THE HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

Notification to Admittees of the UGC-funded Programmes on the Language Enhancement Courses and other measures pertaining to the new Language Policy

The Institute’s Language Policy

1. Under the new language policy of the Institute, all full-time undergraduate students will be subject to the minimum Language Exit Requirements (LERs) for English and Putonghua.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>English LER</th>
<th>Putonghua LER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>International English Language Testing System (IELTS)</td>
<td>Putonghua Shuiping Ceshi (PSC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All full-time non-language-major undergraduate programmes [except BSocSc (Global and Environmental Studies) and BSocSc (Psychology)]</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSocSc (Global and Environmental Studies) – students admitted in 2012/13 and 2013/14</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSocSc (Global and Environmental Studies) – students admitted in 2014/15 and thereafter</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BSocSc (Psychology)</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA (Language Studies) – English Major</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>3A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA (Language Studies) – Chinese Major</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEd (English Language) *</td>
<td>7.0</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEd (Chinese Language)</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>2B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BEd (History)</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>3B</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1. English and Putonghua Language Exit Requirements

@ Students are required to obtain IELTS 6 or above in each component namely Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

# Students are required to obtain IELTS 5 or above in each component namely Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

* Students are required to obtain IELTS 6.5 or above in each component namely Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening.

HKIEd-sponsored IELTS and PSC

2. All full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the UGC-funded undergraduate programmes will be sponsored to take the IELTS and PSC once after the students have completed the EEP and PEP at specific semesters of their respective programmes. Students who have attained the minimum exit level in IELTS will be deemed to have satisfied the LER for English; students who have attained the minimum exit level in PSC will be deemed to have satisfied the LER for Putonghua (please refer to the table under para. 1).
3. A student who is exempted from the LER for English and/or Putonghua may still take the HKIEd-sponsored IELTS and/or PSC on an optional basis.

Exemption from English LER

4. Students are eligible to apply for English LER exemption if they have attained
   (a) IELTS 6.5 [or equivalent] for Non-English majors (except for BEd (History), BSocSc (Psychology) and BSocSc (Global and Environmental Studies) which require IELTS 7.0 [or equivalent]); or
   (b) IELTS 7.5 [or equivalent] for English major;
   AND at least 80% of the courses within the curriculum are offered in EMI.

Exemption from Putonghua LER

5. Students are eligible to apply for Putonghua LER exemption if
   (a) they have attained one level higher than the requirement of their respective programmes (e.g. the Putonghua LER of BEd(English Language) – Primary/Secondary is PSC 3B; students must have attained PSC 3A in order to meet the exemption requirement of the programme); or
   (b) they have provided adequate documentation showing that they have no knowledge of Putonghua.

Alternative measures for fulfilling the Language Exit Requirements

6. Students whose IELTS or PSC result falls short of the required minimum exit level (please refer to the table under para. 1) may choose to fulfil the stipulated LER for English/Putonghua by completing a relevant supplementary language enhancement course offered by the Institute on a fee-paying basis (i.e. $2,300 for SEE and $2,300 for SPE where appropriate, subject to adjustment). Alternatively, students can choose to take the IELTS or PSC again at their own expenses before graduation.

Language Enhancement Programmes

7. The English Enhancement Programme (EEP), Putonghua Enhancement Programme (PEP) and Chinese Enhancement Programme (CEP) will be provided with a view to strengthening English, Putonghua and Chinese (including Cantonese) enhancement support for all students.

8. A student who is exempted from the LER for English and/or Putonghua may still take the EEP and/or PEP on an optional basis.

English Language Proficiency Assessment (ELPA) [Applicable to Year 1 entry new students only]

9. ELPA is a compulsory test. During the four/five years of studies at HKIEd, students have to take ELPA twice. Students failing to attend the first ELPA before the commencement of the first semester of Year 1 will not be allowed to register for the first credit-bearing English enhancement course, while those who fail to attend the second ELPA before the end of the second semester of Year 2, will be recorded a “fail” grade for the second credit-bearing English enhancement course. Students failing in credit-bearing English enhancement courses will not be allowed to graduate from the programme. Upon the programme registration in August, students should pay due attention to emails in their HKIEd email account and/or SMS for the test date, time and venue.
Tertiary Putonghua Test (TPT) [Applicable to Year 1 entry new students only]

10. During the four/five years of studies at HKIEd, students are required to take the TPT in August in their Year-1, in order to get exempted from Putonghua enhancement courses. Upon the programme registration in August, students should pay due attention to emails in their HKIEd email account and/or SMS for the test date, time and venue.

Remarks

- SEE: Supplementary English Enhancement (when the programme-specific LER for English or equivalent is not attained; see Table 1)
- SPE: Supplementary Putonghua Enhancement (when the programme-specific LER for Putonghua is not attained; see Table 1)
- All the costs stipulated above are not included in the tuition fees and are subject to adjustment.
- Cantonese courses are recommended for non-Cantonese-speaking students only.

For enquiries about the above Language Policy, please contact the Centre for Language in Education (CLE):

**English:** (852) 2948-7029 or 2948-8044 or cle@ied.edu.hk

**Putonghua:** (852) 2948-7896 or cle@ied.edu.hk

For admission enquiries, please contact the Registry at (852) 2948-6886.

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1. Students admitted to the full-time undergraduate programmes with a normal study period of two years or below (e.g. students who are admitted into year 3 of 4-yr programmes or year 4 of 5-yr programmes) will be exempted from the language enhancement courses and language exit requirements.

2. Senior-year entrants who are exempted from LERs could opt for the HKIEd-sponsored IELTS and PSC, on condition that those who apply for the sponsorship would be required to complete the fee-paying supplementary language enhancement courses if their IELTS and/or PSC scores fall below the requisite level (i.e., LERs). If their IELTS and/or PSC scores meet the requisite level (i.e., LERs), there will not be any consequences when they apply for the sponsorship.