

Getting into university with Cambridge International AS Levels

Thousands of learners worldwide gain places at leading universities every year with Cambridge International AS & A Levels. The syllabuses develop a deep understanding of subjects and independent thinking skills. Schools have a choice of over 55 subjects and the freedom to offer them in almost any combination. Learners can specialise or study a broad range of subjects.

An AS Level contains half the content of the corresponding A Level and can be completed in one year. This allows for flexibility, as learners can complete AS Levels as a standalone qualification or as the first half of an A Level, for which they are allowed to carry forward their AS result.

The following universities have issued a formal statement to recognise Cambridge International AS Levels for entry. This is not an exhaustive list as most US universities will evaluate applications with AS Levels due to their holistic approach to admissions. Some universities also offer course credit for students with Cambridge International AS Levels.

We try to keep this list up to date, but always check individual universities' websites for the most accurate entry and credit information.

Australia

- For many Australian universities, students offering good AS Levels would meet the entry requirements for their pathway programmes, typically at the Diploma level. With the successful completion of the Diploma programme, students may be fast-tracked to the second year of the undergraduate programme as exemplified by the Monash AS Level pathway below:
- Monash AS Level Pathway:
 - Monash College Pty Ltd accepts the Cambridge International AS Level qualification for direct entry into Monash College Diploma - subject to meeting the required entry scores

Canada

- Many Canadian universities accept both AS and A-level versions of a subject. Universities that accept four AS Levels for entry include Concordia, Dalhousie, Queens and Ryerson.
- Many universities consider 2 AS Level subject passes as equivalent to 1 A Level. McGill University, which is highly competitive, requires 3 A-levels or 2 A Levels and 2 AS Levels as prerequisite for some of the programmes.
- Applicants would also need to check on any additional requirements (such as requirement for A-level maths for engineering at some universities).

New Zealand

- Many universities in NZ accept AS Levels from international applicants, including University of Auckland and University of Canterbury, provided certain requirements are met

PART A

- Minimum of 120 points on the NZ- Cambridge International tariff points including:
 - at least a grade D in at least two subjects equivalent to those on the list of approved subjects
 - at least a grade D in one further subject - either from the Approved List or related to a domain on the National Qualifications Framework (NQF).
- NZ- Cambridge International tariff points for one AS Level range from 20 points for grade E to 60 points for grade A.

PART B

Literacy and numeracy must be satisfied as follows:

1. LITERACY

Either An E grade or better in any one of AS English Language, Language and Literature in English, Literature in English. A 'D' grade or better will satisfy one of the syllabus requirements of Part A.

2. NUMERACY

Either (i) A 'D' grade or better in IGCSE or GCSE mathematics, or
(ii) Any mathematics passed at AS level. A 'D' grade or better will satisfy one of the syllabus requirements of Part A.

South Africa

- Cambridge International AS Levels are accepted for entry into universities, universities of technology and FET Colleges in South Africa. Students with Cambridge International qualifications must obtain a Certificate of Exemption to pursue first-degree studies at a South African university. Admission requirements differ among individual universities and are generally higher than the threshold for Certificate of Exemption.
- To gain a Certificate of Exemption, students need to meet the subject group requirements, as stated in the regulations, with four Cambridge International AS Levels with a minimum grade of D plus one Cambridge IGCSE with at least a grade C (official guidance from Universities South Africa)

Netherlands

- For applications with (i)GCSE, AS and A Levels, Nuffic's International Recognition Department recommends the following:
 - For entry to universities of applied sciences (*hoger beroepsonderwijs* or HBO) the equivalent of the Dutch *HAVO* diploma is required: two AS Levels at minimum grade E plus four IGCSEs at minimum grade C (6 different subjects in total). Do note that there are courses within the applied sciences universities that require A Levels

- For entry to competitive and research-focused universities the equivalent of the Dutch VWO diploma is required: three A Levels at minimum Grade E plus 3 GCSEs at minimum Grade C (6 different subjects in total)

United States

In the US, we have over 200 AS Level statements on our Recognition Database located at: [Recognition and credit policy search – Cambridge International](#). Many of these include credit policies (with minimum 5 IGCSE subject passes).

- It is important to note that Cambridge International applicants are expected to have at least 3 A Levels for the most competitive universities.
- Many high schools in the US offer both AS & A Levels but would like their students to be able to be admitted with only AS Levels and receive credit.
- The US universities that have open access and formulaic admissions would not require AS Levels to be the most rigorous courses.
- Schools that offer both AS & A Level courses should counsel their AS students to apply to state two (open access admissions) and four-year universities (some are formulaic) in states such as Florida, Mississippi, and Washington and the North Carolinas system where there is legislation and policies that mandate admission and credit for AS Levels.
- More information on state-wide policies can be found at: <https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/usa/higher-ed/us-state-policies/>