Academic Standards Subcommittee of EPC

- October 14, 2013, 2 - 3 pm
- Old Main 164J (RGS Conference Room)

Purpose

The Academic Standards Subcommittee: (a) recommends policy on all matters pertaining to academic evaluation of students, including admission, retention, grade assignment, and graduation; (b) recommends discipline policy regarding student academic dishonesty; and (c) approves the process for discipline regarding alleged academic violations by students and for grievance hearings in cases of alleged student academic dishonesty. The subcommittee shall consist of four faculty members and one student appointed from the Educational Policies Committee. Their terms will correspond to their Educational Policies Committee terms. Additional members may be appointed to the subcommittee for two-year terms by the Educational Policies Committee to lend expertise. (Policy 402.12.6(7))

Membership

- Scott Bates (Chair, Emma Eccles Jones College of Education and Human Services)
- Thomas Fronk (College of Engineering)
- Chris Skousen (Huntsman School of Business)
- Charlie Huenemann (College of Humanities and Social Sciences)
- Roland Squire (Registrars office)
- Stephanie Hamblin (director of university advising)
- Doug Fiefia (ASUSU President)

Agenda

- Discussion: Cross Listed 5000, 6000 courses (Roland Squire)
- Discussion: Semester Credit Limit (Roland Squire)
- Discussion: English language capabilities (guest: Mary Hubbard)
Present Policy

Credit Limit
Students registering for more than 18 credits must present their advisor’s signed authorization to the Registrar’s Office.

Proposed Policy

Semester Credit Limit
Students must have authorization from their academic major advisor to enroll in more than 18 credits in a semester.
Proposal to Amend the English Language Proficiency Requirement for Undergraduate International Students

English language proficiency requirement, 2013-14 General Catalog:

http://catalog.usu.edu/content.php?catoid=6&navoid=980

*International students must be proficient in the use of English. Proficiency is determined for undergraduates by a minimum TOEFL score of 525 on the manual (paper/pencil) test, 71 on the iBT (Internet-based TOEFL), a minimum IELTS score of 6.0 (with a minimum of 5.0 on each subscale), or by passing level 4 (advanced level) of the Intensive English program at Utah State University.

*Qualified students in level 4 (advanced level) of Intensive English may take one or more academic courses if approved by the Intensive English faculty and their academic advisor.

Proposed amendment to the General Catalog:

All undergraduate international applicants whose native language is not English must prove university-level English proficiency. The English language proficiency requirement may be satisfied in a variety of ways:

- TOEFL internet-based exam score of 71 or paper-based exam score of 525
- IELTS score of 6.0 overall band score with a minimum of 5.0 on each subscale
- SAT Critical Reading score of 500
- ACT English score of 18
- Pearson Test of English overall score of 53
- Eiken Test in Practical English Proficiency Grade Pre-1
- English Language and Composition Advanced Placement exam or English Literature and Composition Advanced Placement exam score of 3, 4, or 5
- Standard Level or Higher Level International Baccalaureate English A1 exam score of 4, 5, 6, or 7
- Completion of the International Baccalaureate Diploma at an accredited high school or secondary school
- USU’s Intensive English Language Institute’s placement exam score of 146*
- Attendance at an accredited U.S. high school for 3 or more years and enrollment in mainstream non-ESL English/Language Arts classes all three years
- Receive a grade of “C” or better in a college-level English Composition course (equivalent to USU’s English 1010 – Introduction to Writing: Academic Prose or English 2010 – Intermediate Writing: Research Writing in a Persuasive Mode) at a regionally-accredited U.S. college or university. Equivalency will be determined by the Registrar’s Office at Utah State University. Any equivalency determination made by the Registrar’s Office will be final.
If you are not sure if you qualify for an exemption as a native English speaker, please contact International Admissions to request a review of your circumstances.

Utah State University reserves the right to require proof of English proficiency from any applicant, if deemed necessary by a university official.

*IELI’s placement exam may be taken upon arrival at USU. For further information, please review the conditional admission parameters below.

Applicants who are unable to provide proof of English proficiency as outlined above, may request conditional admission to the university pending the completion of Utah State University’s Intensive English Language program. Conditionally admitted students will be eligible to enroll in their chosen academic program at USU after they have passed level 4 (advanced level) of the Intensive English program at Utah State University or achieved a 146 on the Intensive English Language Institute’s placement exam. Qualified students in level 4 (advanced level) of Intensive English may take one or more academic courses concurrent with their Intensive English courses, if approved by the Intensive English Language Institute faculty and their academic advisor.

**Rationale for amending the policy:**

The current policy is restrictive and does not allow an exemption for native English speakers. The SAT, ACT, and U.S. high school attendance and enrollment in mainstream English classes as proof of English proficiency are currently used by a wide variety of state supported institutions of higher education, including the University of Utah. Currently, domestic applicants to USU are required to achieve a total ACT score of 18 or a total SAT score of 860, which theoretically allows a domestic applicant to achieve significantly less than 18 or 500 on the English portion of the ACT or critical reading portion of the SAT and still be admitted to USU.

