# Language Proficiency Requirements for Fall 2013

## ADMISSION STATUS BASED ON LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS

**Many graduate academic departments set standards for English proficiency requirements higher than the minimums listed below. Students must meet the specific language requirement of their respective department as listed in the graduate bulletin.**

### ADMITTED WITHOUT CONDITIONS

Having met all other international admission requirements as posted on the Graduate Bulletin, any applicant whose English language testing scores meet the minimum score requirements listed below qualifies for **Admitted** status. This means that the applicant **has** met Murray State's language proficiency requirements and no additional English Support or English as a Second Language training is required.

| TEST | SCORE RANGES FOR ADMISSION WITHOUT CONDITIONS |
|---|---|
| Paper-based TOEFL | 525 **or** more |
| Internet-based TOEFL (iBT) | 71 minimum on Academic Test **with** no band less than 16 on *writing, reading, and listening* |
| IELTS | 5.0 minimum on Academic Test **with** no band less than 5.0 |

### ADMITTED WITH ESP CONDITION

Having met all other international admission requirements as posted on the Graduate Bulletin, any applicant whose English language testing scores fall within the ranges listed below **has not** met Murray State's language proficiency requirements. Said applicant qualifies for **Admitted with ESP Condition** status and **is required** to enroll in the English Support Program (ESP).

The ranges below provide conditional admission to Murray State. **However, department approval is required for admission into any graduate degree program**. Graduate programs reserve the right to require additional testing upon completion of ESP and/or ESL programs.

| TEST | SCORE RANGES FOR ADMISSION WITH ESP CONDITION |
|---|---|
| Paper-based TOEFL | 500 – 524 |
| Internet-based TOEFL (iBT) | 61 – 70 on Academic Test **or** any band score of 13 – 15 |
| IELTS | 5.0 on Academic Test **with** any band score of 4.0 **or** 4.5 |

### English Support Program (ESP)

The English Support Program was started in the fall of 2008 to provide English language assistance to international students whose scores on either the TOEFL iBT or the IELTS are strong enough for them to be admitted with ESP conditions, yet not strong enough to be admitted to the University without conditions. This program offers two support courses that are designed to help students improve their academic listening and speaking skills and their academic reading and writing skills.

An in-house placement test is required for the ESP program. **Students who do not take this mandatory placement test** will automatically qualify for **Admitted with ESL Condition** status and will be placed in the ESL program.

**If students score at least 4 on the integrated writing portion *and* at least 6 on the integrated speaking portion of the ESP placement test, they will not be required to enroll in ESP courses.** In this case, The ESP program will provide documentation to the International Admissions Office stating that students have met the university language requirements for admission. Students will be provided with a copy of said documentation.

If students receive a passing score on one portion but do not receive a passing score on the other portion, students will be enrolled in whichever of the support classes they need. If students do not pass either portion, they are placed in both ESP courses. Credits earned in these courses **are not** counted toward graduation requirements. They are the following:

1. **ENG 109 – Oral Skills Workshop for International Students (3 credit hours)**. This course is for international students entering MSU or enrolled at MSU based on required TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) scores who are weak in listening and particularly in speaking skills in English. It is also open to any other MSU student who may feel the need to improve English-speaking skills. Graded pass/fail. May be repeated for a maximum of nine hours.

2. **ENG 110 – Text Skills Workshop for International Students (3 credit hours)**. This course is for the enhancement of English language skills in academic settings for nonnative speakers of English. This support course, intended primarily for upper division undergraduate and newly enrolled graduate students, provides classroom and individual instruction and practice in written academic presentations. Graded pass/fail. May be repeated for a maximum of nine hours.

Additionally, students enrolled in the ESP program are allowed to take other university courses. At the end of the semester, ESP students are administered another version of the ESP test. **Students must pass this test with the scores noted above and successfully complete all assigned coursework to exit ESP. If the minimum scores are not achieved, students will not exit the ESP program, even if they "pass" the ESP courses.**

## ADMITTED WITH ESL CONDITION

Having met all other international admission requirements as posted on the Graduate Bulletin, any applicant whose English language testing scores fall within the ranges listed below **has not** met Murray State's language proficiency requirements. Said applicant qualifies for **Admitted with ESL Condition** status and **is required** to enroll in the English as a Second Language Program (ESL).

| TEST | SCORE RANGES FOR ADMISSION WITH ESL CONDITION |
|---|---|
| Paper-based TOEFL | 499 **or** below |
| Internet-based TOEFL | 60 or less on Academic Test **or** any band score of 12 or less |
| IELTS | Less than 5.0 on Academic Test **or** any band score below 4.0 |
| | No TOEFL or IELTS |

The ESL Program at Murray State emphasizes language proficiency in all skill and knowledge areas (speaking, listening, writing, reading, and grammar) and provides students with an overview of American culture.

The ESL Program curriculum is divided into six levels. Each level generally requires an eight-week term to complete. New students are tested during the orientation program for proficiency in English writing, speaking, and grammar skills. They are then placed at an appropriate level of study.

If determined to be eligible, ESL students in levels 5 and 6 may be allowed to concurrently enroll in ESL and university classes.

Note:

Admitted students wishing to change admission status (ESL to ESP or University, ESP to University) must submit language scores by August 1, 2013.