

**MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN**

**JSC "KAZAKH ABLAI KHAN UNIVERSITY OF INTERNATIONAL
RELATIONS AND WORLD LANGUAGES."**

"Approved by"

Acting Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs:

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**INTERVIEW PROGRAM
for applicants entering the Educational Program
6B01701 – Teacher of Two Foreign Languages
with a shortened period of study**

Almaty, 2026

1. General Provisions

This Program has been developed in accordance with Order No. 600 of the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Kazakhstan dated October 31, 2018, “On Approval of the Standard Rules for Admission to Educational Organizations Implementing Higher and Postgraduate Education Programs” (hereinafter referred to as the Standard Rules), as well as the Admission Rules of Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages.

Applications for admission are accepted as follows:

Applicants to the field of education “Pedagogical Sciences” take one special examination conducted by the University Admission Committee during the period from June 22 to August 20 of the current year:

- for applicants wishing to participate in the competition for state educational grants: from June 20 to July 7;

- for admission on a fee-paying basis: from June 22 to August 20 of the current year.

For the purpose of conducting interviews with college graduates applying for related educational programs of the University with shortened periods of study, as well as with individuals who have completed compulsory military service no more than two (2) years prior to submitting an application for admission and who possess recommendations and/or referrals for study at the University, an Interview Committee consisting of University faculty members shall be established by the Admission Committee.

Applicants with technical and vocational or post-secondary education applying for related higher education programs with shortened periods of study, who have taken the Unified National Testing (UNT) and wish to participate in the competition for educational grants funded by the republican or local budget, must score at least 25 points in the UNT. For the field of education “Pedagogical Sciences,” applicants must score at least 35 points, including at least 5 points in the general professional subject and at least 5 points in the specialized subject.

For admission to the Educational Program 6B01701 – Teacher of Two Foreign Languages at Kazakh Ablai Khan University of International Relations and World Languages, applicants must obtain a minimum of 35 points in the UNT.

Applicants who submit a valid UNT certificate with a score of 35 points or higher and meet the established admission requirements may be admitted to the University without taking an interview. Their admission is carried out in accordance with the Admission Rules of the University and the current legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Applicants who do not possess a valid UNT certificate or whose UNT score is below the required minimum score shall be required to pass an admission interview conducted by the University Interview Committee. The interview is designed to assess applicants’ English language proficiency, communicative competence, professional motivation, academic readiness, and suitability for the Educational Program.

The special examination for applicants to the field of education “Pedagogical Sciences” is assessed on a “Pass/Fail” basis. The examination questions are developed by a special committee and published on the University’s official website.

Applicants holding international certificates confirming English language proficiency, including TOEFL ITP, TOEFL iBT, and IELTS, may, at their request, be exempted from taking the UNT profile subject or specialized discipline “Foreign Language (English).”

If an applicant submits both the UNT results for the profile subject or specialized discipline “Foreign Language (English)” and one of the above-mentioned international English language certificates, the higher score in English shall be taken into account.

2. Interview Framework and Assessment Guidelines

Purpose of the Interview

The purpose of the interview is to assess applicants’ readiness for successful study within the Educational Program 6B01701 – Teacher of Two Foreign Languages, evaluate their communicative competence in English, professional motivation, educational background, and personal qualities necessary for successful academic study and future pedagogical activity.

Objectives of the Interview

The interview aims to:

- assess the applicant’s level of English language proficiency;
- evaluate communicative competence and the ability to express ideas clearly and coherently;
- identify the applicant’s motivation for choosing the teaching profession;
- assess awareness of contemporary educational issues and trends;
- assess critical thinking and problem-solving skills;
- evaluate professional and personal qualities important for future foreign language teachers;
- determine readiness for further academic study within the educational program.

Expected Outcomes

By completing the interview, applicants should demonstrate:

- English language proficiency at a level sufficient for successful study within the Educational Program;
- the ability to communicate effectively in English;
- awareness of the teaching profession and its responsibilities;
- understanding of the role of education in modern society;
- readiness for professional growth and lifelong learning;
- motivation to pursue a career in foreign language education.

Assessment Criteria

Applicants’ performance during the interview will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

Criterion	Description	Points
Fluency and Coherence	Ability to speak at length with appropriate fluency, maintain coherent discourse,	10

	organize ideas logically, and use cohesive devices effectively.	
Lexical Resource	Ability to use a sufficient range of vocabulary accurately and appropriately, including less common lexical items, paraphrasing, and topic-specific vocabulary.	10
Grammatical Range and Accuracy	Ability to use a variety of grammatical structures with flexibility and accuracy while maintaining effective communication.	10
Pronunciation	Ability to produce speech that is intelligible throughout, with effective control of pronunciation features including stress, rhythm, and intonation.	10
Professional Motivation	Demonstration of genuine interest in the teaching profession, awareness of career goals, and commitment to becoming a foreign language teacher.	10
Awareness of Foreign Language Teaching and Learning	Demonstration of basic understanding of language teaching, learning processes, classroom interaction, learner motivation, and the role of the teacher.	10
Academic and Professional Readiness	Evidence of preparedness for higher education, self-directed learning, reflective thinking, and willingness to engage in continuous professional development.	10

The Interview Committee evaluates applicants holistically, taking into account their language proficiency, communicative competence, professional motivation, critical thinking skills, and readiness for successful study within the Educational Program 6B01701 – Teacher of Two Foreign Languages.

Maximum score: 70 points

Passing score: 35 points

Interview duration: 5 minutes

Language of the interview: English

Grading Scale

Score	Grade
60–70	Excellent
50–59	Good
35–49	Satisfactory
0–34	Unsatisfactory

Maximum score – **70** points

Applicants who score less than **35** points are considered not to have passed the interview.

