

Test i norsk – høyere nivå, tests abroad

Information for potential test centres

Norsk språktest offers tests of Norwegian for B2 to C1 level.

Test i norsk – høyere nivå (Test in Norwegian - higher level, also called *Bergenstesten*) is generally taken by those who are looking to apply to higher education in Norway and who do not have Norwegian as their native language. All Norwegian Higher Education institutions accept the test as proof of Norwegian language skills at higher level. The test can also be used by Norwegian nationals who have undertaken their schooling outside of Norway and who wish to apply to Higher Education in Norway, or to apply for a Norwegian stipend for overseas education.

The test is intended for persons residing in Norway, and no one is entitled to take it outside Norway. However, provided that an approved institution says it is willing to conduct the test, the written test can also be taken abroad so that the candidate(s) do not have to travel to Norway. For some candidates, this may not be an alternative. The test is held as close to the ordinary test sessions in Norway as possible, primarily on the same day. Written tests abroad are held twice a year, in April and October.

Prerequisites for testing abroad.

Test in Norwegian - higher level is a legally valid test. Norsk språktest must therefore ensure that tests abroad are arranged under the same conditions as for ordinary test procedures in Norway. It is a prerequisite that an approved institution can meet the criteria required and is able to undertake running the test as a service to the candidate. Furthermore, the requirements listed under are set for the person responsible for the test, the premises, equipment and conditions during the test:

Approved institutions for the *written* test are:

- Norwegian embassies or consulates
- Norwegian seamen's churches
- Selected universities

The person responsible for the test must:

- have higher education and have Norwegian as a native language or have a level of Norwegian equivalent to mother tongue (minimum documented level B2 in Norwegian).
- Not have a personal relationship with the candidate/s either as teacher, family member or friend.
- be present throughout the test (approximately 6 hours).
- be responsible for the practical implementation of the test (e.g. control sound systems).
- check and process the test material before and after the test, in accordance with the instructions.

Approved institutions for the *oral* test are:

- Norwegian embassies or consulates
- Norwegian seamen's churches
- Selected universities
- Embassies or consulates (irrespective of nationality)
- British Council authorised test centres

The person responsible for the test must:

- Be present to receive the candidate and ensure that a test room is available
- Be available to check and confirm candidate's ID documentation
- be available to assist in the event of technical issues (Internet connections etc)

The **test room/s** for both **written and oral** tests must be shielded from noise, have good ventilation and be equipped with a computer with internet access and with good sound quality.

Costs: The test organiser may require that costs related to the conduct of the test be covered by the candidate (s). This should be clarified in advance with the candidate.

We hope your institution can help the candidate take the test locally. If you need more information, we ask that you send all questions and confirmations (see the appendix - Confirmation from test organiser) to bergenstesten@fu.no.