Applicants located in Tasmania can contact:

Christine Brown, State IELTS Contact Officer, English Language Centre, University of Tasmania

Ph: +61 (0)3 6324 5473 Fax: +61 (0)3 6324 3838 E-mail: Christine.Brown@utas.edu.au

FURTHER INFORMATION?

Contact the Teachers Registration Board on 6233 5992 and/or visit www.ielts.org
