





Using OET for Allied Healthcare Professionals in the UK

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Introduction

All Allied Healthcare Professionals (AHPs) who wish to work in the UK must register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC). Internationally regulated AHPs who were trained in a non-English speaking majority country must demonstrate they have an appropriate level of English to work in the UK.

The Occupational English Test (OET) is the only internationally recognized English language test which has been specifically designed for a number of healthcare professions. Full details can be found here.

<https://www.occupationalenglishtest.org/test-information/healthcare-professions/>

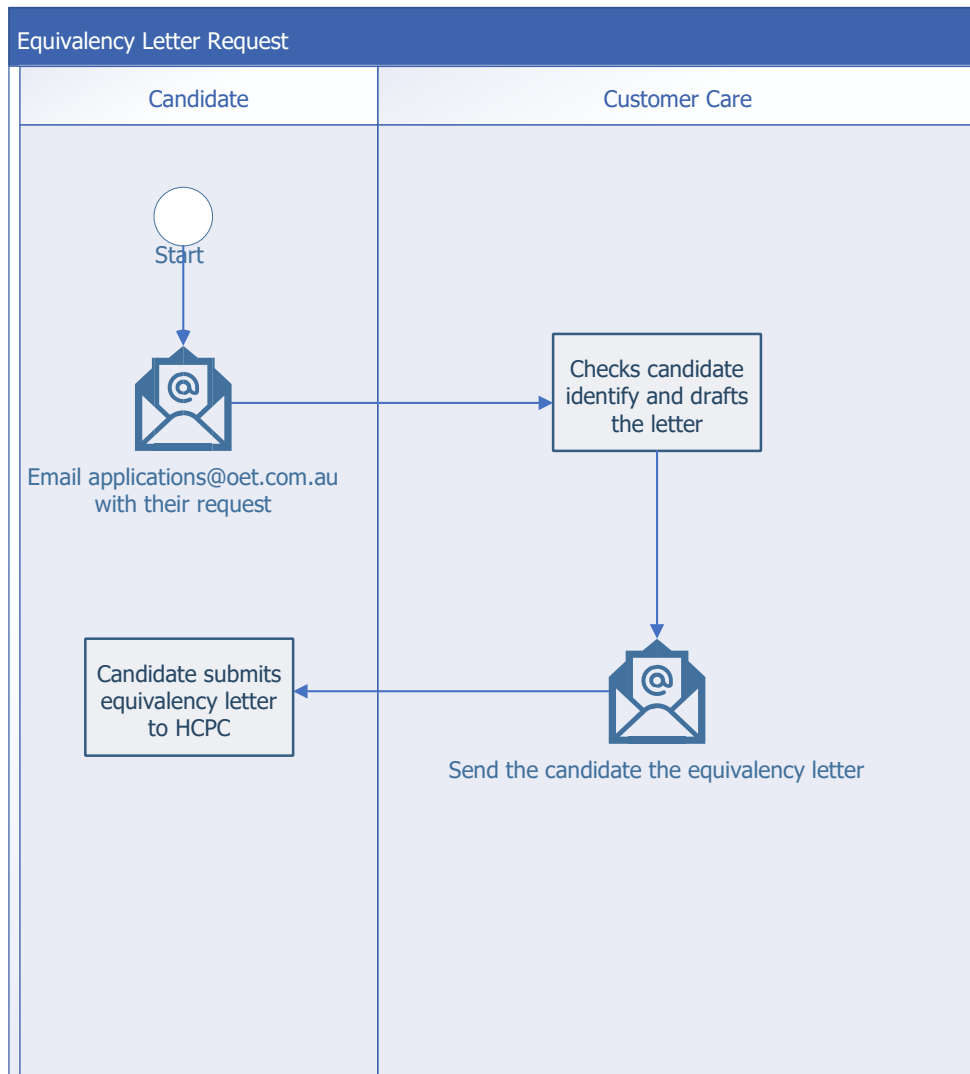
The following versions of OET can be used to demonstrate English language proficiency to the HCPC.

Profession	OET Version
Biomedical Scientists	(In development)
Chiropodists/podiatrists	Podiatry
Dietitians	Dietetics
Occupational therapists	Occupational therapy
Operating department practitioners	Nursing
Orthoptists	Optometry
Paramedics	Medicine/Nursing
Physiotherapists	Physiotherapy
Radiographers	Radiography
Speech and language therapists	Speech Pathology



Process

HCPC will accept OET test results, but candidates must provide HCPC with an equivalency letter outlining the equivalency of OET test scores to IELTS test scores. Candidates wishing to use their OET test results need to write to OET at the following email address - applications@oet.com.au - to request an equivalency letter. OET will identify and confirm the candidate's identity and test score and issue an equivalency letter. Candidates can then submit this equivalency letter to HCPC. This process is outlined in the graphic below:





Language Level Requirements

Applicants who are required to provide an OET score must ensure that it is comparable to IELTS level 7.0 with no element below 6.5 (or IELTS level 8.0 with no element below 7.5 for speech and language therapists).


OET and IELTS results comparison table

OET Results to August	2018 OET Score from September 2018	IELTS
A	450 – 500	8.0 - 9.0
B	350 – 440	7.0 - 7.5
C+	300 – 340	6.5
C	200 – 290	5.5-6.0
D	100 - 190	Less than 5.5
E	0 - 90	



Appendix

Sample equivalency letter (1 of 2)



OCCUPATIONAL ENGLISH TEST

The OET Centre
 GPO Box 16136
 Collins Street West VIC 8007
 Australia
 Tel: +61 3 8656 4000
www.occupationalenglishtest.org

Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
 184-186 Kennington Park Road
 London
 SE11 4BU
 United Kingdom

Dear Registration Manager,

This letter is to confirm that **CANDIDATE NAME** sat the OET in **PROFESSION** on **TEST DATE** and has obtained the following scores:

Sub Test	OET Score	Sub Test	OET Score
Reading	500	Speaking	500
Writing	500	Listening	500

OET has been mapped against IELTS by Cambridge Assessment English¹ who produce the assessment for both examinations. Variants of OET have also been independently reviewed by UKNARIC² – which includes the reading and listening across all healthcare professions.

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C+	300 – 340	6.5
C	200 – 290	5.5-6.0
D	100 - 190	Less than 5.5
E	0 - 90	

¹ <https://prod-wp-content.occupationalenglishtest.org/resources/uploads/2018/05/31233706/OET-IELTS-Benchmarking-Report-Update-October-2017.pdf>

² <https://prod-wp-content.occupationalenglishtest.org/resources/uploads/2019/07/28135938/OET-CEFR->



Appendix -
cont.

Sample equivalency letter (2 of 2)



The OET Centre
GPO Box 16136
Collins Street West VIC 8007
Australia
Tel: +61 3 8656 4000
www.occupationalenglishtest.org

If you need further validation of the results, please contact OET at csteam@oet.com.au and quote candidate details below:

Candidate name	
Candidate number	
Profession	
D.O.B	
Nationality	
Gender	
Venue name	
Venue number*	
Test date	

**Venue number applies to the most recent test date only*

Yours Sincerely,

Sujata Stead
CEO
Cambridge Boxhill Language Assessment