

Guidelines for English language equivalency for HDR admission



To be eligible for admission, an Higher Degree by Research applicant must demonstrate English language proficiency by any of the three categories detailed in the [Higher Degree by Research \(HDR\) Admissions Policy](#).

Where an HDR applicant does not meet the minimum entry requirements (with respect to English language proficiency) a Faculty may apply on behalf of the applicant for the Dean, Graduate Research to consider a case for English language equivalency.

If the case is approved, the requirement to provide evidence of English language proficiency by any of the three categories as per policy, is waived.

The process for making a case for English language equivalency is as follows:

Each case for English language equivalency must include a written statement of support from the Faculty and at least two of the following types of evidence and should pay attention to the skills required for completion of a thesis.

- English language test results that meet minimum requirements but are up to six months older than the expiry date (test result expiry is usually two years, or 18 months for TOEFL).
- Evidence of work experience requiring proficiency in English, e.g. reference letter from employer specifically addressing requirement for English.
- Evidence of study taught and examined in English but less than the required full-time duration (two years) or study was completed more than two years ago.
- Face-to-face or phone interview with the applicant by staff member outside the immediate research area
- Sample of written work assessed as appropriate for entry to research degree by staff member outside the immediate research area.

The Associate Dean Research or HDR should submit a written statement (with supporting evidence) for an application for English language equivalency to the Dean of Graduate Research (Dean.GraduateResearch@canberra.edu.au).