



ACADEMIC COUNCIL REPORT

ACTION REQUESTED:

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Recommendation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Decision | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Discussion/Direction | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Information | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

DATE: 28 January 2020

FROM: Undergraduate Studies Committee

SUBJECT: Admissions Procedure Addition

COMMITTEE MANDATE:

In accordance with the USC Terms of Reference, USC has the ability to “to establish, oversee, and periodically review the undergraduate academic, admissions, and scholarship procedures, guidelines, and directives, and revise when appropriate, and provide regular updates to Academic Council”.

USC is reporting these changes to Academic Council for information.

BACKGROUND/CONTEXT & RATIONALE:

Cambridge Assessment English is part of the University of Cambridge. Their tests are globally recognized by more than 20,000 universities, employers and governments. C1 Advanced is a focused academic English exam which gives students the English skills they need to succeed at college or university in undergraduate and postgraduates programs.

C1 Advanced is accepted many Canadian universities including: Dalhousie University, McMaster University, University of British Columbia, and the University of Toronto. The Registrar proposed to add use of the C1 Advanced to Ontario Tech University’s admissions procedures.

RESOURCES REQUIRED:

No additional resources are required.

TRANSITION PLAN:

This option will be available as of the 2020-21 admissions cycle.

CONSULTATION AND APPROVAL:

Undergraduate Studies Approval: 18 November 2019

NEXT STEPS:

- This change will be included in the 2020-2021 admissions cycle

SUPPORTING REFERENCE MATERIALS:

- Original memo from Joe Stokes, Registrar



OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Admissions Procedure Addition

To: Undergraduate Studies Committee

From: Joe Stokes

Re: English Language Proficiency – Cambridge Assessment English

Date: October 2019

Motion

To accept Cambridge English: Advanced (C1 Advanced) exam from applicants as sufficient evidence of English language proficiency (with a recommended minimum score of 180 with no band lower than 170), effective for the 2020/21 admissions cycle.

Rationale

Cambridge Assessment English is part of the University of Cambridge. Their tests are globally recognized by more than 20,000 universities, employers and governments. C1 Advanced is a focused academic English exam which gives students the English skills they need to succeed at college or university in undergraduate and postgraduates programs. C1 Advanced consists of four papers:

- Reading and use of English (1 hour, 30 minutes)
- Writing (1 hour, 30 minutes)
- Listening (40 minutes)
- Speaking (15 minutes).

The overall score is calculated by averaging the scores achieved in each of the above components. According to Cambridge: "The Speaking test is face to face and taken with two examiners and at least one other candidate. The paired format means candidates experience a more authentic exercise in communication, which gives a more reliable measure of their ability to use English.

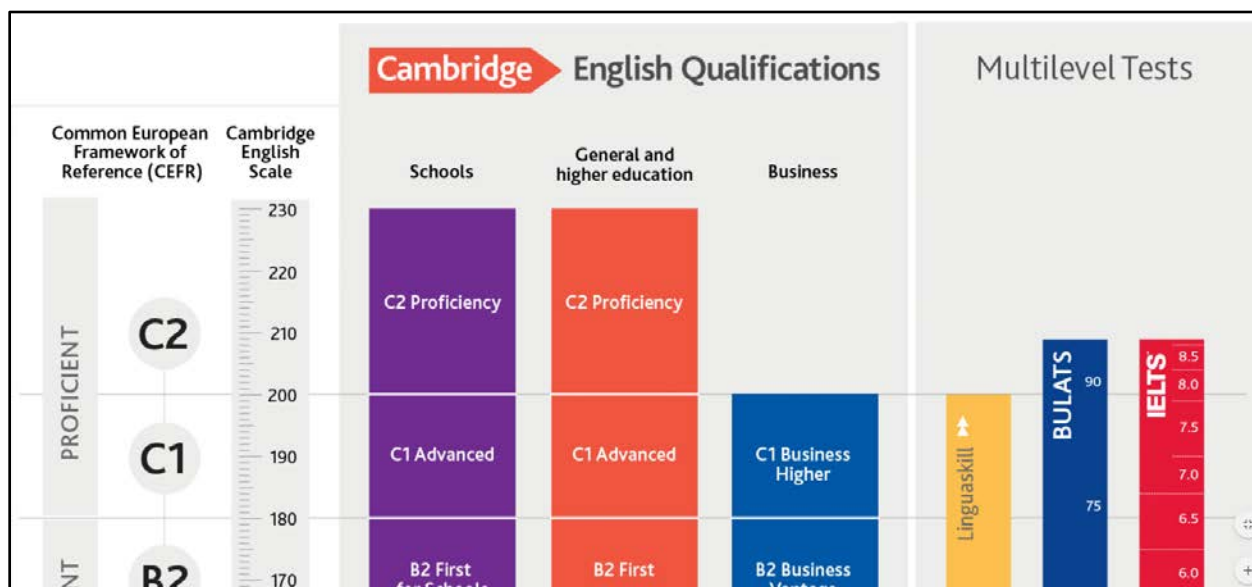
C1 Advanced is accepted by many Canadian universities including: Dalhousie University, McMaster University, University of British Columbia, and the University of Toronto.

According to Cambridge, there are more than 37 exam dates per year. Exams can be taken at hundreds of exam centres around the world.

Comparison to other English Language Proficiency Tests

The minimum score has been determined based on a comparison to other leading academic English tests. The minimum score of 180 is in line with our minimum IELTS requirement.

IELTS 6.5 - 7.0 (with no sub-score below 6.0)



<https://www.cambridgeenglish.org/exams-and-tests/cambridge-english-scale/>

Many Canadian universities recognize C1 Advanced for their ELP requirements. Below is a snapshot of universities that accept C1 Advanced and the minimum scores they require.

Institution	Score	Notes
University of British Columbia	180	
Dalhousie University	180	No lower than 170 in each band
McMaster University	190	No lower than 180 in each band
Trent University	180	
University of Toronto	193	
Wilfrid Laurier University	176	