

GS & English Requirements

Sydney Metropolitan Institute of Technology
Nepal Offshore Students — 2026 Intakes

COMBINED REFERENCE · EFFECTIVE 04 MAY 2026

A consolidated guide combining the Genuine Student (GS) assessment focus areas and the revised minimum English language requirements (IELTS and PTE — including the updated PTE component scores effective from 07 August 2025) for all Sydney Met undergraduate and postgraduate courses for Nepal offshore applicants.

About this Reference

This document consolidates two pieces of guidance issued to Sydney Met partner agents for the 2026 intake cycle:

- The **Sydney Met Agent Training Session – Nepal Offshore 2026 Intakes** (v.7, April 2026), which outlines course-level entry requirements, intakes, packaging rules and how to apply.
- The **Updated Entry Requirements for Nepal Offshore Students** notice dated 27 April 2026, effective **04 May 2026**, issued after the DHA meeting in Kathmandu on 16 April 2026.

The 04 May 2026 update introduced direct-degree-entry-only for Nepal offshore students, limited intake eligibility, and packaged English availability restricted to Social Work programs. All entry requirements in this reference reflect those updates.

DHA focus areas (Kathmandu meeting, 16 April 2026)

The Department of Home Affairs emphasised a stronger focus on assessing genuine students, with particular attention to **academic performance**, **English language proficiency**, and **financial documentation**, all supported by a well-prepared Genuine Student (GS) statement.

Contents

1. Key Updates for Nepal Offshore — 04 May 2026
2. Genuine Student (GS) Requirements
3. GS Statement — Structure & Focus Areas
4. English Language Requirements — By Course
5. PTE Component Scores (Test taken on/after 07 Aug 2025)
6. English Packaging (EAP) — Social Work Only
7. Academic, Study Gap & Marriage Status Summary
8. Intakes & Cut-off Reference
9. Pre-Submission Checklist
10. Contacts

1. Key Updates for Nepal Offshore — Effective 04 May 2026

1.1 Direct Degree Entry Only

- Sydney Met accepts **direct enrolment into Bachelor's and Master's degree programs only**.
- **Packaged Diploma or English programs are not accepted**, except for the limited Social Work English package described in Section 6.

1.2 Intake Availability

- Eligible intakes are **September 2026** and **February 2027**.
- Applicable to students who completed high school in **2025**.

1.3 Limited English Package — Social Work Only

- Packaged English programs are only available for the **Bachelor of Social Work** and **Master of Social Work (Qualifying)**.
- Where the course requirement is **IELTS 7.0 in each band**, students who are **one or two bands short** (e.g. 6.5 in one or two components, with remaining bands at 7.0 or above) may be considered.
- In these cases, students may be offered up to **12 weeks of EAP**, delivered by Sydney Met's approved partner English colleges. Partner list: sydney.edu.au/english-partners

Important

Diploma packaging with partner institutes is **not accepted** for any Nepal offshore application under the 04 May 2026 rules. English packaging is the only permitted pre-degree component, and only for Social Work courses.

2. Genuine Student (GS) Requirements

The Genuine Student (GS) requirement is the cornerstone of every Nepal offshore application. Following the DHA’s April 2026 emphasis, Sydney Met assesses each GS file against four interconnected pillars.

2.1 The four GS pillars

Pillar	What the assessor is checking	Typical evidence
1. Academic Performance	Strength and consistency of academic results from Year 12 and (for postgraduate) Bachelor’s level. Course choice must align with academic background.	Year 12 transcript and certificate; Bachelor’s transcript and degree; subject mapping for MSW(Q) and GCHCS social-science prerequisites.
2. English Language Proficiency	Whether the applicant meets the minimum IELTS/PTE for the chosen course, with no unjustified gaps between English score and study intentions.	IELTS or PTE result (within validity); evidence of medium of instruction where used.
3. Financial Documentation	Demonstrated capacity to fund tuition and living costs through verifiable, consistent and well-documented sponsor income.	Sponsor income statements (salary/business/rental/foreign), tax clearances, bank statements with consistent monthly deposits, affidavits of support.
4. GS Statement	A coherent written narrative that ties the academic background, course choice, financial plan and post-study intentions together.	Signed GS statement addressing course rationale, choice of Australia, choice of Sydney Met, and post-study plans.

