

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

Admission Requirements (p. 1)

Evidence of proficiency in English is required for all students to support student success. Proficiency must be shown in reading, writing, speaking and listening through one of the methods described below:

Undergraduate Admissions (p. 1)

U.S. Applicants: Proof of English language proficiency is not an admission requirement.

U.S. Applicants who are not U.S. citizens: please consult with your admissions counselor.

International (F-1) Applicants: Minimum test scores are required to be considered for admission.

1. Minimum test score on a qualifying standardized test.

The language exam score requirements are as follows:

Undergraduate (English Language must be taken for Core Curriculum Foreign Language):

- TOEFL (iBT) 70+ or IELTS 6 or Duolingo 110 (other test scores may be submitted to the ELP Director for approval)

Undergraduate (English Language must be taken for Core Curriculum Foreign Language):

- TOEFL (iBT) 80+ or IELTS 6.5 or Duolingo 125+ (other test scores may be submitted to the English Language Director for approval)
- or graduation from an American high school (4 years)
- or at least one year in a U.S. undergraduate program
- or either of the above, from a country where English is an official language — at the discretion of the ELP Director or a designated ELP representative
- Meet the minimum GPA and SAT or ACT test scores for general admission to the university. At the applicant's request, official SAT or ACT test scores must be sent by the official testing service directly to Biola. For undergraduate students applying with the SAT or ACT (who have not met the minimum scores), an additional language screening test may be required.

2. An updated TOEFL or IELTS score may be used at the end of the term if the undergraduate would prefer to take a different foreign language to fulfill their GE language requirement.

To be considered for admission, international (F-1) applicants whose first language is not English must submit English proficiency scores that meet the minimum requirement. At the applicant's request, official TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo (or other approved test) test scores must be sent by the testing agency directly to Biola. Courses in English Language or English composition taken in an institution where English is the primary medium for instruction may not be used to complete the admission requirement. International students currently attending

schools where English is the primary medium of education (e.g., an international high school in China) must also submit official exam scores.

Exception: If an applicant's secondary education took place in a country in which English is the primary language of communication (e.g., Australia, Canada, or Ireland, or the U.S.), the applicant is exempt from the English language proficiency requirement.

Undergraduate English Language Scholars (p. 1)

Biola's English Language Scholars are a community of students dedicated to the highest level of English proficiency. For more information, see the Biola English Language website (<https://www.biola.edu/english-language-scholars/>).

Undergraduate English language scholars take English language instead of another foreign language (i.e., Russian, Spanish, French, American Sign Language) for Core Curriculum credit. Only students majoring in Art or Music, who do not have a foreign language Core Curriculum requirement, will take English language as elective credits. English language scholars join a cohort their first year, taking the same two Core Curriculum courses in both fall and spring.

Undergraduate Language Credit Requirement According to Degree Type (p. 1)

Degree Type	Core Curriculum Language Requirement	English Language Course Conversion
B.A.	8 credits	English language courses fulfill general education language requirement
B.F.A.	0 credits	English language courses count for general elective credit
B.M.	0 credits	English language courses count for general elective credit
B.S.	0-4	One English language course fulfills general education language requirement; one English language course counts for general elective credit.

Undergraduate English language students take no more than 15 credits their first semester to ensure successful university transition. Requests for more credits to be taken can be submitted to the English Language Director at bonnie.vidrine-isbell@biola.edu.

Graduate Admissions (p. 1)

International (F-1) Applicants: Must satisfy one of the following requirements for proof of English proficiency:

1. Minimum test score on a qualifying standardized test approved by the Director of English Language.

The language exam score requirements are as follows:

Graduate Academic Programs:

- TOEFL (iBT) 90+ and IELTS 7 and DUOLINGO 125
- TOEFL (iBT) 100+ and IELTS 7.5 and DUOLINGO 125
- See chart below for Graduate program-specific requirements.

2. A degree (bachelor's, master's, or doctoral) issued by an institution where English is the medium of instruction. On-campus residence during the degree program is required. Regional accreditation is required from U.S. institutions, or a recognized baccalaureate degree equivalent earned outside the U.S. To verify that English is the sole medium of instruction, one of the following forms of documentation is required for institutions outside of the United States:

- Official written communication from the institution (Registrar, Controller of Examinations Office, or Undergraduate College)
- Official degree statements or transcripts may be accepted given English is stated as the medium of instruction
- Official catalog verification

For universities from non-Anglophone countries, Academic English language courses will be required unless a test score is submitted.

