PTE Academic **Online**

PTE Academic Online – Institutions

FAQs

? **What is PTE Academic Online?**

A PTE Academic Online is an online version of PTE Academic that can be taken at home, in an office or any other private location.

? **Why has it been introduced?**

A The conventional method of English assessment has been difficult over recent months, with test takers unable to access test centers. The online version has been introduced to support institutions by providing a secure and reliable way to continue to assess their students' English skills without disruption.

? **Why should my institute recognize PTE Academic Online?**

A PTE Academic Online has been developed to better serve institutions and students during the application process. The test provides a more convenient and flexible option for students who cannot attend a test center, preventing possible delays with their application.

A home-based test means institutions can not only benefit from a more streamlined recruitment process, but also reach students in more remote geographies where there is no test center.

? **What is the difference between PTE Academic Online and PTE Academic?**

A PTE Academic Online is a remote proctored version of PTE Academic. It is the same test but delivered through the test taker's own computer.

The test can be taken anywhere, provided the test takers have the necessary equipment and a quiet location without disruptions.

A test taken in a test center is still the preferred assessment setting, as it allows us to better support the test taker, although with current circumstances we know this can be challenging.

? **How is PTE Academic Online delivered?**

A PTE Academic Online is delivered through the test taker's own browser using Pearson's secure OnVUE software. This industry-leading remote proctoring technology is trusted around the world to deliver high stakes tests at home.

? **What features does the test have to make it secure?**

A The security features offered by OnVUE are robust and best-in-breed for this type of test, combining AI and human surveillance which takes place throughout the test.
PTE Academic Online uses state-of-the-art OnVUE delivery software to ensure a secure test administration with the following features:

- **Advanced ID verification** – As part of OnVUE testing, test takers are required to take photos of their government-issued ID during the exam check-in process. Identity checks are carried out by AI and supported by an OnVUE human 'greeter' who will verify the test taker's identity.
- **Test environment check** – The test taker needs to submit photos of their room, which are checked by the proctor to ensure the test taker's environment is in adherence to the exam conditions.
- **Live proctoring** – Human monitoring and webcam recording occurs throughout with AI detection of unusual activity, to ensure test policies are being followed. The proctor can communicate with the test taker and revoke the exam in the case of suspicious activity.
- **AI monitoring** – This provides an additional level of security providing face matching, multi-face detection and face missing in case the test taker leaves the room.
- **Locked-down browser** – The secure browser feature locks down the test taker's computer before the exam starts. The secure browser prevents the test taker from accessing other applications and other files on the test taker's computer, network, or internet during the exam. To maintain security further, a break isn't offered unless required for medical reasons. This reduces the risk of a test taker breaking the rules while away from the screen.

? What do proctors look for when monitoring exams?

A Pearson VUE has been proctoring exams online since 2014 and proctoring exams for much longer. Proctor training, rules, and quality-assurance procedures are constantly evolving and are partly trade secret, but rules fall into two general categories. If the test taker is suspected of engaging in any unauthorized activity, the proctor can speak directly to the test taker and give warnings if required.

Examples of actions that trigger warnings:

- Another person entering the room
- Covering mouth or face with hands
- Leaning outside of the camera's view
- Suspicious eye gaze
- Unauthorized objects in view

Examples of actions that trigger proctors to revoke exams:

- Not obeying the proctor's instructions
- A second person answering questions or sitting at the computer
- Accessing unauthorized materials
- Leaving the webcam view

? What will test takers need to be able to take PTE Academic Online?

A Test takers will need to book a slot for their test session in advance. To take the PTE Academic Online test, a test taker needs the following:

- A quiet, private location with no distractions for the duration of test
- A reliable PC or Mac computer
- A wired headset (bluetooth is not permitted)
- A webcam
- A strong internet connection

A system check will be carried out before the test to ensure the test taker's audio is the right quality to be scored. Once the test taker logs on, there will be live chat support to ensure a seamless experience.

? How can I recognize PTE Academic Online for my institution?

A If you would like to recognize PTE Academic Online, please follow the link to the **recognition form here**.

? When will PTE Academic Online be available to book and taken by students?

A PTE Academic Online will be available from November 16th, test takers will be able to book the test from October 26th.

For more information about PTE Academic Online visit:
pearsonpte.com/institutions/pte-academic-online