2.2 GS-relevant academic minimums

Although the GS assessment is holistic, applications below these academic floors face higher refusal risk:

Level	Minimum Academic Requirement
From Year 12 (Bachelor entry)	70% or 3 GPA
From Bachelor’s degree (AQF Level 7) — MSW(Q) / GCHCS	65% or 3 GPA
From Bachelor’s degree (AQF Level 7) — MIT / MBA	60% or 3 GPA

GS principle

Each pillar must support the others. Strong academics with weak finances, or strong finances with a vague GS statement, both produce a fragile file. The GS narrative is the connective tissue that explains *why* the applicant is studying this course, at Sydney Met, in Australia, and what they intend to do afterwards.

3. GS Statement — Structure & Focus Areas

A well-prepared GS statement answers the questions the DHA asks of every Nepal offshore applicant. The statement should be in the student's own voice, factually accurate, internally consistent with the rest of the file, and free of generic or copied content.

3.1 Core areas every GS statement should cover

#	Focus area	What to address
1	Personal background	Family situation, current residence, ties to Nepal, and motivation for higher study.
2	Academic background	Summary of Year 12 and (if applicable) Bachelor's results, subjects studied, and how they prepare the applicant for the chosen course.
3	Course rationale	Why this specific course at Sydney Met, what subjects/majors interest the student, and how the course content matches their goals.
4	Why Australia	Why Australia over Nepal or other study destinations — quality of education, recognition of qualifications, relevant industry, alignment with career plans.
5	Why Sydney Met	Why this provider — course structure, location, accreditation (AASW / CPA / CA), scholarships, employability support.
6	Financial capacity	Summary of how tuition and living expenses will be funded — named sponsors, income sources, and a brief explanation of the funding plan.
7	Post-study plans	Intended return to Nepal (or onward plans permitted under visa conditions), the kind of role or sector targeted, and how the qualification supports that goal.
8	Immigration history	Any prior visa applications, refusals, or travel history disclosed accurately. Inconsistency or omission here is a major refusal driver.

3.2 Common GS statement weaknesses

- Generic templated language that could apply to any student or course.
- Course choice that doesn't connect to the applicant's academic background.
- Vague "I want a better future" statements without concrete career or sector references.
- Financial section inconsistent with the actual sponsor documents in the file.
- Missing post-study plan, or plans that conflict with stated intent to return.
- Undisclosed prior visa refusals or travel history.

Strong GS statement

A strong statement reads as a single coherent story: *this is who I am, this is what I studied, this is why I chose this course at Sydney Met, this is how it will be funded, and this is what I plan to do with the qualification.* Every supporting document in the file should reinforce that story — not contradict it.

4. English Language Requirements — By Course

The following table sets out the minimum IELTS and PTE requirements for each Sydney Met course under the revised Nepal offshore entry standards effective **04 May 2026**. Two PTE columns are provided: scores for tests taken **before 07 August 2025** and the new format scores for tests taken **on or after 07 August 2025**.

4.1 IELTS & PTE (pre-07/08/2025) summary

Course	IELTS	PTE (pre 07/08/2025)
Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)	7.0 each band	65 each band
Master of Social Work (Qualifying) — MSW(Q)	7.0 each band	65 each band
Bachelor of Information Technology (BIT)	6.0 each band	50 each band
Bachelor of Business (Entrepreneurship) (BBUS)	6.0 each band	50 each band
Graduate Certificate in Human and Community Services (GCHCS)	6.5 overall, no band < 6.0	58 overall, no band < 50
Master of Information Technology (MIT)	6.5 overall, no band < 6.0	58 overall, no band < 50
Master of Business Administration (MBA)	6.5 overall, no band < 6.0	58 overall, no band < 50

GDHCS English requirement (Agent Training v.7)

The Graduate Diploma in Human and Community Services (GDHCS) requires **IELTS 7.0 each band** or equivalent under the Agent Training v.7 document. The 04 May 2026 update letter table covers the most-applied courses; for GDHCS specifically, refer to the v.7 training deck and confirm with the Admissions Team.

Note on equivalence

Other equivalent English tests (e.g. TOEFL iBT, Cambridge English, OET where applicable) may be accepted in line with Sydney Met policy and DHA acceptable test list. Always confirm equivalence with the Admissions Team before lodging the application.

