



## The Institute of Ismaili Studies

### **STEP English Language Requirements**

Applicants must submit an IELTS Academic score with their application (any IELTS Academic test must have been taken no more than two years before the proposed start date of the programme being applied for).

The minimum requirements for English language proficiency are as follows: An overall band score of 7.0, or UCL equivalent, with a minimum score of 6.5 in each component in an IELTS Academic test certificate. Applicants with the overall score of 6.5 (with a minimum 6.0 in each component), or the standard equivalent in the alternative English language tests listed, will be considered and, if selected, will be eligible to receive a conditional offer.

Alternatively, applicants can submit scores from the following English language tests: TOEFL iBT with an overall score of 100 (\*92) and a minimum of 24/30 (\*24/30) for Reading & Writing, and 20/30 (\*20/30) for Speaking & Listening, PTE Academic with an overall score of 69 (\*62) and a minimum of (\*59) in Communicative Skills Papers, Cambridge English CAE/CPE with an overall score of 185 (\*176) and a minimum of 176 (\*169) in each sub-test and Trinity ISE III with a Merit (Standard) in all sub-tests.

Conditional offer holders will be expected to retake IELTS Academic\*\* in April 2023 (support provided by the Academic Skills Support Team at the IIS) to upgrade their offers to direct entry (unconditional) by obtaining an overall band 7 with no less than 6.5 in all subscores. Those who do not achieve this at the retest will be required to attend and successfully complete the Preparation for Academic Studies in Higher Education (PASHE) programme at UCL IOE before they are formally enrolled onto the STEP programme.

\* Scores in brackets indicate the 'standard level' score with which candidates will be considered and, if selected, will be eligible to receive a conditional offer.

\*\*The IIS will reimburse candidates to do this twice.

### **Student Route Visa Requirements**

In accordance with UK visa rules, the IIS exempts candidates from the English language requirements if they are nationals of, or have completed undergraduate studies taught in, the following countries: Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada (only if you are a national), Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Ireland,

Jamaica, New Zealand, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

Please note if you are exempt from taking IELTS Academic due to the fact you have completed an undergraduate or postgraduate degree taught in an English majority\*speaking country but are not a national of that that country, you also will need to meet the UCL requirement below. UCL rules state in order to be exempt from the IELTS Academic test or other Academic English Skills test, you must have completed your undergraduate or postgraduate studies no later than the summer two years prior to the proposed date of enrolment (i.e. Summer 2021 for a 2023 enrolment) otherwise you will be required to take an Academic English Skills test. For further guidance please refer to the UCL website: [www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/learning-and-living-ucl/international-students/english-language-requirements](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/learning-and-living-ucl/international-students/english-language-requirements).