



Skills Funding
Agency

Guidance

Home Office Changes to English Language Test Requirements for Settlement, Nationality and Limited Leave

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English for the purposes of settlement and nationality

From November 2015, settlement and citizenship applicants will need to take a Secure English Language Test (SELT) at a SELT test centre. The requirement will remain a B1-level qualification in speaking and listening. The Home Office will no longer accept other English Language qualifications after November and the exact date will be announced as soon as time in the parliamentary timetable allows.

For applications for settlement and citizenship made before November, the Home Office will continue to accept qualifications included in the Ofqual Register of Regulated Qualifications.

Introducing these changes from November will give those individuals currently studying for an English Language qualification the opportunity to make a settlement or naturalisation application using that qualification. It will also ensure that colleges and other training organisations are aware of the changing situation for any courses starting later in 2015.

Further information about the changes for settlement and citizenship will be placed on the [Home Office](#) website in due course.

Limited leave

New, strengthened arrangements for SELTs for those seeking limited leave in the UK began in April 2015. The new system means that settlement and citizenship applicants need to take tests at approved test centres, which will be run by Trinity College London and International English Language Testing System (IELTS) SELT Consortia in the UK and IELTS Test Consortia in the rest of the world.

Further information on SELTs is available on the [Applying for a UK Visa: Approved English Language Tests](#) and at the [Approved English Language Qualifications](#) pages of the GOV.UK website.

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