

May 4, 2015

Greetings from the Graduate School and the Office of International Programs,

We would like to inform you of a few changes regarding the English Proficiency requirement for graduate applicants.

Based on information provided by the test makers and the English proficiency requirements at peer institutions, our offices worked on aligning the equivalencies. The current required IELTS score of 7.0 is not the equivalent to the TOEFL iBT of 80, therefore, the university standard admission requirement for IELTS (International English Language Testing System) will change to a 6.5 instead of a 7.0. If your department requires a higher English proficiency, please use the chart below. The Graduate School will also accept the PTE Academic (Pearson Test of English Academic) and Cambridge English which are gaining in popularity internationally.

TOEFL PBT	TOEFL iBT	IELTS	PTE (Pearson)	Cambridge English
600	100	7.0	68	67
Can produce clear, detailed text on a wide range of subjects and explain a viewpoint on a topical issue giving the advantages and disadvantages of various options.				
Good User: IELTS descriptors - www.ielts.org Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.				
575	90	7.0	61	67
Can understand the main ideas of complex text on both concrete and abstract topics, including technical discussions in his/her field of specialization.				
Good User: IELTS descriptors - www.ielts.org Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning.				
550	80	6.5	54	58
Can exchange factual information on familiar routine/non-routine matters within his/her field with some confidence. Can pass on a detailed piece of information reliably.				
This student is in-between: Good User: IELTS descriptors - www.ielts.org Has operational command of the language, though with occasional inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings in some situations. Generally handles complex language well and understands detailed reasoning. Competent User: IELTS descriptors - www.ielts.org				

Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.				
525	71	6.0	48	52
Can understand the main points of clear standard input on familiar matters regularly encountered in work, school, leisure, etc.				
Competent User: IELTS descriptors - www.ielts.org				
Has generally effective command of the language despite some inaccuracies, inappropriacies and misunderstandings. Can use and understand fairly complex language, particularly in familiar situations.				

- **IELTS descriptors**

→ More information on IELTS Writing descriptors:

<http://www.ielts.org/pdf/WritingBanddescriptorsTask1.pdf>

→ More information on IELTS Speaking descriptors:

http://takeielts.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/IELTS_Speaking_band_descriptors.pdf

- **TOEFL descriptors (Reading, Listening, Speaking, Writing)**

→ More information at: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/scores/improve>

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me, I welcome your feedback and will be happy to clarify this policy.

Sincerely,

Melis Edwards,