5. PTE Component Scores — Test Taken On or After 07 Aug 2025

Under the revised PTE scoring (test taken on or after **07 August 2025**), four component minimum scores apply in addition to the overall score. These component minimums align with the DHA ‘Competent English’ reference at immi.homeaffairs.gov.au/help-support/meeting-our-requirements/english-language/competent-english.

Component	BSW / MSW(Q)	BIT / BBUS	GCHCS / MIT / MBA
Overall	65	50	58
Listening	58	47	47
Reading	59	48	48
Writing	69	51	51
Speaking	76	54	54

5.1 How to read this table

- BSW and MSW(Q) require the **highest** PTE scores across all components.
- BIT and BBUS (undergraduate, lower English requirement) have the lowest component thresholds.
- GCHCS, MIT and MBA share the same component thresholds (overall 58, listening 47, reading 48, writing 51, speaking 54).
- Where a test was taken **before** 07 August 2025, use the PTE values in Section 4 (the older 'each band' or 'no band less than 50' format).

Action point for agents

Always check the PTE **test date** before mapping the score. A test taken on 06 August 2025 follows the older rules; a test taken on 07 August 2025 follows the new component requirements. Submitting the wrong mapping is a common cause of unnecessary admissions delays.

6. English Packaging (EAP) — Social Work Only

From 04 May 2026, packaged English is restricted to two courses only: the **Bachelor of Social Work** and the **Master of Social Work (Qualifying)**. Packaging for any other Sydney Met course is not available for Nepal offshore students.

6.1 Who qualifies for the BSW / MSW(Q) English package

- Course English requirement is **IELTS 7.0 in each band** (or equivalent).
- Applicant is **one or two bands short** in the test — for example, 6.5 in one or two components, with the remaining bands at 7.0 or above.
- Applicant meets the academic entry requirement for the destination Sydney Met course.
- Applicant otherwise meets the GS standard.

6.2 What the package looks like

- Up to **12 weeks of EAP (English for Academic Purposes)**, delivered by Sydney Met's approved partner English colleges.
- On successful completion of EAP, the student progresses to the BSW or MSW(Q) at Sydney Met.
- Partner English colleges are listed at sydney.edu.au/english-partners.

6.3 Eligibility example

Scenario	Status	Outcome
IELTS 7.0 in all four bands	Meets BSW/MSW(Q) requirement	Direct entry to BSW / MSW(Q).
IELTS Overall 7.0; one band at 6.5, rest at 7.0+	One band short	Eligible for English package (up to 12 weeks EAP) leading to BSW / MSW(Q).
IELTS Overall 6.5; two bands at 6.5, rest at 7.0+	Two bands short	Eligible for English package (up to 12 weeks EAP) on a case-by-case basis.
IELTS Overall 6.0; three or more bands below 7.0	More than two bands short	Not eligible for the English package under the current rule.
IT, Business or GCHCS / GDHCS applicant short on English	Course outside packaging scope	Not eligible — must re-sit the English test to meet the direct entry requirement.

7. Academic, Study Gap & Marriage Status Summary

The table below consolidates the non-English entry settings that apply alongside the GS and English requirements for each course.

Course	Academic Min.	Study Gap	Marriage
BSW — Bachelor of Social Work	70% / 3 GPA (Yr 12)	HS 2025 pass-outs: Sep 2026 & Feb 2027 intakes	No
BIT — Bachelor of Information Technology	70% / 3 GPA (Yr 12)	HS 2025 pass-outs: Sep 2026 & Feb 2027 intakes	No
BBUS — Bachelor of Business (Entrepreneurship)	70% / 3 GPA (Yr 12)	HS 2025 pass-outs: Sep 2026 & Feb 2027 intakes	No
MSW(Q) — Master of Social Work (Qualifying)	65% / 3 GPA (AQF L7)	Up to 7 years	Yes
GCHCS — Graduate Certificate Human & Community Services	65% / 3 GPA (AQF L7)	Up to 7 years	Yes
GDHCS — Graduate Diploma Human & Community Services	AQF L7 + 8 social/behavioural units	Up to 7 years	Yes
MIT — Master of Information Technology	60% / 3 GPA (AQF L7)	Up to 7 years	Yes
MBA — Master of Business Administration	60% (AQF L7)	Up to 7 years	Yes

7.1 Notes

- **HS 2025 pass-outs** are the only Year-12 batch eligible for 2026 bachelor intakes under the 04 May 2026 update.
- Postgraduate courses accept up to **7 years** of study gap from completion of the undergraduate qualification.
- Marriage status is **not accepted** for bachelor-level Nepal offshore applicants, but **is accepted** at postgraduate level (MSW(Q), GCHCS, GDHCS, MIT, MBA).

