

Draft for approval

Press Release

Pearson Test of English Academic accepted by New Zealand Government for VISA applications

New Delhi, 7 November 2016: Pearson, the world's learning company, today announced that **Pearson Test of English Academic (PTE Academic)** has been approved by **Immigration New Zealand** for English language proficiency assessment under all visa categories (having English language requirement). This recognition will come into effect from **Monday, 21 November 2016**.

PTE Academic is already **accepted by all universities in New Zealand** and is widely used by student visa applicants. With this new development, all visa applicants to New Zealand will have a choice of Government-approved English language testing options.

PTE Academic is a computer-based language test that offers international students and employment seekers a **fast** (results typically in five business days), **fair** (accurate computer marking with no potential for examiner bias) and **flexible** (test sessions 363 days of the year) way of proving their English language proficiency.

Globally, PTE Academic is accepted by thousands of academic programmes, as well as by the Australian Government Department of Immigration and Border Protection (DIBP) for all immigration and student visa applications. The test is accepted by 100% of universities in Australia, Ireland and New Zealand. PTE Academic is also accepted by renowned colleges, universities, training providers and professional associations across USA, UK, Canada and Singapore, including Harvard Business School, Yale University, INSEAD and London Business School.

Commenting on the development, **Mr. Vikas Singh, Business Head and Vice President, Pearson India said**, *"English language proficiency is important for success of professionals and students seeking to pursue their career in New Zealand. It is critical to be able to prove this skill in a secure and objective environment using the most up-to-date testing method and technology. Pearson's global expertise in English language testing ensures aspirants get access to latest methodology and secure technology. PTE is already accepted by all universities in New Zealand and this development is a testimony of its highly efficacious testing framework."*

Pearson has invested heavily in building the required security measures, through digital, biometric and forensic integration. This ensures highest security standard of testing for PTE Academic. For ease of candidates, the examination can be scheduled online or through phone, even within 24 hours of appearing for the test. The 100% computer-based 3-hour test includes three sections – speaking & writing, reading and listening. In view of the criticality of immigration procedure, the results are provided to applicants, typically within five working days.

PTE Academic is currently administered in 24 test centres across 17 cities in India i.e. Bangalore, Chandigarh, Chennai, Cochin, Coimbatore, Gandhinagar, Hyderabad, Jalandhar, Kolkata, Mumbai, Nagpur, New Delhi, Patiala, Pune, Rajkot and Vijaywada.

About PTE Academic

- Accepted for all New Zealand and Australian visa categories requiring English Language Proficiency
- Accepted by all New Zealand universities and approved by NZQA
- Accepted by renowned colleges, universities, training providers and professional associations across the English-speaking world, including Harvard Business School, Yale University, INSEAD, and London Business School.
- Delivered through a global network of over 200 test centres, including 16 spread across India.
- For a full list of recognising institutions please visit: www.pearsonpte.com/whoaccepts

For additional information, visit <http://pearsonpte.com/english-test-india/>.

About Pearson

Founded in 1844, Pearson is the world's learning company, with 40,000 employees in more than 70 countries. From school education, test preparation and higher education to professional qualifications, Pearson's publications, curriculum materials, multimedia learning tools, assessment programs and integrated services help people of all ages make measurable progress in their lives through learning.

We are organized around three key stages of learning - a) K-12, b) Higher education and test preparation and c) Vocational and professional education. Established in India since 1998, Pearson has introduced its wide range of products and services in educational institutes as well as directly to the learners.

To know more about us visit www.pearson.co.in and follow us on www.facebook.com/PearsonIn and <https://twitter.com/PearsonIn>.