

## English Language Requirement

International undergraduate applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit an official TOEFL or IELTS examination score as a part of the admissions application. Official scores must be less than two years old and submitted directly from the testing agency to the University of Kansas. Students who are unable to present official scores (with some exceptions -- see below) may apply directly to the [Applied English Center](#) (AEC) as a **non-degree seeking student**. If you are applying as an undergraduate **degree-seeking student** and also need intensive English courses, you do not need to make a separate application to study in the Applied English Center.

**After you arrive on campus, and before you enroll in KU classes, your English proficiency will be verified by KU's [Applied English Center \(AEC\)](#).** If your current TOEFL or IELTS scores are sufficient, you may request a waiver of the AEC English proficiency test. Otherwise, you will take the AEC English proficiency test to determine whether you will enroll in full-time intensive English courses, part-time intensive English courses and part-time degree courses, or full-time degree courses.

If you have a recent TOEFL or IELTS score (within the past two years) in the ranges below, you can request to be waived from the Applied English Center English proficiency examination:

- **TOEFL (paper-based test):** 57 or higher for each section score and 4.5 or higher on the Test of Written English (TWE)
- **iBT (internet-based test):** 23 or higher on the Reading, Writing and Listening sections.
- **International English Language Testing System (IELTS), academic format:** 6.0 or higher for listening, reading, and writing modules, and a total score of 6.5

Your TOEFL or IELTS score helps to **estimate** how much additional English language preparation you may need before beginning degree program coursework. The chart below **estimates** the amount of intensive English study that most students may need before they enroll in degree program courses. In some degree programs, upper level intensive courses in the AEC count toward degree requirements.

| EXAMINATION SCORES<br>*The iBT Speaking Section score is not required. |                     |                                        | ESTIMATED TIME IN ESL COURSES: Actual time will be determined by the AEC English proficiency test administered before enrollment. |                           |                            |                           |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| TOEFL                                                                  | iBT                 | IELTS Academic                         | Semester 1                                                                                                                        | Semester 2                | Semester 3                 | Semester 4                |
| 57-57-57 or higher                                                     | 23-23-23* or higher | Composite 6.5 or higher (all parts ≥6) | No ESL Full-time University Coursework (KU)                                                                                       |                           |                            |                           |
| 530-569                                                                | ≥70                 | 6.0                                    | Part-time ESL & Part-time KU                                                                                                      | Expected full-time KU     |                            |                           |
| 500-529                                                                | 60-69               | 5.5                                    | Full-time or part-time ESL                                                                                                        | Full-time or part-time KU | Expected full-time KU      |                           |
| 461-499                                                                | 50-59               | 4.5-5.0                                | Expected full-time ESL                                                                                                            | Expected part-time KU     | Expected full-time KU      |                           |
| 415-460                                                                | 35-49               | 3.5-4.0                                | Full-time ESL                                                                                                                     | Expected full-time ESL    | Expected part-time KU      | Expected full-time KU     |
| <415                                                                   | <35                 | <3.5                                   | Full-time ESL                                                                                                                     | Expected full-time ESL    | Full-time or part-time ESL | Part-time or full-time KU |

### EXCEPTIONS to TOEFL or IELTS Submission

If you meet any of the following conditions, you do not need to submit TOEFL or IELTS for admission. However, your English proficiency will be verified by the KU Applied English Center prior to enrollment.

- Government, university or agency-sponsored international undergraduates (including KU athletes)
- Exchange students in KU Study Abroad Programs
- Native speakers of English
- AEC non-degree students who meet KU undergraduate admission criteria and are eligible to transition to KU degree programs
- US High school graduates who have completed 3 or more years of US high school education and also present ACT or SAT scores
- US college or university transfer students who have completed 2 or more semesters of college-level English composition courses.