

**Question:** What is the passing score on IELTS for the college or university that I want to apply to?

**Answer:** Each institution sets its own minimum IELTS achievement scores: there is no universally accepted "pass" score in IELTS. For instance, an acceptable IELTS score for undergraduate programs at Brock University is different than that for the graduate law faculty of the University of Toronto. Therefore, each person attempting the IELTS should look up the necessary achievement score from the institution and particular faculty/department he/she wants admission or accreditation.

**Question:** How many parts are there to the IELTS test? How long is the exam?

**Answer:** Parts of IELTS

The IELTS has four major components, each one testing one of the language skills:

- listening
- reading
- writing
- speaking

The test is timed. A test-taker has to be very aware of how much time is left to complete a task. The time lengths shown below for the Reading and Writing portions are the maximum times allowed. The time lengths of the Listening and Speaking portions are approximate. Therefore, the complete test will be slightly under 3 hours.

**Question:** What is the overall format of the Academic IELTS Version?

**Answer:** Overall Test Format of the Academic Version

Test Component	Number of Tasks, Number of Questions	Time Length
Listening	4 sections with one excerpt per section 40 questions total	40 minutes
Reading	3 sections 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> academic topic passage	60 minutes
Writing	2 tasks, a descriptive essay and a personal opinion essay	60 minutes
Speaking	3-part interview	11-14 minutes

### Question: How is IELTS scored?

#### Answer: Scoring IELTS

After taking the test, a candidate is awarded a band score in each of the test components, with 1 being the least proficient and 9 being the most proficient; the scale is in half-point increments, where 6.0 and 6.5 are possible scores, but not 6.1. The test-takers four band scores are also averaged to construct an overall band score. Some institutions require applicants to submit one or more of the individual component scores, as well as the overall score.

9	Expert user
8	Very good user
7	Good user
6	Competent user
5	Modest user
4	Limited user
3	Extremely limited user
2	Intermittent user
1	Non-user
0	Did not take the test

- There are 48 tests dates per year that students can pick from to write the IELTS exam at an IELTS Test Centre.
- Results from your IELTS test are sent to you 13 business days after you write the test.