

POLICY TITLE: Assessing English Language Proficiency, Educational Qualifications and Work Experience Requirements (International)

Purpose

To ensure that Photography Studies College (Melbourne) (the College) provides opportunities for a student's chance for success by recruiting students who are appropriately qualified for the course they are seeking to enroll in.

Policy

This policy is designed to enable the College to adequately assess English language proficiency, educational qualifications or work experience that is sufficient for admission into undergraduate and graduate courses.

Procedures

1. English Language Proficiency

The College assesses each application to identify whether a prospective student was exempt from undertaking an English Language Test or where an approved English Language Test was undertaken.

Exemption from providing English Language Proficiency

Prospective students are exempt from providing evidence of English language proficiency with their visa application if they fall into one of the following categories:

- students who have completed at least five years of study in Australia, New Zealand, Canada, South Africa or the Republic of Ireland
- citizens and passport holders of the UK, USA, Canada, New Zealand or the Republic of Ireland
- students who have successfully completed the Senior Secondary Certificate of Education or study at Certificate IV level or higher in Australia within two years of applying for a student visa
- students enrolled full time in school studies as a principal course (including secondary exchange programs), postgraduate research or a standalone ELICOS program
- Foreign Affairs or Defence sponsored students.

Supporting certificated academic documentation will be required to be submitted with the application.

English Language Tests

In the case that a prospective student does not meet the exemption requirements for English proficiency for a student visa, the prospective student will be required to provide evidence that an approved English Language Test was undertaken. English Language Test's must have been completed no more than two years before an application is submitted.

The College interview process also provides an opportunity to assess verbal English language proficiency for each applicant. In some cases, an applicant may be identified as being required to undertake tasks to demonstrate verbal and written proficiency.

If an application is successful, the name of the test, score and date of that test will be recorded in PRISMS during the creation of the CoE for student visa purposes.

Minimum requirements for entry into the College's Undergraduate Programs

Prospective students entering into the College's undergraduate programs must be able to demonstrate achievement of one of the following levels of English language proficiency:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Module: Overall score of 6.0 (no band less than 6.0);
- TOEFL Internet: Test score 65 (minimum writing score 21);
- Pearson Test of English (PTE): Overall score 50 -57 (no section score less than 50);
- University of Cambridge – Advanced (CAE): Total score of 169.

Minimum requirements for entry into the College's Graduate Programs

Prospective students entering into Photography Studies College (Melbourne) graduate programs must be able to demonstrate achievement of one of the following levels of English language proficiency:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Module: Overall score of 6.5 (no band less than 6.0);
- TOEFL Internet: Test score 79 (minimum writing score 21);
- Pearson Test of English (PTE): a minimum overall score of 58 (no section score less than 50);
- University of Cambridge – Advanced (CAE): minimum overall score of 175.

2. Educational Qualifications

To be successfully admitted into the College's undergraduate courses, prospective students must be able to provide evidence of completion of Secondary School Year 12 or equivalent.

Admission into the College's graduate courses of study is decided on a case-by-case basis. Normally prospective students will have an undergraduate qualification in Photography, Creative Arts or a related area; however, prospective students with a diverse range of qualifications and/or significant professional experience will be considered.

Certified transcripts of results and any post-secondary qualifications must be provided.

3. Work Experience

Prospective students seeking admission on the basis of significant professional experience will in addition to any evidence of their educational qualifications will be required to provide additional evidence of their work experience and professional practice. This may include certified records of employment, references from past employers, at least two professional references from their field of practice and an original folio of photographic or similar work in order to establish their capacity for independent professional practice.

Responsibility

Academic Director
Higher Education Course Director
Future Students and Communication Staff

Definitions

College means the Photography Studies College (Melbourne) the trading name of Photography Holding Pty Ltd.

Related Documentation

Policies

Student Application and Admission Policy – International
Master of Arts Photography Application Selection and Admissions Policy

Procedures Forms & Documents

Relevant Course Guide
International Student Handbook

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