



## Regulations on Language Proficiency for Study at Reutlingen University<sup>1</sup>

05.02.2019

On the basis of § 8 paragraph 5 in connection with §§ 58 paragraph 1 p. 2, 60 paragraph 3 no. 1 and § 63 paragraph 2 Landeshochschulgesetz of 01.04.2014 (GBl. p.99), last amended by article 1 of the law of 13.03.2018 (GBl. p. 85), the Reutlingen University Senate passed the following regulations on 18.01.2019.

### § 1 Documentation for German-language Degree Programmes

- (1) Applicants requiring German language proficiency for their desired programme, who did not obtain their relevant qualification at a German-language institution, are required to document their German language proficiency with one of the following:
  - Deutsche Sprachprüfung für den Hochschulzugang - DSH 2 or better
  - Test Deutsch als Fremdsprache - TestDaF with 14 points or better
  - Prüfungsteil Deutsch of the assessment test at Studienkollegs
  - German Language Certificate of the Education Ministers Conference - second level (approved by the Education Ministers Conference on 06.12.1996, as amended)/DSD II
  - telc Deutsch C1 Hochschule
  - Goethe-Zertifikat C2: Großes Deutsches Sprachdiplom (GDS). As of 1.1.2012, the GDS integrates the Goethe Institute exams Zentrale Oberstufenprüfung (ZOP), Kleines Deutsches Sprachdiplom (KDS), and Großes Deutsches Sprachdiplom (GDS).
  - school leaving certificate from a German school abroad providing mostly German-language teaching. Attendance up to and including 9th grade of a school at which all subjects were taught in German.
  - Deutsche Sprachprüfung II administered by the Sprachen- und Dolmetscher-Institut München
  
- (2) The requirement for documentation of German language proficiency shall be waived for applicants who can show that they have completed a degree in German studies or other prior studies and/or training with significant periods of those studies and/or training taking place in the German language. If a period of residence of at least five years in a German-speaking country can be proven, or in other cases presenting themselves, the assessment of German language proficiency may be carried out via an equivalency test by the Reutlingen International Office, upon request by the applicant.
  
- (3) The requirements in paragraphs (1) and (2) above apply accordingly to students who are admitted via cooperation agreements with partner institutions.

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<sup>1</sup> This is a courtesy translation for your convenience only. The sole legally binding document is the ‚Satzung über die erforderlichen Sprachkenntnisse für ein Studium an der Hochschule Reutlingen‘.

- (4) Students who, as part of a double degree programme cooperation agreement, are admitted by a partner institution abroad, are exempt from having to meet the German-language requirements if their language proficiency is assessed at the partner institution.
- (5) § 3 applies to exchange students on time-limited exchanges.

## § 2 Documentation for Degree Programmes conducted in English or in German and English

- (1) The required level of English proficiency under the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) for degree programmes conducted in English or in German and English is set out in each programme's respective selection regulations.
- (2) Documentation of English-language admission requirement **Level B2 (CEFR)**

For level B2 CEFR, good English skills are required in listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing, as well as the ability to use the language autonomously.

The person can understand the main ideas in complex texts on both concrete and abstract topics and understands specialist discourse in his/her special subject. He/she can make him/herself understood spontaneously and fluently, so that a normal conversation with native speakers is possible without great effort on both sides. He/she can express him/herself clearly and in detail on a broad spectrum of topics, can explain a view on a current issue and can give the pros and cons of various options.

The required language level can be documented by one of the following test results:

- IELTS: from band 5.5 to 6.5
- TOEFL iBT: a minimum of 72 to 94 points
- TOEIC: Listening: a minimum of 400, reading: a minimum of 385, speaking 160, writing 150 points
- Pearson Test of English (Academic) (PTEA): a minimum of 50 to 64 points
- Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE) as a minimum requirement
- Unicert II
- telc English B2

The level is considered to have been achieved also:

- if the applicant took English as a foreign language throughout high school in line with the standards of the Culture Ministers' Conference 'Bildungsstandards für die fortgeführte Fremdsprache (Englisch / Französisch) für die Allgemeine Hochschulreife', including the last four semesters of the final years of high school (qualification phase) and can document performance of at least 5 points for each part of the qualification phase. If proof of language proficiency is not provided by presentation of a school leaving certificate, the issuing institution must additionally confirm that the relevant grades were obtained at a qualification level equivalent to that of the German Abitur.
- if English-language assessment and coursework with a workload of at least 20 ECTS credits or a corresponding assessment of an equivalent workload is documented within the framework of a degree programme at a state or state-recognized higher education institution.

