IELTS Online
Take it anywhere—to make it anywhere
Guide for organisations
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Introducing IELTS Online

The world’s leading English language test is now available online.

**Famously reliable**
It is the same IELTS test with the same questions, timings and format – trusted and accepted worldwide.

**Reassuringly secure**
Protected by multi-layered security before, during and after the test.

**Widely accessible**
Anyone with a stable internet connection, a computer and private space can take the test. The test cannot be taken on a mobile, tablet or Chromebook.

**More choice**
Now available on paper, on computer and online, IELTS gives your applicants more opportunity to meet your English language requirements.
IELTS Online vs IELTS in a test centre: key differences

IELTS Online uses the same test format, question types, timing and scoring as in-centre tests.

Online testing demands some important additions to existing multi-layered security features.

**Remote proctoring**
A combination of human and artificial intelligence (AI) invigilation is managed by IELTS. It allows us to monitor test takers’ activity and perform identity checks.

**Video-call Speaking**
The Speaking test is in real time with an IELTS Examiner. It is conducted using a fully integrated video-call platform.

**Identification (ID) checks**
To verify test taker identity there are ID checks by a human Examiner prior to the Speaking test and a greeter prior to the Listening, Reading and Writing tests. If the test is interrupted, the ID will be rechecked.
Electronic results
Results are available 3–6 days after the test. No paper results will be issued. Institutions can check the results using the same online verification service they are used to with IELTS taken in-centre.

Accessibility
Test takers can take IELTS Online where it suits them – so long as they have a stable internet connection, a computer and private space. The test cannot be taken on a mobile, tablet or Chromebook. Test takers can choose a day and time that suits them.

Support
Online test takers have 24/7 support before and after their test. There is also a Live Chat function available during the test.
## How IELTS Online compares with other IELTS tests

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>IELTS Online (taken at home or a private location)</th>
<th>IELTS on computer (taken in-centre)</th>
<th>IELTS on paper (taken in-centre)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Covers all 4 English skills: listening, reading, writing and speaking</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Face-to-face Speaking test with an official IELTS Examiner</td>
<td>✓ Online</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for IELTS Academic test</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for IELTS General Training test</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available for UKVI (UK Visas &amp; Immigration) and other migration purposes</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results within</td>
<td>3–6 days after the test</td>
<td>3–6 days after the test</td>
<td>13 days after the test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safeguards results with multi-layered test security</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globally accepted</td>
<td>✓ Not for immigration</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receive a Test Report Form</td>
<td>✓ Electronic only</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Results Verification Service</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Listening and Reading tests marked electronically</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Writing and Speaking tests marked by official IELTS Examiners</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Globally available</td>
<td>✓ From 2022</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Can be taken anywhere</td>
<td>✓ Private room with stable internet connection</td>
<td>✗ Must be taken in-centre</td>
<td>✗ Must be taken in-centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The test format and duration of IELTS Online is the same as IELTS Academic taken in a test centre:

- The Speaking test usually comes first, and is taken on its own, at a time selected by the test taker.
- The Listening, Reading and Writing tests are all taken together, at a separate time booked by the test taker.

**Speaking**

11–14 minutes
3 parts

**Listening**

30 minutes
4 parts
40 items

**Reading**

60 minutes
3 sections
40 items

**Writing**

60 minutes
2 tasks

Total duration 2 hours 30 minutes
The Speaking test

We believe a face-to-face Speaking test is an irreplaceable measure of true speaking proficiency in English.

The IELTS Online Speaking test has the same structure, timings and content as the in-centre test. However, this time it is delivered over our integrated video-call platform.

To ensure the test is secure and accurate, test takers take the following steps:

1. Launch the Inspera Exam Portal
2. Check their audio and video
3. Present their face and passport to the camera. Face-detecting software will check they match
4. Join the waiting room
5. Meet the Examiner, who will conduct another ID check
6. Take their test with the Examiner (11–14 minutes, once admitted)
7. Exit the test once all three parts are completed
Security
A multi-layered approach

Drawing on 30 years’ experience of delivering results you can trust, we have ensured industry-leading security standards for IELTS Online. Our multi-layered processes prevent, detect and mitigate the risk of fraud before, during and after test day.

Pre-test
- Each test is unique, automatically generated just before the session.
- Global policies ensure consistent delivery across all tests.
- Test takers are screened to automatically prevent banned individuals booking a test.

Test day
- Locks on browsers and operating systems stop users accessing other programs and windows during the test.
- Prohibited equipment is automatically detected, such as additional monitors or keyboards. Test takers will be unable to continue until detected devices are removed.
- Human and AI proctoring monitor test taker output for irregularities.
- Thorough ID checks via human verification and facial recognition software.

Post-test
- Our careful post-test analysis picks up any abnormalities in the test results.
- Plagiarism checks are conducted.
- A range of checks on test takers’ results are conducted before they are issued to ensure integrity of results.
Security
How does remote proctoring work?

Remote proctoring is a combination of human and AI invigilation, conducted live during an online test.

Before each test, every test taker undergoes an ID check, carried out by a trained IELTS greeter. The greeter also conducts a room scan to ensure the integrity of the test environment.

Live IELTS proctors, hired and trained by IELTS, monitor the test session. If the AI detects suspicious audio events or unusual eye or body movements, it informs the proctor in real time, who investigates and intervenes if necessary.

The screen, audio and video of each test taker is recorded for the duration of the test and can be reviewed afterwards if needed.
Electronic results

Marking and results delivery

IELTS Online follows the same marking protocols and uses the same trusted 9-band scale as IELTS in-centre.

Unlike in-centre results, all IELTS Online results are electronic – paper results will not be supplied.

The electronic Test Report Form will clearly show that the test was taken online.

If you are not registered to receive electronic scores and wish to receive IELTS Online results directly from IELTS, please visit ielts.org/verify to register your organisation.

Verification

You need to be confident that the electronic results you are accepting from test takers are genuine. To verify them, simply:

- register for the free IELTS Results Verification Service
- go online and work through three quick and easy steps
- view the results as recorded in our global master database.

IELTS Online results will be automatically sent to organisations that accept IELTS Academic results and receive results electronically. If you do not wish to receive IELTS Online results, please let us know: IELTS.org/ielts-online-results
What test takers need to take IELTS Online

IELTS Online is designed to be as accessible as possible, to as many people as possible.

The basic requirements for taking the test are:

**The right set-up**

- A computer/laptop. The test cannot be taken on a mobile, tablet or Chromebook.
- A stable internet connection.
- A quiet, private, well-lit space.
- Speakers, camera and microphone turned on.
- Headphones cannot be used during the test.
- Passport used to register.

**Technical requirements**

Most Windows and Mac computers are suitable for IELTS Online. We encourage test takers to check our technical requirements for taking IELTS Online, which include:

- speed of internet connection
- computer model and operating system
- downloading Inspera Exam Portal software
- internet browser updates.

Check the full list of technical requirements on our website:

[ielts.org/ielts-online-requirements](https://ielts.org/ielts-online-requirements)
Support materials for test takers

We support test takers with a range of materials to make sure they are ready for their online test.

These include:

- User guide
- IELTS Online instructions
- Tutorial videos
- FAQs
Now available on paper, on computer and online, IELTS gives your applicants more opportunities to meet your English language requirements.

IELTS Online. Now test takers can take it anywhere – to make it anywhere.