



Immigration & Nationality

A Division of the Guernsey Border Agency

Committee for Home Affairs Immigration Work Permit Policy English Language Requirement

On 01 January 2013 an English language requirement was introduced as part of the qualifying criteria for the issue of an immigration work permit in the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

Set out below are ways this can be met or an exemption granted.

The employer must show that the employee:

- (i) Is a national of a majority English Language speaking country as listed below:

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, New Zealand, St Christopher (Kitts) and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America;
or

- (ii) Passed a test on the list of approved English language tests as set out in the English language requirement for Tier 2 (General) Migrant employment route, of the UK Border Agency Points-Based System (PBS), **evidenced by the original test result certificate**. The level of English must be equivalent to level B1 or above of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework; or

- (iii) Has obtained an academic qualification (not a professional or vocational qualification), which meets the recognised standard of a Bachelor's or Master's degree or PhD in the UK, from an educational establishment in one of the following countries, **evidenced by the original certificate of award**:

Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, New Zealand, St Christopher (Kitts) and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United States of America, United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland. ; or

- (iv) Has obtained an academic qualification (not a professional or vocational qualification) taught in English which is deemed by UK NARIC (see note below) to meet the recognised standard of a Bachelor's or Master's degree or PhD in the UK. **A statement of comparability from UK NARIC, and a letter from the academic institution with confirmation that the qualification was taught in English must be submitted with the application.**

Note:

Original documents must be produced in support of the English language test requirement which will be returned to the employer.

The level of English must be equivalent to level B1 or above of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework for language learning.

UK NARIC (National Academic Recognition Information Centre) is the National Agency responsible for providing information, advice and expert opinion on qualifications worldwide. www.naric.org.uk

The list of approved English language test providers can be found on the United Kingdom Border Agency website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-applying-for-uk-visa-approved-english-language-tests>

Approved English language test providers in the Bailiwick of Guernsey

The Guernsey College of Further Education
Route des Coutanchez
St Peter Port
Guernsey
GY1 2TT

Tel: 01481 737500
Fax: 01481 746730
Email: college@gcfe.net

Exemptions

The following persons are exempt from the English language requirement:

- (i) Existing work permit holders currently in Guernsey who arrived before 1st January 2013.
- (ii) Short term work permit holders when the maximum duration of the permit is 6 months.
- (iii) Intra-company transferees
- (iv) Legacy Policy permits in Sector C being Seasonal (unskilled) workers in the hospitality industry for employment of up to 9 months.

If an applicant currently holds a UK Tier 1 or Tier 2 category visa, it will be assumed that the English Language requirement has already been satisfied.