USU allows credit toward the Communications Literacy 1 (CL1) general education requirement for any student that provides Advanced Placement scores of 3 through 5 on the English Language Composition exam or the English Literature and Composition exam. Similarly, credit is granted toward the CL1 requirement for students who provide score results of 4 through 7 on either the Standard Level or Higher Level International Baccalaureate English A1 exam. Additionally, completion of the International Baccalaureate Diploma allows an international student to receive up to 30 credit hours and a waiver of many general education requirements including the CL1 requirement. Allowing an international student to receive a waiver of the rigorous CL1 requirement while simultaneously requiring “proof” of English proficiency in the form of the TOEFL, the IELTS, or the IELI placement exam creates a contradictory policy.

Applicants to the School of Graduate Studies at Utah State University are currently allowed to submit the Pearson Test of English as proof of English proficiency. Additionally, though the Eiken is administered almost exclusively in Japan, it is accepted as proof of English proficiency at approximately 350 colleges and universities in the United States and Canada, including Kansas State University, a well-known state supported land grant institution. Accepting the Eiken as an option to
prove English proficiency would enable International Admissions to recruit Japanese students more effectively and potentially increase enrollment.

Allowing the proposed amendment to the English language proficiency requirement would regularize the current undergraduate international application process with the processes in place at other state-supported institutions of higher education in the United States. The amendment would also create a more equitable set of standards between international, domestic and graduate admissions at USU and eliminate contradictory practices currently in place.
# A Comparison of English Proficiency Requirements for Undergraduate International Applicants at Select Universities

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<th>University</th>
<th>International Enrollment</th>
<th>Ranking</th>
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International students - or domestic students who do not speak English natively - have two options for testing. We have no preference between these options. It is your choice, and you should take the set of tests with which you feel the most comfortable:

- **Option 1**: The SAT or the ACT, as well as two SAT Subject Tests: one in math (level 1 or 2), and one in science (physics, chemistry, or biology e/m).
- **Option 2**: The TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) as well as two SAT Subject Tests: one in math (level 1 or 2) and one in science (physics, chemistry, or biology e/m).

[Link](http://mitadmissions.org/apply/international/intltests)

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**Official proof of English language skills.** English language proficiency can be demonstrated by submitting one of the following official scores:

- 550 or higher on the paper-based [Test of English as a Foreign Language](http://www.toefl.org) (TOEFL) Score must be sent electronically from the testing agency.
- 79 or higher on the Internet-based [TOEFL](http://www.toefl.org)
- 6.5 or higher on the [International English Language Testing System](http://www.ielts.org) (IELTS)
- 21 or higher on the English section of the ACT
- 500 or higher on the SAT Critical Reading section of the SAT

[Link](http://undergrad.osu.edu/international/application-requirements.html)

Applicants who are citizens of or who have received a bachelor's degree from one of the following countries are exempt from the English proficiency requirement: Australia, Belize, the British Caribbean and British West Indies, Canada (except Quebec), England, Guyana, Ireland, Liberia, New Zealand, Scotland, the United States, and Wales.
### English Proficiency

English proficiency is required for all international applicants. USD offers a values-based education with rigorous curriculum and we want to ensure that all international students are well prepared for the academic challenges. For applicants whose native language is not English, they are required to provide a [TOEFL](https://www.ets.org/toefl) or [IELTS](https://www.ielts.org) score. USD’s minimum scores are 80 on the TOEFL iBT and 6.5 on the IELTS. We only accept official scores therefore; you must request the scores to be sent directly from ETS or IELTS. In order for scores to be valid they should not be any older than 2 years. USD’s school code is 4849.

We can waive the English proficiency requirement if the applicant satisfies one of the following:

- SAT Critical Reading score of 520 or higher
- Enrolled in International Baccalaureate (IB) English or AP English
- Currently attending high school in the US and has been enrolled in mainstream English all four years
- Received a grade “C” or better in a college level English Composition I (or its equivalent) at an accredited US college or university
- A score of “C” or better on the UK system A-levels English Exam

[http://www.sandiego.edu/admissions/undergraduate/apply/requirements/international_info.php/#English](http://www.sandiego.edu/admissions/undergraduate/apply/requirements/international_info.php/#English)

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### University of Utah

| 8.5% | [http://www.obia.utah.edu/ia/stat/2012-2013/ss1213A02.pdf](http://www.obia.utah.edu/ia/stat/2012-2013/ss1213A02.pdf) | 125 |

Applicants whose first language is not English, including permanent residents who have had their PR card for less than 5 years, must submit the TOEFL or IELTS examination for consideration. Applicants will need to have a minimum TOEFL score of 80 iBT (550 pBT) or better, or a minimum IELTS band score of 6.5 or better. (Minimum score requirements are subject to change).

