English Proficiency Policy Update
International Admissions – Office of Global Education
April 2020

As a result of COVID19, academic test centers in the U.S and around the world have closed leaving applicants unable to take tests such as (TOEFL, IELTS, GRE etc.). As a way to quickly mitigate the adverse effect of the pandemic on our international applicants for Fall 20 and beyond, we began accepting the Duolingo English Test (DET) during these times as TOEFL and IELTS were no longer available.

DET is the only English proficiency test that was designed to be fully remote. We first rolled this out with our applicants from China back in December 2019, and later on expanded it to the rest of the world due to the fast spread of COVID19. As a result, we would like to propose to permanently add the Duolingo English Test (DET) to our list of accepted English proficiency tests. This test is accepted by over 500 institutions including Ivy league schools such as Yale, Stanford and Harvard.

The existing procedures are outlined below with new additional items highlighted in yellow.

English Language Proficiency Current Standards

Undergraduate
All undergraduate applicants must obtain a minimum TOEFL score of 525 (71 on the Internet based version), Minimum DET score of 100* minimum MELAB score of 75, IELTS score of 6.0, or PTE Academic score of 48, or Complete the ELS level 112 Intensive Program. Those who do not meet the minimum score for admission may be admitted conditionally if they meet academic requirements—Conditional Admission means students will take English language classes at our ESL Center before entering their programs.

Graduate
All graduate applicants must submit an English language proficiency test score to be considered for a graduate program. Graduate programs set their own English requirements, please review **Graduate Program English Requirements** before submitting your application. The graduate concordance table has been updated to reflect the Duolingo English Test minimums (DET)

* The Duolingo English Test (DET) is an on demand, cheaper option for applicants that may be taken remotely on a computer (with a webcam)with the ability to share results to an unlimited number of institutions. The test results are available to institutions in 48 hours after the student takes the test. DET is currently being accepted by more than 500 higher education institutions worldwide. Rigorous security protocols, individual test proctoring, and computer adaptive technology help prevent fraud and cheating. DET is a computer adaptive test backed by rigorous research, with results that are highly correlated with other major assessments such as the TOEFL and the IELTS. Each test taker's proficiency is reported as a holistic score on a scale 10–160. The proposed minimum score for the Duolingo English Test is 95. https://englishtest.duolingo.com

Waiver of English Language Requirement

All international applicants whose education has been primarily outside the United States of America must provide objective evidence of proficiency in the English language.

However, the following exceptions apply:

1. Applicants primarily educated in the following countries/territories:

Anguilla	Eswatini (Swaziland)*	Jersey	St. Helena
Antigua & Barbuda	Falkland Islands	Kenya*	St. Kitts & Nevis
Australia	Fiji	Lesotho*	St. Lucia
Bahamas	Gambia, The	Liberia	St. Vincent & the Grenadines
Barbados	Ghana	Malawi*	Tanzania
Belize	Gibraltar	Micronesia	Trinidad and Tobago
Bermuda	Grenada	Montserrat	Turks & Caicos Islands
Botswana	Guernsey	New Zealand	Uganda
British Virgin Islands	Guyana	Nigeria	United Kingdom
Canada (except Quebec)	Ireland	Sierra Leone	United States Territories
Cayman Islands	Isle of Man	Singapore*	Zambia
Dominica	Jamaica	South Africa	Zimbabwe

> ** English language proficiency test only waived for applicants from English language educational systems.*

2. Applicants who have recently completed three years of full-time study at a secondary institution in the U.S. may be exempted from this requirement after supporting academic records have been reviewed by the Admissions Office.

3. Applicants who have received a U.S. Bachelor's or U.S. Master's degree or who have completed two years of full-time academic study at an accredited post-secondary institution within the U.S. or at a U.S accredited post-secondary institution overseas.

4. Applicants who have completed three years of full-time study at a U.S. accredited high school overseas and have received (or will receive) the U.S. high school diploma.

5. Applicants who have a minimum SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing of 510.

6. Applicants who have a minimum ACT English score of 21.

7. International Baccalaureate (IB) applicants to Kent State may satisfy this requirement by attaining a minimum score of 5 in the Diploma Programme higher level or a minimum score of 6 in the standard level English language examinations. Or, applicants who have completed the ELS level 112 will be considered as met the English language requirement for undergraduate applications.