MSW(Q) pathway note

MSW(Q) applicants without sufficient social/behavioural science background should review the two pathways available in the Agent Training v.7 deck: Pathway 1 (non-award + GCHCS + MSW(Q), 3 years) or Pathway 2 (GCHCS + MSW(Q), 2.5 years). No credit is granted from the pathway components towards the MSW(Q), as those studies are required to meet eligibility.

8. Intakes & Cut-off Reference

Sydney Met runs three trimesters per year. For Nepal offshore students under the 04 May 2026 rules, eligible intakes are **September 2026** and **February 2027** (HS 2025 pass-outs). The 2026 academic calendar from the Agent Training v.7 deck is reproduced below for reference.

Trimester	Orientation Week	Teaching Period (12 wks)	Study / Exam (2 wks)	Break
1	27 Jan – 30 Jan 2026	2 Feb – 24 Apr 2026	27 Apr – 8 May 2026	11 May – 22 May 2026
2	18 May – 22 May 2026	25 May – 14 Aug 2026	17 Aug – 28 Aug 2026	31 Aug – 11 Sep 2026
3	7 Sep – 11 Sep 2026	14 Sep – 4 Dec 2026	7 Dec – 18 Dec 2026	21 Dec – 29 Jan 2027

Full cut-off dates are published at sydney.edu.au/academic-timetable-entry-dates/. Applications should be submitted online through the agent portal at sydney.meshedhe.com.au.

9. Pre-Submission Checklist

Use this checklist before lodging a Nepal offshore application. Every box should be answerable with a clear “yes”.

	Area	Verification question
■	Course eligibility	Is the chosen course a Bachelor’s or Master’s program (direct degree entry only)?
■	Intake	Is the student applying for September 2026 or February 2027?
■	HS year (UG only)	For Bachelor applicants — is the student a HS 2025 pass-out?
■	Academic minimum — UG	Bachelor applicants: 70% or 3 GPA from Year 12?
■	Academic minimum — MSW(Q) / GCHCS	65% or 3 GPA from AQF Level 7 bachelor?
■	Academic minimum — MIT / MBA	60% or 3 GPA from AQF Level 7 bachelor?
■	English — IELTS	Does the IELTS result meet the course minimum (refer to Section 4)?
■	English — PTE	If PTE, has the correct rule been applied based on test date (before vs. on/after 07 Aug 2025)?
■	English packaging	If using EAP packaging, is the course BSW or MSW(Q) and is the student only 1–2 bands short?
■	Study gap (PG)	Postgraduate applicants: study gap within 7 years from undergraduate completion?
■	Marriage status	Bachelor applicants are unmarried; postgraduate applicants may be married.
■	GS statement	Is the GS statement complete, internally consistent, and covers all eight focus areas in Section 3.1?
■	Financial documentation	Are sponsor income, tax clearances, bank statements and affidavits all aligned with the GS narrative?
■	Immigration history	Is prior visa / travel history disclosed accurately in the GS statement and application?
■	Document consistency	Do academic, English, financial and GS documents tell the same story?

10. Contacts

Team	Email	Used for
Admissions	admissions@sydney.edu.au	Offer letters, CoE enquiries, course eligibility questions
GS Team	gs@sydney.edu.au	Genuine Student assessment and GS statement queries
Student Recruitment	student.recruitment@sydney.edu.au	General recruitment, partner and agent enquiries
Accounts	accounts@sydney.edu.au	CoE deposits, payment confirmations
General	info@sydney.edu.au	General enquiries

Campus address: 432–434 Kent Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia

Web: sydney.edu.au

Agent portal: sydney.meshedhe.com.au

Partner English colleges: sydney.edu.au/english-partners

This reference is compiled from the Sydney Met Agent Training Session – Nepal Offshore 2026 Intakes (v.7, April 2026) and the Updated Entry Requirements notice dated 27 April 2026 (effective 04 May 2026). For any conflict between this summary and the official Sydney Met documents, the official documents prevail.