

**EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
THE GRADUATE SCHOOL
OFFICE OF THE DEAN**

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TO: Council on Graduate Studies
RE: Change in Policy/Catalog Copy for Graduate International Student Admission
DATE: September 22, 2008

Bill Elliott, Director of International Admissions, has recommended the admission policy of the International Application Procedures section of the Graduate Catalog be revised as outlined below and be adopted for Summer 2009 international admissions. The policy statement was reviewed and approved for recommendation to the Council on Graduate Studies by the International Programs Advisory Council on September 5, 2008. Congruent recommendations for graduate admission have been forwarded to the Council on Academic Affairs as pertinent to undergraduate applicants.

Current Policy/Catalog Copy	Proposed Policy/Catalog Copy
<p>English Requirements: English language mastery may be documented in one of the ways outlined below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL: Submission of a score of 550 or higher on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), a score of 213 or higher on the computer-based TOEFL, or a score of 79 or higher on the internet-based TOEFL. (Applicants from English speaking provinces of Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, or New Zealand are exempt from the TOEFL requirement.) • Hours: Submission of successful completion of 24 semester hours of college credit at an accredited college or university in the United States; or • Certificate: Submission of a Level 112 Certificate of Proficiency from an ELS Language Center in the United States • IELTS: Submission of an overall band score of 6.5 or higher on the Academic Module. 	<p>English Requirements: English language mastery may be documented in one of the ways outlined below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TOEFL: Submission of a score of 550 or higher on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), a score of 213 or higher on the computer-based TOEFL, or a score of 79 or higher on the internet-based TOEFL. (Applicants from English speaking provinces of Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, or New Zealand are exempt from the TOEFL requirement.) • Hours: Submission of successful completion of 24 semester hours of college credit at an accredited college or university in the United States; or • Certificate: Submission of a Level 112 Certificate of Proficiency from an ELS Language Center in the United States • IELTS: Submission of an overall band score of 6.5 or higher on the Academic Module. • STEP EIKEN: Submission of Completion of Grade 1 • MELAB (Michigan English Language Assessment Battery): Submission of a score of 77 or higher

Rationale Statements

The EIKEN Test in Practical English Proficiency is an additional way to meet the English language mastery requirements for International Student Admission Purposes. Undergraduates must achieve Grade Pre-1 and graduate applicants must achieve Grade 1.

- The EIKEN Test in Practical English Proficiency often called the STEP EIKEN or the STEP Test – is an English language test conducted by a Japanese non-profit organization, the Society for Testing English Proficiency (STEP), and backed by the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT).
- EIKEN is internationally recognized as an English language assessment of the highest quality and integrity readily available throughout the world.
- EIKEN is a highly dependable, practical, and valid English language assessment primarily used by those seeking international education, professional recognition, bench-marking to international standards, and global mobility.
- EIKEN is designed to assess the language ability of candidates who need to study or work where English is the language of communication.
- Educational institutions, professional bodies, government departments and employers in approximately 45 countries now recognize the EIKEN as one of a suite of entry requirements.
- In 2006, the government of New South Wales, Australia, formalized recognition of EIKEN at all TAFE (Technical and Further Education) campuses and all state high schools.
- EIKEN is administered at 15,000 test sites in 250 cities in Japan and in 45 countries, with public sites in London, Los Angeles, and New York.
- Currently, 250 colleges and universities in the United States accept the EIKEN test as a measure of English language proficiency. Over 100 colleges and universities in Australia, Canada, and United Kingdom accept EIKEN for admission purposes of Japanese applicants.
- EIKEN tests all four English language skills--speaking, reading, listening, and writing.

The Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) is an additional way to meet the English language mastery requirement for International Student Admission Purposes. Undergraduates must achieve a minimum score of 69 and graduate applicants must achieve a score of 77.

- The Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB) is a standardized test which evaluates proficiency in understanding, writing, and speaking the English Language. The MELAB was created at the University of Michigan in June 1941.
- The MELAB evaluates English language competence of adult nonnative speakers of English. It is primarily used by students applying to United States, Canadian, British, and other educational institutions where the language of instruction is English and by professionals for work or training purposes.
- The MELAB is a secure test battery and is administered only by the ELI-UM (English Language Institute – University of Michigan) and ELI-UM authorized official examiners in the United States and Canada.
- Currently, 92 U.S. institutions accept MELAB scores for admission purposes. Institutions in Canada, Norway, Sweden, and United Kingdom also accept MELAB scores as a means to determine English language proficiency.
- The MELAB tests written composition, listening comprehension, grammar, reading, and vocabulary. (Speaking test is optional and is available at certain test sites in the USA and Canada.)

Catalog text, test descriptions, and rationale statements were developed and authored by Marilyn S. Thomas, Administrative Aide, in collaboration with Bill Elliott, Director of International Admissions, Office of International Programs, Eastern Illinois University.