The University of Utah Office of Admissions will waive the English proficiency requirement if the applicant satisfies one of the following:

**Freshman Applicants**

- ACT English score of 18 or higher
- SAT Critical Reading score of 500 or higher
- Attend a U.S. high school for 3 or more years and enroll in non-ESL English/Language Arts classes

**Transfer Applicants**

- Receive a grade of “C” or better in a college-level English Composition course (equivalent to WRTG 1010 – Intro to Academic Writing at the U or WRTG 2010 – Intermediate Writing: Academic Writing & Research) at a regionally-accredited U.S. college or university

[http://admissions.utah.edu/international/english-proficiency-waivers.php](http://admissions.utah.edu/international/english-proficiency-waivers.php)
Language Proficiency Policy for Undergraduate Admission

Undergraduate students may be admitted to Kansas State University based on academic credentials with no proof of English proficiency (no TOEFL or other standardized test scores). If students choose to be admitted without proof of English proficiency, they will be required to take the English Proficiency Test (EPT) upon their arrival on campus. The results of the English Proficiency Test (EPT) will determine if the students have to study English, either full-time or part-time, or whether they are ready to begin full-time university classes.

In order to be given a waiver from taking the English Proficiency Test (EPT), students must provide validated official reports or transcripts for one of the following:

1. Validated standardized English test scores (Unofficial online score reports cannot be accepted. Students must submit the official score report that was issued to them, or have the scores sent directly to K-State from the testing center). K-State’s university code that can be used to send scores from the testing center, is 6334.

Acceptable standardized test scores are as follows:

a. iBT (Internet Based TOEFL) – Overall score of 79
b. IELTS – Overall score of 6.5
c. ACT English subscore of 23
d. SAT Critical Reading score of 530
e. PTE Pearson Test of English – Overall Score of 53
f. Eiken (Pre-1 Score)

2. Transfer students from a U.S. institution must have completed:

a. 24 credit hours at an accredited US institution WITH English Composition I and II with grades of C or better

3. Students who have attended four years at a U.S. high school must have completed:

a. Four years in a U.S. high school with grades of C or better in all college preparatory English courses

Non-native speakers of English must provide official English language test scores, unless

- they meet the criteria listed under "Exempt from English Language Testing" OR
- they need or desire additional, full-time English language study prior to enrolling in OSU coursework
which is known as “Conditional Admission”

**Acceptable alternatives to the TOEFL and IELTS include:**

- SAT Reading: Minimum score of 500
- ACT English: Minimum score of 21
- AP English L & C: Minimum score of 3
- IGCSE/International A Levels English: Minimum grade of C (pass)
- INTO OSU Academic English: Completion of AE Level 6 with a minimum B average and P (pass) in all Pass/No pass classes
- IB (HL): English A2: Minimum score of 5
- US Post-Secondary Institution minimum 36 quarter transfer credits (must include two English composition courses with grades C- or better or one English composition and one speech communication course with grades C- or better) without a test score

http://oregonstate.edu/admissions/international/admission-requirements

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International applicants whose native language is not English or who have not earned a diploma/degree at a school where English was the language of instruction must take either the **Test of English as a Foreign Language** (TOEFL) or **International English Language Testing System** (IELTS).

USU requires a 71 on the iBT TOEFL or a 6.0 Overall (Overall Band Score) on the IELTS with a minimum of 5.0 on each subscale (Individual Bands). Students with scores lower than this will be required to take courses in the Intensive English Language Institute (see below). If an international applicant has a degree from a college or university in an English-speaking country, the TOEFL or IELTS is not required.

**Intensive English Language Institute**

An applicant who does not submit a TOEFL or IELTS score must take the English Language Placement Test given by the **Intensive English Language Institute** (IELI) at USU and complete any required intensive English courses.

https://globalengagement.usu.edu/htm/international-students/prospective-students/undergraduate-application

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UNC’s Minimum Scores:

- TOEFL IBT: 70
- IELTS: 6.0
- PTE: 50

Applicants whose first language is not English must prove acceptable English language ability before being granted regular admission.

UNC’s institutional code for TOEFL is 4074.

Applicants who successfully graduate from level 6 of UNC’s Intensive English Program may be eligible
for Regular Admission.

http://www.unco.edu/grad/international/howtoapply.html

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TOEFL & IELTS Exams

- The TOEFL and IELTS exams are **not** required for admission to WSU.
- However, if you have taken the exam or would like to **so you do not have to take ESL courses** at WSU:
  - TOEFL: you will need to have scored at least 500 paper based, 173 computer based, or 61 internet based.
  - IELTS: a score of 6.0 is required with a minimum score of 5.0 on each section.

- If a TOEFL or IELTS score is not provided or the provided score is below the scores indicated above, you will be required to take our LEAP Placement Test to measure your English language ability. Based on the test results you may be required to register for ESL courses before entering your academic program.

http://www.weber.edu/SIS/Internationaladmissions.html

1. As a percentage of total student enrollment in the Fall or Autumn 2012 term.