(3) Documentation of English-language admission requirement **Level C1 (CEFR)**

For level C1 CEFR, comprehensive English skills are required in listening comprehension, speaking, reading and writing, as well as the ability to use the language competently.

The person can understand a broad spectrum of demanding, longer texts and is also able to grasp implicit meanings. He/she can express him/herself spontaneously and fluently, without often having to obviously search for words. He/she can use the language effectively and flexibly in social and professional life or in studies and training. He/she can comment on complex issues in a clear, structured and thorough manner, thereby using various means of text association in an appropriate way.

The required language level can be documented by one of the following test results:

- IELTS: minimum band 7.0
- TOEFL iBT: a minimum of 95 points
- TOEIC: Listening: a minimum of 490, reading: a minimum of 455, speaking 180, writing 180 points
- Pearson Test of English (Academic) (PTEA): minimum 65 points
- Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English (CAE) or Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English (CPE)
- Unicert III

The level is considered to have been achieved also if an English-language school leaving certificate enabling higher education entrance or other English-language higher education entrance qualification equivalent or a professional qualification arising from an at least three-year higher education degree programme with English-language assessment and coursework with a workload of at least 180 ECTS credit points or equivalent was obtained, or a higher education degree with at least 50% in English from an English-speaking country is documented.

- (4) The requirement for documentation of English language proficiency shall be waived for applicants who can show that they have completed a degree in English studies. In other cases; if prior studies and/or training with significant periods of those studies and/or training taking place in the English language, or if residence of at least five years in an English-speaking country can be proved, the assessment of English-language proficiency may be carried out via an equivalency test by the Reutlingen International Office, upon request by the applicant.
- (5) Students who are, as part of a double degree programme cooperation agreement, admitted by a partner institution abroad, are exempt from having to meet the German-language requirements if their language proficiency is assessed at the partner institution.
- (6) § 3 applies to exchange students on time-limited exchanges.

### **§ 3 Exchange Students**

Exchange students studying at Reutlingen University within the framework of an agreement with a partner institution abroad for part of their studies and who are not seeking to obtain a degree from Reutlingen University (non-degree), are exempt from the documentation requirement under §§ 1 and 2.

The individual conditions set out in the respective Learning Agreements apply accordingly.

### **§ 4 Validity and Timeframe for Provision of Documentation**

- (1) For restricted-admission programmes, documentation of language proficiency should normally be submitted before the end of the application period, or before the deadline for enrolment at the latest. For programmes without restrictions on admission, documentation of language proficiency is to be presented before the deadline for enrolment at the latest. If an applicant is still waiting for test results, conditional enrolment may take place in justified individual cases. The documentation is to be submitted at the latest under the conditions specified in the official letter of acceptance.
- (2) Documentation of the language tests shall be considered valid for a period of five years from the date of issue, provided the subject-specific selection regulations do not specify another term of validity. If the documentation is older than five years, current documentation may be required in individual cases. If the necessary language proficiency is documented by the higher education entrance qualification or by a higher education degree, there is no time limit on its validity.

### **§ 5 Date of Effect and Procedures related to Amendments**

- (1) If subject-specific selection regulations effected prior to the official publication of these regulations contain more specific rules on forms of individual language proficiency documentation and their levels, those regulations apply until adapted to the provisions of these regulations.
- (2) These regulations come into effect on the day following their official publication.

Reutlingen, 05.02.2019

Professor Dr. Hendrik Brumme  
- President -