Recognition of International Certificates

Scale for Converting IELTS (International English Language Testing System) Scores into Unified National Testing (UNT) Scores

(Profile Subject / Specialized Discipline: "Foreign Language (English)")

No.	Test Type	Score	UNT Score for the Profile Subject "Foreign Language (English)"	UNT Score for the Specialized Discipline "Foreign Language (English)"
1	IELTS	6.0 and above	50	50
2	IELTS	5.5	46	46
3	IELTS	5.0	42	42

Scale for Converting TOEFL iBT and TOEFL ITP Scores into Unified National Testing (UNT) Scores

(Profile Subject / Specialized Discipline: "Foreign Language (English)")

No.	Test Type	Score	UNT Score for the Profile Subject "Foreign Language (English)"	UNT Score for the Specialized Discipline "Foreign Language (English)"
1	TOEFL iBT	60 and above	50	50
2	TOEFL iBT	46–59	46	46
3	TOEFL iBT	35–45	42	42
4	TOEFL ITP	498 and above	50	50
5	TOEFL ITP	460–497	46	46
6	TOEFL ITP	433–459	42	42

3. Interview questions for applicants entering the Educational Program with a shortened period of study (after college)

PART 1. PERSONAL INFORMATION AND GENERAL TOPICS

This section aims to assess applicants' ability to communicate in English on familiar personal and everyday topics. It evaluates their fluency, coherence, vocabulary

range, grammatical accuracy, pronunciation, and ability to express personal opinions, experiences, interests, and future plans in a clear and confident manner.

Topics

- Personal Information
- Family and Friends
- Education
- Hobbies and Interests
- Daily Life
- Technology
- Books and Films
- Future Plans

Questions

1. Tell us about yourself.
2. Where are you from?
3. Can you describe your family?
4. What do your parents do?
5. What are your main interests or hobbies?
6. What do you usually do in your free time?
7. How would your friends describe you?
8. What subjects did you enjoy studying at college?
9. What is your strongest personal quality?
10. What is something you would like to improve about yourself?
11. Do you enjoy using technology in your daily life? Why?
12. How often do you use English outside the classroom?
13. Do you prefer reading books or watching films? Why?
14. What are your plans for the next five years?
15. What achievement are you most proud of?

PART 2. EDUCATION, LANGUAGE AND TEACHING

This section aims to assess applicants' ability to discuss educational and professional topics in English. It evaluates their understanding of education, foreign language learning, communication, and teaching, as well as their ability to express ideas, justify opinions, provide examples, and demonstrate awareness of issues related to the teaching profession.

Topics

- Education
- English Language Learning
- Communication
- Foreign Language Teaching

Questions

1. Why is education important in modern society?
2. What qualities should a successful teacher possess?
3. Why did you choose the teaching profession?
4. What challenges do students face today?
5. How can teachers support students' motivation?
6. What teaching methods or approaches do you know?
7. How do you imagine your future classroom?
8. What role does technology play in education?
9. Why is English important in the modern world?
10. What are the benefits of learning foreign languages?
11. What difficulties do students usually face when learning English?
12. How do you improve your English language skills?
13. What is intercultural communication and why is it important?
14. Why is communication important for teachers?
15. Why is it important to develop all four language skills: listening, speaking, reading, and writing?

PART 3. ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL READINESS

This section aims to assess applicants' motivation for pursuing higher education, readiness for academic study, understanding of the teaching profession, career aspirations, and commitment to continuous professional development. It also evaluates applicants' awareness of the responsibilities of a foreign language teacher and their potential for successful participation in the Educational Program 6B01701 – Teacher of Two Foreign Languages.

Questions

1. Why did you decide to continue your education after completing college?
2. Why did you choose this university and educational program?
3. What inspired you to become a foreign language teacher?
4. What are your professional goals for the future?
5. How do you see yourself contributing to the field of education?
6. What knowledge and skills acquired at college will help you succeed at university?
7. What challenges do you expect to face during your studies and how will you overcome them?
8. How do you plan to continue improving your English proficiency?
9. What are your expectations from this educational program?
10. Why do you believe you are a suitable candidate for admission to this program?
11. How do you plan to continue your professional development after graduation?
12. What does lifelong learning mean to you as a future teacher?
13. How do you usually organize your learning and study time?

14. What personal qualities will help you succeed at university?
15. What responsibilities do teachers have in modern society?

4. Interview Procedure

The interview is conducted in English in a traditional face-to-face format.

The purpose of the interview is to assess applicants' English language proficiency, communicative competence, professional motivation, awareness of the teaching profession, and readiness for academic study within the Educational Program 6B01701 – Teacher of Two Foreign Languages.

Each applicant is asked three questions:

- one randomly selected question from Part 1: Personal Information and General Topics;
- one randomly selected question from Part 2: Education, Language and Teaching;
- one randomly selected question from Part 3: Academic and Professional Readiness.

Applicants are not given preparation time before answering the questions. Responses should be provided spontaneously and independently.

The recommended duration of the interview is approximately 5 minutes per applicant.

Applicants' performance is assessed by the Interview Committee according to the approved assessment criteria and scoring scale presented in this Program.

The Interview Committee evaluates applicants in accordance with the approved assessment criteria and scoring scale. The final score is recorded in the official interview protocol.

If necessary, members of the Interview Committee may ask additional follow-up questions to clarify an applicant's response, verify understanding, assess communicative competence more accurately, or resolve uncertainties regarding the evaluation of a particular criterion.

The results of the interview are documented in the official protocol of the Interview Committee and serve as the basis for determining whether the applicant has successfully passed the interview.

Applicants who obtain a minimum of 35 points are considered to have successfully passed the interview.