

## Compare Direct Access and Homologation

Here is a comparative view of the two routes to help you understand the similarities and differences.

	Direct Access	Homologation
Minimum requirements	3 AL + 5 IGCSE (min grade C/4) required	2 AL (which may include AL Spanish) + 5 IGCSE (min grade C/4) required
IGCSE grades	IGCSE grades are required, but do not contribute to the calculated score	IGCSE grades contribute to the calculated score
Weight of AL grades	The AL grades represent 100% of the Access Qualification (CAU)	The AL make up 60% of the Access Qualification (CAU), with a greater overall weight given to Spanish exams (PCE)
Pruebas de Competencias Específicas <a href="https://unedasiss.uned.es/examenes">https://unedasiss.uned.es/examenes</a>	The supplementary Pruebas de Competencias Específicas PCE (max 2 subjects) may not be necessary; they are taken for admission / selection purposes; this usually depends on the cut-off scores that are applied to the course you wish to apply to (see above). Some of your AL subjects may be recognised in lieu of the PCE to obtain the additional points.	PCE (2 subjects) are necessary to achieve the Access Qualification. Another two may be necessary to get the 4 extra points towards a higher Admission Score.
Legalisation	The A-Level certificates need no legalisation when submitting them to UNED. Universities may, however, require the Hague Apostille post-admission.	The A-Level certificates must be legalised with the Hague Apostille (see further below).
Who is responsible?	The accreditation is carried out by UNED, or alternatively by the university or regional government.	The homologation is carried out by the Ministry of Education.
Who can benefit?	Direct access is open to Cambridge students from any type of school, including private candidates.	From 2024, within the homologation of studies to the Spanish baccalaureate, it may be necessary to see if the school where you completed your A Levels complies with the provisions of the Royal Decree on the recognition of foreign centres in Spain to ensure that it meets the homologation criteria.

**Conclusion:** If you estimate that your A-Level grades will not be high enough for the admission grade you need, homologation may get you a higher Admission Score, if you are comfortable with a greater number of Spanish subject exams to sit. This way, you only need to submit 2 instead of 3 AL, and you can choose more subjects from the Spanish system, which you study in Spanish.