

From March 2011, Cambridge ESOL is making further enhancements in the way candidates' results for many of the Cambridge exams will be presented. The process is called "Extended certification".

'Extended certification' will give candidates additional credit for the language skills they have demonstrated and a clearer picture of how results relate to the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR).

Extended certification applies to:

- Cambridge English: Proficiency (CPE)
- Cambridge English: Advanced (CAE)
- Cambridge English: First (FCE)
- Cambridge English: Preliminary (PET) and Preliminary for Schools
- Cambridge English: Key (KET) and Key for Schools
- Business English Certificates: Preliminary, Vantage and Higher (BEC)

A candidate who performs particularly well in the exams can get credit at a higher level on the CEFR. For example, candidates who get grade A in 'Cambridge English: Advanced' receive a 'CAE' certificate indicating that they are at C2 level.

Candidates can also receive credit for their English language skills, even if they do not achieve a passing grade. So a candidate who does not get enough marks for a grade C in 'Cambridge English: Advanced' can still be awarded a certificate showing performance at level B2 if they show this level of ability in the exam.

Extended certification will be rolled out for all the exams listed above during 2011, with most of the new certification arrangements in place for exams in March 2011.