

## University of California English Language Proficiency Requirement for Transfer Applicants

Applicants whose native language is not English, and whose high school or college/university education was in a country where the language of instruction was not English, must provide evidence of English proficiency to be successful in university studies.

- SMC transfers students must still take English 1 and 2 (or equivalent AP or IB exams) for transfer admission, regardless of TOEFL scores.
- UC uses the student's grades earned in English 1 and 2 to satisfy the English Language Proficiency Requirement. The minimum letter grade required varies across the UC campuses. Use the chart below to learn the letter grade required for each UC campus.
- IF you have already completed the required courses with the letter grades indicated below, you are **NOT** required to submit a TOEFL score result.
- IF you do NOT complete the required courses with the letter grades indicated below, you **ARE** required to submit a TOEFL score result.

### Minimum English Composition Course Grades Required to Demonstrate English Proficiency for UC

UC Campus	Proficiency test waived with transferable English composition courses (not ESL) in a U.S. college
Berkeley, Davis, Irvine, Merced, Riverside, and Santa Barbara	2 courses required with grades of C or higher
Los Angeles, San Diego, and Santa Cruz	2 courses required with grades of B or higher

Various examinations may also be used to demonstrate proficiency in English. However, the two English courses are still required for minimum admission requirements for UC. Minimum accepted scores for admission consideration for all UC campuses are:

- TOEFL score of 80 or better for the Internet-based test, 550 or better for the paper-based test (completed prior to Oct. 2017), or 60 or better on the revised paper-delivered test (completed Oct. 2017 or later)
- IELTS score of 6.5 or better band score (academic modules).

For admission selection, a UC campus may require a score higher than the minimum. And some campuses may request an interview to determine English skills during the application review process. TOEFL, IELTS, and DET scores are valid for two years from the date of the exam.

Specific Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exam scores, as well as writing exam scores from the SAT, are also accepted for English proficiency.

Applicants may also demonstrate English proficiency in any of the following ways:

- Score 3, 4 or 5 on the AP examination in English Language and Composition or English Literature and Composition;
- Score 5, 6 or 7 on the IB Higher Level Examination in English (*Language A*);
- Score 6 or higher on the IB Standard Level Examination in English (*Language A*);
- Score 24 or higher for the ACT combined English/Writing or English Language Arts (ELA);
- Score 560 or higher on the SAT Reasoning Test, Writing section, or 31 or higher on the Writing and Language in the SAT with Essay (taken March 2016 or later).
- Duolingo English Test (DET): minimum score of 115 (through Fall 2023 only).
- Berkeley may offer some students an opportunity to interview during the application review process to determine English language skills. Los Angeles and Santa Barbara may require additional English proficiency testing for admitted applicants. Students who do not earn the required minimum grades, may need to take ESL classes or an examination, depending on the campus. Campus requirements may vary; contact the campus Admissions Office for more information.