Kerry ETB

Further Education and Training

BORD OIDEACHAIS
AGUS OILIÚNA CHIARRAÍ

KERRY EDUCATION
AND TRAINING BOARD

English Language Requirements Policy

For

Further Education and Training courses

Authors:	Kerry ETB QA Unit
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Resources:	Appendix 1: Table of Equivalence

1. **Purpose and Scope:**

Teaching, learning and assessment in Kerry ETB is through the medium of English. All applicants need to show a level of competence in the English language.

All applicants who do not speak English as their first language must meet English language requirements to participate in Kerry ETB Further Education and Training provision and in Kerry College courses. This policy sets out these requirements.

This policy applies to all engaged or seeking to engage in FET teaching, learning and assessment activities in Kerry ETB who do not speak English as their first language. It may also apply to those who have arrived to Ireland two years prior to application to Kerry ETB/ Kerry College. This includes applicants for courses in Kerry ETB FET Centres, Youthreach and Kerry College Campuses.

2. **Objectives:**

This policy sets out the English language requirements to ensure that all applicants have the reading, writing, listening and speaking skills to participate in teaching, learning and assessment activity in Kerry ETB.

Applicants whose first language is not English must have an appropriate and valid score in the Kerry ETB English Examination. All applicants whose first language is not English must take this test. Such English test results may not be more than two years old.

3. **Definitions of Entry Levels**

Applicants must be able to demonstrate proficiency in reading, writing, listening and speaking. The English language requirements for entry to courses at NFQ levels 3, 4, 5 and 6 are outlined below and are summarised in Figure 1:

For entry to NFQ Level 3 courses:

An applicant must demonstrate A2 level on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) or equivalent. For equivalence see Appendix One Table of Equivalence.

For entry to NFQ Level 4 courses:

An applicant must demonstrate B1 level on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) or equivalent. For equivalence see Appendix One Table of Equivalence.

For entry to NFQ Level 5 courses:

An applicant must demonstrate B2 level on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) or equivalent. For equivalence see Appendix One Table of Equivalence.

For entry to NFQ Level 6 courses:

B2 level on the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR) or equivalent. For equivalence see Appendix One Table of Equivalence.

Figure 1: Summary of English Language Levels Required for NFQ Level 3 – 6 courses

English Language Entry Level (CEFR)	Course Level
A2	NFQ Level 3
B1	NFQ Level 4
B2	NFQ Level 5
B2	NFQ Level 6

4. Roles and Responsibilities:

4.1 Applicant

Applicants who do not speak English as their first language must demonstrate capabilities in English in line with the entry requirements for the particular NFQ level (see Section 3 Definitions).

This demonstration of capability may also apply to those who have not undertaken their final two years of schooling through the medium of English and/or those who have arrived to Ireland two years prior to application to Kerry ETB.

4.2 Kerry College Admissions Office

Kerry College Admissions Office must provide information to applicants on the English language requirements for all programmes and must gain evidence of the applicant's capability in English. Kerry College Admissions Unit must set out the English Language Proficiency test dates for applicants, except where applicants are progressing from an existing Kerry ETB FET course. Kerry College Admissions Office can refer any applicant for an English language proficiency test.

4.3 Kerry ETB Youthreach Co-ordinator/ Kerry ETB FET Centre Manager

All centres/ campuses delivering FET programmes for Kerry ETB must ensure that nobody is enrolled on a course unless they have the English language skills to participate fully in all teaching, learning and assessment activities.

5. Implementation and Review:

This is for immediate implementation and will be reviewed within 3 years.

6. Approval: This is recommended by the FET Management Team and approved by the Kerry Education and Training Board.

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Developer:	FET Management
Approval Channel	
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Glossary

Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)

The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) is an international standard for describing language ability. It describes language ability on a six-point scale, from A1 for beginners, up to C2 for those who have mastered a language.

ESOL

ESOL is a term frequently used in Adult, Further Education and Training and stands for English for Speakers of Other Languages.

IELTS (IELTS)

IELTS (IELTS) is the International English Language Testing System. It measures ability to communicate in English across all four language skills - listening, reading, writing and speaking - for people who intend to study or work where English is the language of communication.

Appendix 1: Table of Equivalence

5

QQI	Council of Europe Frame work for Reference for Language (CEF)		General ELT Levels	Cambridge Main Suite	IELTS
	C 2	**Proficient** **User**	**Advanced** **Lower Advanced**	**C.P.E** **C.A.E**	**9.00** **8.00** **7.00** **6.00**
	C1				
QQI 5	**B2**	**Independent** **User**	**Higher** **Intermediate**	**F.C.E**	**5.00**
QQI 4			**Intermediate**		**5.00**
QQI 3	**B1**	**Independent** **User**	**Pre-Intermediate**	**P.E.T**	**4.00**
QQI 2	**A2**	**Basic** **User**	**Elementary**	**K.E.T**	**3.00** **2.00**
QQI 1	**A1**	**Basic** **User**	**Beginner**		**1.00**
			Total Beginner (literacy)		