

English Language Proficiency Requirements for Students Whose Native Language is Not English

International applicants, U.S. citizens, and Permanent Residents whose native language is not English must submit evidence that they have a sufficient level of English to undertake graduate studies at The University of Akron.

After submitting acceptable academic credentials and proof of English proficiency, applicants who are fully admitted may enroll in graduate coursework and be eligible for University of Akron-funded assistantships, fellowships, or scholarships.

Prospective teaching assistants must also achieve a minimum score of 23 on the Speaking Section of the internet-based TOEFL (see <http://www.ets.org/toefl>) or a minimum score of 7 on the Speaking Section of the IELTS (see <https://www.ielts.org/>).

Applicants to graduate programs can demonstrate their English proficiency in one of the following ways:

- A minimum score of 79 on the internet-based TOEFL. (The following departments require a higher standard of proficiency: English and History require an internet-based TOEFL score of 92; Biomedical Engineering requires an internet-based TOEFL score of 96; and Chemistry Ph.D. program requires an internet-based TOEFL score of 90 or IELTS score of 7.5). Scores more than two years old will not be accepted. See <http://www.ets.org/toefl> for more information about the TOEFL.

OR

- A minimum score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), which is managed by University of Cambridge ESOL Examinations, British Council, and IDP Education Australia. Scores more than two years old will not be accepted. See <https://www.ielts.org/> for more information about the IELTS.

OR

- Successful completion of 24 credit hours of upper-level undergraduate or 18 credit hours of graduate coursework at a United States college or university in which English is the primary language of instruction. Successful completion is defined as maintaining a 3.0 cumulative grade point average in full-time, continuous studies. Applicants must submit original transcripts of their coursework.

OR

- Successful completion of an undergraduate or graduate program at a college or university outside of the United States in which English is the language of administration and instruction. English must be used for all administrative functions and for all areas of instruction (with the exception of foreign language courses) including course lectures, materials, discussions, readings, and writing assignments. Applicants must submit an original official document from the undergraduate or graduate institution certifying that all of the administrative functions and instruction are conducted in English. The document must be signed by an officer of the institution and carry an official seal. The Associate Dean of the Graduate School at The University of Akron will review the submitted documentation and inform the applicant if he or she has satisfied the English requirement. The decision will be final.