

Proposed Graduate Academic Calendar Change
Section: English language proficiency
Academic Council – November 15, 2016

Rationale: The proposed changes below will help to ensure we are accepting high quality graduate students with the English language proficiency required for success. The university has seen graduate students entering a program through these channels for English language proficiency struggle academically and professionally as teaching assistants. The proposed changes are also due in part to an inability to validate whether someone's mother-tongue is English, and the cancellation of the contract with CultureWorks.

English language proficiency

All applicants are required to give evidence of their oral and written proficiency in English. This regulation outlines the standard ways that applicants must use to satisfy the English language proficiency requirement. If an individual program requires higher levels of proficiency or a difference in what is needed to demonstrate English language proficiency, this is listed in the individual program requirements.

Letters from your universities stating the medium of instruction is English are not acceptable.

The English language proficiency requirement may be satisfied with one of the following:

- Your ~~mother tongue or~~ first language is English.
- You have completed an undergraduate or graduate degree within the past three years in a university in Canada, the United States, the United Kingdom or any country in which the primary language is English, where the language of instruction in the relevant educational institution was English, and the language of instruction in their most recently completed undergraduate or graduate degree was English. studied full-time for at least three years (or equivalent in part-time studies) in a university degree program where the language of instruction and examination was English or you have completed a university degree program where the language of instruction and examination was English. UOIT may ask you to provide official verification from your university that the language of instruction and examination was English. Please note: The minimum three-year requirement does not include full-time enrolment in English as a Second Language (ESL) programs.
- ~~You have successfully completed all levels of an approved ESL program that has been designed for university preparation. Information on whether a particular program is approved as satisfying the English proficiency requirement can be obtained from the Office of Graduate Studies.~~
- You have achieved the required proficiency as listed below on one of the tests in English language acceptable to UOIT. Test results dated more than 24 months prior to the date of the application for admission to UOIT will not be considered. An official test score is required.

Please note: If you take an approved English language proficiency test, then its score shall prevail as the determining evidence of your English language proficiency.

The following table includes the minimum acceptable scores for English language proficiency tests at UOIT. If higher scores are required by a particular program, these are specified in the individual program requirements. It is also important to note that English language proficiency requirements may be higher for employment, including teaching assistant duties.

TOEFL (iBT)	83-87 (Minimum sub-scores: Listening 20, Reading 20, Speaking 19, Writing 20)
TOEFL (paper-based)	560
IELTS*	6.5
MELAB	85
CAEL	70 (with no sub-score below 60)

*UOIT Graduate Studies only accepts IELTS scores in the Academic testing format. Scores from the IELTS General Training format will not be accepted.

Applicants are advised to consult the [Graduate Studies website](#) for the most current requirements for their program.

Applicants must arrange for original test scores to be sent directly from the testing centre to the Office of Graduate Studies. UOIT's TOEFL Code is 7178. Applicants need to provide this code to TOEFL at the time of testing in order for test scores to be forwarded to UOIT.

Notwithstanding the above, individual applicants may be able to establish their spoken and written English language proficiency through some other combination of education, work experience or testing. Individual candidates who wish to establish their English language proficiency other than the ways outlined in this section should contact the Office of Graduate Studies. Despite the possibility of other options, please note that a test score from an approved English language proficiency test still prevails as the determining evidence of your English language proficiency.

The only exception to the English language proficiency admission requirement is if you are a Canadian citizen who has completed a degree at a Canadian university where the language of instruction is French.

UOIT reserves the right to test the English language proficiency of all students and to require further English language training.