8. Applicants who have received a score of A, B, or C on the GCE O-Level, A-Level, GCSE, or IGCSE English Language (First Language) exam.

Any request for a waiver of the English language proficiency requirement must be submitted in writing to the International Admissions Office with any supporting documentation.

Kent State University reserves the right to require evidence of English language proficiency for all applicants, the adequacy of which shall be at the sole discretion of Kent State University.

These policy updates once approved will expand access while ensuring accuracy and consistency in the English proficiency requirements. It will also align Kent State University English proficiency policy with peer and aspirational institutions. The result of falling behind with respect to English proficiency requirements and waivers would be detrimental to the sustained growth and academic success of our international student population as well as prevent our institution from receiving the quality applicants that our competitors would readily consider for admission.

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Sources

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https://englishtest.duolingo.com/
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https://www.cambridgeinternational.org/

College	Degree	Major Name	Duolingo English Test Score
Aeronautics & Engineering	MS	Aerospace Engineering *pending final approval*	100
Aeronautics & Engineering	PhD	Aerospace Engineering *pending final approval*	100
Aeronautics & Engineering	MS	Aviation Management and Logistics	100
Aeronautics & Engineering	MS	Construction Management	100
Aeronautics & Engineering	MET	Engineering Technology	100
Architecture & Environmental Design	MArc	Architecture	110
Architecture & Environmental Design	MS	Architecture and Environmental Design	110
Architecture & Environmental Design	MHD	Healthcare Design	110
Architecture & Environmental Design	MLA1	Landscape Architecture	110
Architecture & Environmental Design	MLA2	Landscape Architecture	110
Architecture & Environmental Design	MUD	Urban Design	110
Arts	MFA	Acting for the Returning Professional	100
Arts	MA	Art Education	110
Arts	MA	Art History	110
Arts	MM	Conducting	100
Arts	MA	Ethnomusicology	100
Arts	MFIS	Fashion Industry Studies	120
Arts	MA	Music Composition	100
Arts	MM	Music Education	100
Arts	PhD	Music Education	100
Arts	MA	Music Theory	100
Arts	PhD	Music Theory - Composition	100
Arts	MM	Performance	100
Arts	MA	Studio Art	110
Arts	MFA	Studio Art	110
Arts	MFA	Theatre Design and Technology	100
Arts & Sciences	MA	Anthropology	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Applied Geology	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Applied Mathematics	100
Arts & Sciences	MS	Applied Mathematics	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Applied Mathematics	100
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biological Sciences - Botany *admission suspended*	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biological Sciences - Botany *admission suspended*	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biological Sciences - Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biological Sciences - Cell Biology and Molecular Genetics	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biological Sciences - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biological Sciences - Ecology and Evolutionary Biology	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biological Sciences - Integrative Physiology and Neurobiology	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biological Sciences - Integrative Physiology and Neurobiology	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Biology	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biology *admission suspended*	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biomedical Sciences - Cellular and Molecular Biology	120

College	Degree	Major Name	Duolingo English Test Score
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biomedical Sciences - Cellular and Molecular Biology	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biomedical Sciences - Human Evolutionary Biology	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biomedical Sciences - Neurosciences	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biomedical Sciences - Neurosciences	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biomedical Sciences - Pharmacology	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biomedical Sciences - Pharmacology	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Biomedical Sciences - Physiology (Interdisciplinary)	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Biomedical Sciences - Physiology (Interdisciplinary)	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Chemistry	100
Arts & Sciences	MS	Chemistry	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Chemistry	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Clinical Psychology	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Clinical Psychology *admission suspended*	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Computer Science	100
Arts & Sciences	MS	Computer Science	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Computer Science	100
Arts & Sciences	MFA	Creative Writing	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Criminology and Criminal Justice	120
Arts & Sciences	MS	Data Science *pending final approval*	100
Arts & Sciences	MA	English	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	English	130
Arts & Sciences	MA	French	110
Arts & Sciences	MGISc	Geographic Information Science	110
Arts & Sciences	MS	Geography	110
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Geography	110
Arts & Sciences	MS	Geology	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	German	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	History	110
Arts & Sciences	PhD	History	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Latin	110
Arts & Sciences	LSM	Liberal Studies	130
Arts & Sciences	MS	Materials Science	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Materials Science	100
Arts & Sciences	MA	Mathematics for Secondary Teachers	100
Arts & Sciences	MA	Philosophy	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Physics	110
Arts & Sciences	MS	Physics	110
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Physics	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Political Science	110
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Political Science	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Psychological Science	120
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Psychological Science	120

