

This language policy is for MBA 2026. The policy for MBA 2027 has not yet been released and therefore this is subject to change. Please use this policy as a guide until the MBA 2027 policy is issued. You will be required to meet the conditions of the updated and relevant policy for MBA 2027.

1. Conditions where an IELTS test would be required:

If none of the outlined conditions in **Sections 2 & 3** apply, you are required to take the IELTS (Academic) or Cambridge English C2 Proficiency. IELTS One Skill Retake is also accepted.

The minimum English language requirements for admission into the Cambridge MBA are as follows:

a) IELTS (Academic)

Element	Score
Listening	7.0
Writing	7.0
Reading	6.5
Speaking	7.0
Overall	7.0

b) Cambridge English C2 Proficiency: Overall score of **200**, with no element **lower than 185**.

The IELTS test must be taken within two years of the start date of the Cambridge MBA programme.

Applicants who narrowly miss these minimum scores may be referred to the University's Language Centre for assessment, upon admission, at the discretion of the Admissions Committee.

2. Conditions where you would not need an IELTS test:

An IELTS test is not normally required if:

- a) You are a national of and have completed secondary or tertiary education in English in a **List A country**; or
- b) You have a three-year qualification equivalent to at least a UK Bachelor's Degree that was completed in a **List A country** (excepting Canada*) and with a graduation date **no more than two years** before the start date of the Cambridge MBA programme; or
- c) You have a three-year qualification equivalent to at least a UK Bachelor's Degree that was completed in a **List A country** (excepting Canada*) AND have been living and working in a **List A country** since.

List A	
• Antigua and Barbuda • Australia (also Christmas Island, Norfolk Island, Keeling Islands, Cocos Islands) • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • British Overseas Territories • Canada • Dominica • Grenada • Guyana	• Republic of Ireland • Jamaica • Malta • New Zealand (also Niue, Tokelau, Cook Islands) • St Kitts and St Nevis • St Lucia • St Vincent and the Grenadines • Trinidad and Tobago • UK (including holders of Isle of Man and Channel Island variant British Passports) • United States of America

British Nationals (Overseas) are not included in List A.

- * If the qualification was obtained in Canada, this condition will be met only if that education was in English.

3. Conditions where an internal assessment by the University's Language Centre would be required:

An IELTS test is not normally required, however, you will be assessed upon admission internally by the University's Language Centre if:

- a) You are a national of and have completed secondary or tertiary education in English in a **List B country**; or

List B	
• Botswana • Ghana • India • Kenya • Mauritius • The Netherlands • Nigeria • Singapore	• South Africa • South Sudan • Sri Lanka • Sudan • Swaziland • Uganda • Zambia • Zimbabwe

- b) You have a two-year qualification equivalent to at least a UK Bachelor's Degree that was completed in a **List B country** and with a graduation date **no more than two years** before the start date of the Cambridge MBA programme; or
- c) You have a two-year qualification equivalent to at least a UK Bachelor's Degree that was completed at an institution that the University recognises as using **English as a Medium of Instruction (EMI)** at the required level for entry to Cambridge, and with a graduation date **no more than two years** before the start date of the Cambridge MBA programme; or
- d) You have a two-year qualification equivalent to at least a UK Bachelor's Degree in a **List A country** AND have subsequently worked for at least six months, and to within two years of the start date of the Cambridge MBA programme, in an English-speaking environment in a **List A country**. If you are given an offer and would like to be referred for internal assessment, you will be given a declaration document for your company HR to sign confirming your dates and location of employment; or
- e) You have a two-year qualification equivalent to at least a UK Bachelor's Degree in a **List A country** AND have subsequently worked for at least six months, and to within two years of the start date of the Cambridge MBA programme, for an international company, or an international charity, whose official operating language is English, and the role required you to use English on a regular basis. An 'international' organisation is defined as one that has offices in more than two countries. A declaration from the company is required.

Note: In exceptional cases, an applicant may be referred for a language assessment by the University's Language Centre when they do not meet any of the listed circumstances.

Please be aware that it is at the discretion of the Admissions Committee to introduce an IELTS test or internal Language Centre Assessment requirement at any stage in the admissions process, even if you have complied with the conditions outlined above.