



ENGLISH LANGUAGE POLICY

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Introduction

The English Language Policy sets out ABA Australia's English Language requirements for individuals seeking certification with ABA Australia. The English language requirement is to ensure individuals have a minimum English language competency to practice safely and effectively as a behaviour analyst in Australia.

Scope

This policy applies to all individuals applying for initial certification with ABA Australia; this is, certified behaviour analyst and certified behaviour analyst - undergraduate. It does not apply to professional, affiliate, student or supporting members.

Definitions

1. **"Exempt country"** refers to Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Republic of Ireland, South Africa, United Kingdom or United States of America
2. **"IELTS"** refers to the International English Language Testing System

Policy

1. All individuals applying for initial certification with ABA Australia must show English language competency unless they meet an exemption.
2. An individual can demonstrate that they meet the English language requirement by completion of an accepted English language test, that is IELTS or equivalent as follows:
 - 2.1. The individual has achieved a minimum overall score of 7 in one or two sittings of the Academic IELTS test; and
 - 2.2. A minimum score of 7 in each of the four components (i.e., listening, reading, writing and speaking) in the IELTS academic test in a maximum of two sittings in a six (6) month period
 - 2.3. The test results were obtained:
 - 2.3.1. Within the previous two years before the certification application. If an applicant relies on test results from two sittings, time begins to run from the date of the earlier sitting; OR



- 2.3.2. More than two years before the application if in the period since the test results were obtained the applicant has been in continuous practice or continuous tertiary study which began within 12 months of the date of the test in an exempt country.
3. The individual is responsible for any costs incurred for the sitting of the English language test(s).

Exemptions

1. Individuals who meet one of the following exemptions does not need to show evidence of an accepted English language test:
 - 1.1. The individual has completed all secondary education that was taught and assessed in English in an exempt country;
 - 1.2. Successfully completed (with a pass grade or higher) the equivalent of three years or more full-time tertiary study (at Bachelor degree level or higher), that was taught and assessed in English in an exempt country; OR
 - 1.3. The individual has completed an Association for Behavior Analysis International verified course sequence in an exempt country within two (2) years before the certification application is submitted to ABA Australia.
2. ABA Australia reserves the right to ask an applicant to take the Academic IELTS examination if there is uncertainty about their level of English proficiency.

AUTHORISATION

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