College	Degree	Major Name	Duolingo English Test Score
Arts & Sciences	MPA	Public Administration	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Pure Mathematics	100
Arts & Sciences	MS	Pure Mathematics	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Pure Mathematics	100
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Sociology	120
Arts & Sciences	MA	Sociology *no direct admission*	*n/a*
Arts & Sciences	MA	Spanish	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Teaching English as a Second Language	110
Arts & Sciences	MA	Translation	110
Arts & Sciences	PhD	Translation Studies	130
Business Administration	MSA	Accounting	110
Business Administration	MBA	Business Administration	110
Business Administration	PhD	Business Administration	120
Business Administration	MS	Business Analytics	110
Business Administration	MAE	Economics	110
Business Administration	MBA	Executive Master of Business Administration	110
Communication & Information	PhD	Communication and Information	120
Communication & Information	MA	Communication Studies	110
Communication & Information	MDS	Digital Sciences	110
Communication & Information	MS	Health Informatics	120
Communication & Information	MA	Journalism and Mass Communication	110
Communication & Information	MS	Knowledge Management	120
Communication & Information	MLIS	Library and Information Science	120
Communication & Information	MLIS	School Library Media K-12	120
Communication & Information	MS	User Experience Design	120
Communication & Information	MA	Visual Communication Design	120
Communication & Information	MFA	Visual Communication Design	120
Education, Health & Human Services	MS	Athletic Training	110
Education, Health & Human Services	AuD	Audiology	120
Education, Health & Human Services	MA	Audiology	120
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Audiology	120
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Career-Technical Teacher Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Clinical Mental Health Counseling	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Clinical Rehabilitation Counseling	110
Education, Health & Human Services	EdS	Counseling	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Counselor Education and Supervision	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MA	Cultural Foundations	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Cultural Foundations	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Cultural Foundations	110
Education, Health & Human Services	EdS	Curriculum and Instruction	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Curriculum and Instruction	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Curriculum and Instruction	110

College	Degree	Major Name	Duolingo English Test Score
Education, Health & Human Services	MAT	Early Childhood Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Early Childhood Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	EdS	Educational Leadership K-12 *admission suspended*	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Educational Leadership K-12 *admission suspended*	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Educational Leadership K-12 *admission suspended*	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MA	Educational Psychology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Educational Psychology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Educational Psychology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Educational Technology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Evaluation and Measurement	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Evaluation and Measurement	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MS	Exercise Physiology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Exercise Physiology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Health Education and Promotion	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Health Education and Promotion	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Higher Education Administration	110
Education, Health & Human Services	EdS	Higher Education Administration and Student Affairs	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Higher Education Administration and Student Affairs	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MS	Hospitality and Tourism Management *admission suspended*	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MA	Human Development and Family Studies	110
Education, Health & Human Services	EdD	Interprofessional Leadership	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MS	Nutrition	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Reading Specialization	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	School Counseling	100
Education, Health & Human Services	EdS	School Psychology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	School Psychology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	School Psychology	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MAT	Secondary Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	EdS	Special Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MEd	Special Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Special Education	110
Education, Health & Human Services	MA	Speech Language Pathology	120
Education, Health & Human Services	PhD	Speech Language Pathology	120
Education, Health & Human Services	MA	Sport Administration	110
Nursing	DNP	Nursing	110
Nursing	MSN	Nursing	110
Nursing	PhD	Nursing	110
Podiatric Medicine	DPM	Podiatric Medicine	120
Public Health	MS	Clinical Epidemiology	110
Public Health	MPH	Public Health	110
Public Health	PhD	Public Health	120