

Entry requirements for the Stage 6 English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D) course

ACE 8007

Last Updated: 14 October 2020

The English EAL/D course may be studied by any student who has been educated overseas or in an Australian educational institution with English as the language of instruction for five years or less prior to commencing the Year 11 course. This includes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from remote Indigenous communities where Standard Australian English is not the language of instruction.

The onus is on students to provide evidence of their previous schooling.

In order to apply the above criterion, the principal must determine the main language of instruction at previous schools attended by the student.

An English EAL/D Eligibility Declaration must be completed (by the school and the student) for any student seeking entry to the course. This form is kept by the principal.

For a student who has had a substantially interrupted education, approval may be sought to extend the period of instruction in English to six years. The principal is required to send a submission, including the completed declaration form to NESA, providing evidence of the student's individual circumstances.

Entry requirements for Stage 6 Languages courses where eligibility criteria apply

ACE 8008

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Students need to meet specific eligibility criteria for some Stage 6 Languages courses. For each of these courses, students must apply for an eligibility determination by completing the relevant application form.

The principal needs to make eligibility decisions before the student enrolls in the relevant Languages course.

Eligibility criteria apply to the following Year 11 and Year 12 courses:

- [Language*] Beginners
- [Language] Continuers where a [Language] in Context and/or a [Language] and Literature course exists
- [Language] in Context courses where a [Language] and Literature course exists

* insert relevant language, eg Chinese

Eligibility criteria DO NOT apply to the following Year 11 and Year 12 courses:

- Any Languages course which is the highest proficiency level available
- Extension (these courses may only be studied concurrently with, or after completing, the HSC 2-unit [Language] Continuers course in the same language)

The HSC Languages Eligibility Criteria are set out in a common framework that describes course levels and target candidatures, and the continuum of language learning.

To be eligible for a course, a student must meet all eligibility criteria at the time of entry to that course.

For determining eligibility:

- speakers of dialects and variants of a language are considered speakers of the standard language, eg Cantonese Chinese speakers are considered speakers of Mandarin
- speakers of Indonesian and speakers of Malay are considered speakers of both languages
- formal education is 'education that is institutionalised, intentional and planned through public organizations [sic] and recognised private bodies, and -- in their totality -- constitute the formal education system of a country.' (UNESCO International Standard Classification of Education, 2011, para 36).

The principal of the school delivering the course determines eligibility.

The authority to determine eligibility is **delegated to principals** by NESA.

Documentary evidence supporting the principal's determination must be retained by the school until the student completes the HSC language course.

Stage 6 Languages eligibility appeals

ACE 8009

Last Updated: 30 July 2019

If a student believes that the eligibility determination has not been made in accordance with the course eligibility criteria, the student can seek **a review** of the determination, initially from the principal. If, following the principal's review, the student remains ineligible to undertake a particular Language course, the student may appeal to the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

Principals should inform students of the review and appeal procedures and provide students with the relevant forms on request.