

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 course work 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 iBT TOEFL (see <http://www.toefl.org>) OR a passing score on The University of Akron's speaking test, the U-ADEPT (see <http://www3.uakron.edu/eli/UADEPT/uadept.index.html>).

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

- A minimum score of 550 on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or of 213 on the computer-based TOEFL or of 79 on the iBT TOEFL. (The following departments require a higher standard of proficiency: the Ph.D. program in Sociology requires a TOEFL of 577/233/90-91; the Ph.D. program in Urban Studies & Public Affairs requires a TOEFL of 570/230/88; English and History require a TOEFL of 580/237/92; and Biomedical Engineering requires a TOEFL of 590/243/96.). Scores more than two years old will not be accepted. See <http://www.toefl.org> for 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 <http://www.ielts.org/> for information about the IELTS.

OR

- Successful completion of a full course of study in the Advanced Level of the English Language Institute (ELI) at The University of Akron. The ELI is an intensive (20 hour a week) program in English for academic purposes. The Advanced Level course of study is offered every Fall, Spring, and Summer according to the university's academic calendar. For details about successful completion and about applying to the English Language Institute, see <http://www.uakron.edu/eli>.

OR

- Successful completion of 24 credit hours of upper-level undergraduate or 18 credit hours of graduate course work at a U.S. university or college in which English is the primary language of instruction. Successful completion is defined as maintaining a 3.0 GPA in full-time, continuous studies. Applicants must submit original transcripts of their course work.

OR

- Successful completion of an undergraduate or graduate program at a university outside 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/she has satisfied the English requirement. The decision will be final.