

## Proposal

Acceptance of an overall assessment level of 5.0 on the iTEP Academic Plus examination as an additional way to meet the English language mastery requirement for International Graduate Admission Purposes

## Rationale

- In 2002, Boston Educational Services (BES) was founded by career international educators.
- BES introduced iTEP (International Test of English Proficiency) Academic examination in 2008.
- The Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute (ACEI) and the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET) recognize iTEP as an effective tool to measure English language proficiency.
- Boston Educational Services is a member of the Association of International Educators (NAFSA), the Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute (ACEI), the Association of International Educational Administrators (AIEA), and the Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training (ACCET).
- iTEP Academic exam is delivered over the Internet at secure certified iTEP test centers around the world, currently 184 test centers in 41 countries.
- The complete iTEP Academic exam is administered in 90 minutes. Results are available within five business days.
- Currently, 163 universities and colleges are accepting iTEP for admissions.
- The iTEP Academic-Plus exam has five sections which directly evaluate five skills—reading, listening, grammar, writing, and speaking. Unlike many exams, test takers actually write and speak during the test. Their samples are scored by our ESL-qualified graders.

## Catalog Copy

## International Application Procedures

### Application Access:

- <https://www.eiu.edu/myeiui/>: This web site provides a web application with fee payment via credit card.
- <http://www.eiu.edu/~internatl/>: This web site provides a printable application with fee payment via check.

**BCIS Regulations:** All international applicants are subject to the regulations established by the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services of the United States Department of Justice. International applicants may seek admission only as degree candidates.

**Materials:** A complete application packet includes an international application, an application fee, an approved financial affidavit form, an official raised seal transcript, any required admission test scores, and documentation of English mastery. The approved

financial affidavit form must verify the applicant's financial status for study. The raised seal transcript must be from an internationally accredited university and must document completion of a four-year baccalaureate degree, or its equivalent, comparable to that awarded by an accredited institution in the United States. The transcript must also verify that the applicant earned a minimum GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.

**English Requirements:** English language mastery may be documented in one of the ways outlined below.

- **Hours:** Submission of successful completion of 24 semester hours of college credit at an accredited college or university in the United States
- **Certificate:** Submission of a Level 112 Certificate of Proficiency from an ELS 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.
- **TOEFL:** Submission of a score of 550 or higher on the paper-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (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.
- **KAPLAN:** Submission of Kaplan International Colleges Certificate of Achievement at the Proficiency Level.
- **CESL:** Submission of successful completion of two terms (one semester) of English for Academic Purposes 2 (Level 6) from the Center for English as a Second Language program (CESL) at Southern Illinois University- Carbondale.
- **iTEP:** Submission of an overall assessment level of 5.0 on the iTEP Academic-Plus examination.

English Proficiency Requirements can be waived under the following circumstances:

1. You have successfully completed 24 semester hours of academic credit from a U.S. college or university, or
2. You have completed Level 112 courses with a Certificate of Proficiency from an ELS Language Center in the U.S., or
3. You have successfully completed two consecutive years of courses in a country where English is the primary language and medium of instruction within the past two years.

**Conditional Admission for International Applicants:** Applicants who meet all of the requirements for admission, but do not meet the criteria for English mastery, may be offered conditional admission while they seek to fulfill the requirements for English language mastery. Conditional admission for international applicants is granted only by the Graduate School through a recommendation of the Office of International Students and Scholars. Students offered conditional admission must provide evidence of meeting English language mastery to the Office of International Students and Scholars in one of

two ways. Students must earn a 550 or higher on the paper-based TOEFL or a score of 79 or higher on the internet-based TOEFL taken in their home country. International students offered conditional admission are admitted to the Graduate School and to degree candidacy only after providing evidence of English mastery and acceptance by the academic department.

**Candidacy Requirements for International Applicants:** International applicants must be eligible for degree candidacy at the time of admission to the Graduate School. To achieve candidacy, applicants must meet any additional requirements established by academic programs. Additional requirements may include, but are not limited to, a higher cumulative GPA, a GPA for courses in the undergraduate major, or valid standardized test scores for the Graduate Record Examination, Miller's Analogies Test, or Graduate Management Admission Test. Program requirements for candidacy are outlined in the "Academic Program Requirements" section of this catalog. Applicants must review this section of the catalog for the program in which they seek candidacy to insure that all of the requirements are met at the time of application. Completed files are copied to the Graduate School and to the program in which degree candidacy is requested.

**Timelines for International Applicants:** International applicants normally apply for a student visa (F-1) at the nearest United States Consulate. Applicants must be admitted and approved for issuance of appropriate documents by the deadlines outlined below. Late applications will be processed on a case-by-case basis. Upon request, files may be updated for admission the following semester or term.