

University of California English Language Proficiency Requirement

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.

Various examinations may be used to demonstrate proficiency in English. The minimum accepted score for admission consideration for the TOEFL is 80 or better for the Internet-based test and 550 or better for the paper-based test. The IELTS examination is accepted with a 7 or better band score (academic modules). For admission selection, a UC campus may require a score higher than the minimum.

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. (See table and notes below)

Minimum TOEFL and English Composition Requirements for Demonstrating English Proficiency

UC Campus	TOEFL Score I=Internet - based test P=paper - based test	Proficiency test waived with transferable English composition courses (not ESL) in a U.S. college
Berkeley	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of C or higher
Davis	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of C or higher
Irvine	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of C or higher
Los Angeles	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of B or higher
Merced	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of B or higher
Riverside	I: 80; P: 550	2 course required with grade of C or higher
San Diego	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of B or higher
Santa Barbara	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of C or higher
Santa Cruz	I: 80; P: 550	2 courses required with grades of B or higher

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 560 or higher on the SAT Reasoning Test, Writing section.

Davis, Los Angeles and Santa Barbara may require additional English proficiency testing for applicants admitted to their campuses.