3. An updated TOEFL, IELTS or Duolingo score may be used at the end of the term to test out of Graduate English language coursework.

To be considered for admission, international (F-1) applicants whose first language is not English must submit English proficiency scores that meet the minimum requirement. At the applicant's request, official TOEFL, or IELTS, or Duolingo (or other approved test) test scores must be sent by the testing agency directly to Biola. For more details on how, when, and where to take language tests, visit online:

- TOEFL (iBT) (<https://www.ets.org/toefl.html>)
- IELTS (<https://ielts.org/>)
- DUOLINGO (<https://englishtest.duolingo.com/applicants/>)

Language tests are administered only at specific times, so candidates for admission should inquire about testing dates well in advance of the date of anticipated school term in the U.S.

The English Language Director finalizes and approves all placement decisions for all students who need language proficiency placement (see above). Cambridge English Proficiency and Pearson English Language tests may also be considered.

Consultation will occur with graduate committees when appropriate. In certain cases, the program may require a locally administered English language placement exam. Placement decisions may be appealed and revised based on new official TOEFL/IELTS/DUOLINGO scores. Appeal cases will be considered at the ELP Director's discretion.

Faculty recommendations or student requests may lead to additional on-campus evaluation and affect course placement.

Graduate English Language Scholars (p. 2)

Biola's Graduate English Scholar are a group of students who work together to professionalize their English. These students take academic English courses at the highest level to refine their language for dissertation writing, conference presentations, publication, teaching K-12, or sermon delivery. For more information, see the Biola English Language website (<https://www.biola.edu/english-language-scholars/>).

Graduate English language courses also satisfy the English Language Proficiency requirement for graduate students. New students entering Biola without a qualifying test score will be required to take an English language proficiency screening test for placement before registering for graduate English language classes. Results of the screening will require between 1-3 language courses. An extra fee is charged for each course in addition to regular tuition at the graduate level. The cost per credit for a language course is \$596.

See chart below for Graduate program-specific requirements.

Language Exam Score Requirement According to Degree Type (p. 2)

Program Level	TOEFL iBT	IELTS	DUOLINGO
Crowell School of Business	100+	7.5+	125+
Business Administration, MBA			
Leadership and Innovation, M.A.			
Rosemead School of Psychology	100+	7.5+	125+
Clinical Psychology, Ph.D.			
Clinical Psychology, Psy.D.			
School of Education	100+	7.5+	125+
Education, M.A.Ed.			
Teaching, M.A.T.			
Curriculum, Instruction, and Publication, M.S.C.I.P.			
Special Education, M.S.Sp.Ed.			
Credentials			
Child Development Permits			

Institution-Sponsored Certificates				Master of Divinity, M.Div. (Evangelism and Discipleship)
School of Science, Technology, and Health	100+	7.5+	125+	Master of Divinity, M.Div. (Missions and Intercultural Studies)
Master of Public Health				Master of Divinity, M.Div. (Pastoral and General Ministries)
Occupational Therapy, M.S.				Master of Divinity, M.Div. (Pastoral Care and Counseling)
Speech-Language Pathology, M.S.				Intercultural Studies, D.I.S.
Talbot School of Theology	90+	7.0+	125+	Talbot School of Theology 100+
Master of Arts (Bible Exposition)				Master of Divinity, M.Div. (Messianic Jewish Studies)
Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies in the Eurasian Context/Kyiv Extension)				Master of Divinity, M.Div. (Spiritual Formation)
Master of Arts (New Testament)				Spiritual Formation and Soul Care, M.A.S.F.S.C.
Master of Arts (Old Testament)				Christian Apologetics, M.A.
Master of Arts (Philosophy)				Science and Religion, M.A.
Master of Arts (Spiritual Formation)				Classical Theology, M.A.
Master of Arts (Theology/Greek or Non-Greek)				Ministry, D.Min.
Christian Ministry and Leadership, M.A.C.M.L. (Biblical and Pastoral Ministry)				Educational Studies, Ed.D.
Christian Ministry and Leadership, M.A.C.M.L. (Ministry and Leadership)				Educational Studies, Ph.D.
Christian Ministry and Leadership, M.A.C.M.L. (Pastoral Care and Counseling)				Intercultural Education, Ph.D.
Intercultural Studies, M.A.				Intercultural Studies, Ph.D.