

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

POLICY NUMBER: AAPC-ENGLPROFICIENCY

POLICY TYPE: ACADEMIC & ADMISSIONS POLICY COMMITTEE

RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL TITLE: PROVOST & EXEC. VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

RESPONSIBLE OFFICE: CENTER FOR GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT/INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

EFFECTIVE DATE: UPON PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL – 5/6/2014

NEXT REVIEW DATE: PREVIOUS REVIEW PLUS FOUR (4) YEARS – 10/20/2026

SUPERSEDES POLICY: TOEFL/IELTS WAIVER PROPOSAL/PROOF OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

BOARD OF REGENTS REPORTING (CHECK ONE):

PRESIDENTIAL RECOMMENDATION (CONSENT AGENDA/VOTING ITEM):

PRESIDENTIAL REPORT (INFORMATION ONLY)

I. POLICY STATEMENT

International students will be admitted to Northern Kentucky University (NKU) by showing proficiency in English by one of the following means:

1. Submit an official score from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) taken within the last two years. The minimum TOEFL scores to be considered for admission are:
 - *Paper Based:* 500 (undergraduate) or 550 (post-baccalaureate)
 - *Internet Based:* 61 (undergraduate) or 79 (post-baccalaureate)
2. Submit an official score from the International English Language Testing Service (IELTS) taken within the last two years. The minimum IELTS scores to be considered for admission are:
 - Band score of 5.5, with a minimum of 5.0 in Reading and 5.0 in Writing (undergraduate)
 - Band score of 6.5 (post-baccalaureate)
3. Submit a score of 18 or higher in the English portion of the ACT exam or 430 or higher in the English portion of the SAT exam.
 - ACT: 18 (undergraduate) or 20 (post-baccalaureate)
 - SAT: Writing sub-scores of 430 (undergraduate) or 540 (post-baccalaureate) and a Critical Reading score of 470.
4. Present documentation of satisfactorily completing Freshman English Composition equivalent to NKU's ENG 101 with a C (2.00) or higher at a regionally accredited college or university in the United States, where at least 24 consecutive credit-bearing hours have been earned with an overall cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.
5. Students will be admitted to undergraduate programs at Northern Kentucky University based on successful completion of the American English Language Program, which requires the completion of level six with at least an 80% in grammar, writing, reading, and listening & speaking classes.
6. Submit an official score from Pearson PTE Academic, taken within the last two years. The minimum PTE Academic scores to be considered for admission are:
 - 44 overall, with at least a 42 in reading (undergraduate)
 - 55 minimum overall (post-baccalaureate)

II. ENTITIES AFFECTED

International student applicants

III. REFERENCES AND RELATED MATERIALS

REFERENCES

[Requirements for international graduate students](#)

REVISION HISTORY

REVISION TYPE	MONTH/YEAR APPROVED
AAPC Review: Name change & minor edits to update dates & formatting	October 20, 2022
Policy Revision & Name Change to "Proof of English Proficiency"	April 19, 2019
Policy: TOEFL/IELTS Waiver Proposal	May 6, 2014

PROOF OF ENGLISH PROFICIENCY

PRESIDENTIAL APPROVAL

PRESIDENT

Signature

Ashish Vaidya

Date

4/19/19

Ashish Vaidya

BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVAL

BOARD OF REGENTS (IF FORWARDED BY PRESIDENT)

- This policy was forwarded to the Board of Regents on the **Presidential Report (information only)**.
Date of Board of Regents meeting at which this policy was reported: 9/11/19.
- This policy was forwarded to the Board of Regents as a **Presidential Recommendation (consent agenda/voting item)**.
- The Board of Regents approved this policy on ____/____/____.
(Attach a copy of Board of Regents meeting minutes showing approval of policy.)
- The Board of Regents rejected this policy on ____/____/____.
(Attach a copy of Board of Regents meeting minutes showing rejection of policy.)

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT/SECRETARY TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Signature

Bonita Brown

Date

9/18/19

Print Name

Bonita Brown