



## English Language and Learning Policy

### 1. PURPOSE

To provide for the development of enrolled students' English language and learning in accordance with the University's strategic objectives and government threshold standards for higher education.

### 2. POLICY STATEMENT

- 2.1 The University considers the development of English language proficiency to be integral to the development of discipline-based knowledge, and that language use varies according to context, audience and purpose.
- 2.2 To communicate effectively is a graduate capability.
- 2.3 Students require adequate English language proficiency to successfully engage with their studies and, on completion, to participate in their professional work environments.
- 2.4 Staff involved in curriculum design, assessment practices, course delivery and or supervision are responsible for developing students' English language proficiency through these activities.
- 2.5 Students will take an active role in developing their English language proficiency. This includes taking advantage of the opportunities provided for that development during their degree. The university will ensure these development opportunities are widely publicised.
- 2.6 The university will restrict Curtin coursework degree entry to all students who have demonstrated attainment of a prescribed minimum English language proficiency.
  - 2.6.1 Faculty areas may set English language entry requirements at a higher level in order to meet professional accreditation and effective study participation requirements.
  - 2.6.2 Where there is no minimum entry requirement, as in the case of (but not limited to) enabling programs and Open Universities Australia programs, English language proficiency will be assessed and development will be integrated into the program to ensure students meet the equivalent of minimum entry.
- 2.7 The university will conduct a diagnostic post-entry English language assessment (PELA) of all commencing students in Curtin degree courses to identify those whose English language proficiency may adversely affect their studies.
- 2.8 The university will offer a range of English language development programs and opportunities to all students.

### 3. RESPONSIBILITY FOR IMPLEMENTATION, COMPLIANCE MONITORING, MEASURING AND CONTINUAL IMPROVEMENT

These management positions are responsible for implementation and compliance monitoring of the policy in their work areas:

- Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic
- Faculty Pro-Vice Chancellors/Director CAS, or nominees.

### 4. SCOPE OF POLICY

This policy applies to all students and staff involved in teaching and learning.

### 5. DEFINITIONS

(Note: Commonly defined terms are located in the [Curtin Common Definitions](#). Any defined terms below are specific to this document)

#### **Commencing Students**

Students commencing studies at Curtin including those who have received Credit for Recognised Learning (CRL).

### Diagnostic assessment

A post-entry language assessment conducted as a means of determining a student's level of English language proficiency and an appropriate development path.

### English language proficiency

English language proficiency is defined by the Australian higher education standards authority as "language proficiency (the ability to communicate in the English language) and academic language proficiency (the ability to:

- participate effectively in a course of study delivered in English and to achieve expected learning outcomes without requiring significant English language support; and
- to gain entry to the labour market or a further course of study)"

(Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency. 2013. *Quality Assessment: English Language Proficiency*, Australian Government. Retrieved from: <http://www.teqsa.gov.au/providers/quality-assessments>)

## 6. SUPPORTING PROCEDURES

[English Language and Learning Procedures](#)

## 7. RELATED DOCUMENTS/LINKS

[Admission and Enrolment Manual](#): Minimum entry requirements for English

[Course Approval and Quality Manual](#)

[Language of Instruction Policy](#)

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<b>Policy Manager</b>	Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic
<b>Approval Authority</b>	Academic Board
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## REVISION HISTORY

Version	Approved/ Amended/ Rescinded	Date	Committee / Board / Executive Manager	Approval / Resolution Number	Key Changes and Notes
New	Approved	30/08/2013	Academic Board	AB 157/13	Attachment 1 to Document No 00922/13
	Administratively Updated	06/10/2015	Director, Legal and Compliance Services	EC 76/15	Executive Manager Title Changes