

Visa description	Minimum CEFR level required	Skills	IELTS test and minimum score required overall and in each skill ¹
Tier 1 (General) visa	C1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 7.0 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 1 (Exceptional Talent) visa	B1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 4.0 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 1 (Entrepreneur) visa	B1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 4.0 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 1 (Graduate Entrepreneur) visa	B1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 4.0 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 2 (General) visa	B1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 4.0 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 2 (Sportsperson) visa ²	A1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 4.0 overall, and for each of the four skills ¹
Tier 2 (Minister of Religion) visa	B2	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 5.5 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 4 (General) student visa - below degree level	B1	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 4.0 overall, and for each of the four skills
Tier 4 (General) student visa - degree level and above and including some pre-sessional courses ³	B2	L/R/W/S	IELTS - 5.5 overall, and for each of the four skills
Family of a settled person visa	A1	L/S	IELTS Life Skills at A1 - Pass ⁴ IELTS – 4.0 in Speaking and Listening
Indefinite leave to remain (to settle) or citizenship ⁵	B1	L/S	IELTS Life Skills at B1 - Pass IELTS – 4.0 in Speaking and Listening

¹ Both Academic and General Training are accepted. The CEFR requirement for each skill must be met.

² IELTS is accepted by UKVI at band scores 4.0 and above, equivalent to CEFR level B1.

³ Universities on UKVI's list of Tier 4 Sponsors decide which exams to accept when a SELT is not required, and these may include IELTS taken at any of the 1000+ IELTS test locations.

⁴ IELTS can be used where IELTS Life Skills is used; candidates would need to get 4.0 or above in Speaking and Listening (scores for Reading and Writing will be ignored).

⁵ Currently, UKVI will also accept an Ofqual regulated test for this category. The test must cover Speaking and Listening at B1 level.

Please note that these changes do not affect the use of IELTS by people from the European Union, European Economic Area, Switzerland and 'majority English speaking countries' as defined by the UK Home Office.