

English Proficiency Policy

Orig. 2012, rev. 11/16

A certain level of English proficiency is necessary for academic success in nursing as well as for patient safety. In addition to general college English proficiency requirements, all applicants for whom English is not their native language (including international and/or U.S. residents) or who have not attended 4 years of U.S. high school and achieved a HS GPA of 3.0 or higher must meet additional language proficiency requirements for admission to the Dakota Nursing Program. These requirements must be met prior to consideration for admission.

Minimum TOEFL Scores for Admission to the Dakota Nursing Program

To be considered for admission to the pre-licensure program, English as a second language (ESL) applicants must achieve minimum scores on the TOEFL internet-based test (TOEFL iBT) of:

Minimum Cumulative Score of:

- 86 Combined

AND Minimum Individual Scores of:

- 26 in Speaking
- 20 in Writing
- 20 in Reading
- 20 in Listening

Test Preparation and Registration

- a. Complete information on the TOEFL iBT, including free test preparation materials, testing sites, and registration is available online at <https://www.ets.org/toefl>. Applicants may register for the TOEFL iBT by Internet, telephone (1-800-468-6335) or mail.
- b. Request official TOEFL iBT scores to be sent to:
 - Bismarck State College – Enter Institution DI Code: 6041
 - Dakota College at Bottineau - Enter Institution DI 3398.
 - Lake Region State College - Enter Institution DI Code: 6163
 - Williston State College - Enter Institution DI Code: 6905
- c. Only official score reports will be accepted. TOEFL scores are valid for two years from the test date.
- d. The cost of any/all required testing is the sole responsibility of the applicant.
- e. Applicants are allowed two (2) attempts at the TOEFL exam with a minimum of 4 weeks (28 days) between attempts per application period.

Nursing students for whom English is not their native language should be aware that they may not be able to complete the program of study within the described time frame. Students are encouraged to consult the nursing advisor before submitting the nursing program application. This gives the opportunity to discuss requirements and to make arrangements to either take the TOEFL exam if applicable or seek assistance to be successful on the TOEFL exam in the future.

[https://www.ncsbn.org/TOEFL iBT Proficiency Standard Process.pdf](https://www.ncsbn.org/TOEFL%20iBT%20Proficiency%20Standard%20Process.pdf)

ESL nursing students who have met the English proficiency requirements but who have difficulty in the nursing program are encouraged to meet with an advisor on a regular basis during their program of study concerning their progression. The goal is to increase the probability of success in the program and on the licensing examination.

Reference:

A Minimum English Proficiency Standard for The Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL iBT) (2009). Retrieved July 12th, 2015 at

International- English Proficiency

This aligns with NDUS Admissions Procedure 402.9 Admission Procedure- New Applicants w/ International Coursework

Popular Options for English Proficiency at LRSC

- **Waived Due to Location**
 - Students from the following countries **MAY** have their English Proficiency Requirements waived
 - Canada
 - Australia
 - Great Britain
 - Jamaica
 - New Zealand
 - Scotland
 - More listed on our website in the international page
 - *LRSC reserves the right to request an English Proficiency test regardless of country of origin*
- **Tests**
 - **TOEFL**
 - Minimum of 65 for Internet based for Admissions to LRSC
 - Minimum of 86 is needed for Admission into the Dakota Nursing Program
 - **IELTS**
 - 6.0
 - **PTE- A (Pearson)**
 - 50
 - **DUOLINGO English Test**
 - 65
 - **ACT/SAT Place** **cores**
 - IF a student completed the ACT or SAT and scored high enough in the English or Reading/Writing Section of the test to be placed in ENGL 110, they have demonstrated proficiency. (NDUS Procedure 402.1.2 Student Placement into College Courses)
 - SAT- 480**
 - **ACT- 18** (English Subtest)
 - **ACT- 35** (English + Reading)
- Obtained a GED in English**
- Completed 2 years of Student (in good standing) at a US High School or Regionally Accredited US College/ University**
- Completed 2 years of study, in good standing, at a post-secondary institution with English as the language of instruction**
 - Must include a minimum of 6 credits in subjects that require reading and/or speaking with a B or higher
 - CANNOT include ESL courses
- Completion of College Composition I and II or the equivalent at a regionally accredited, post-secondary college and/or university**
 - Must have obtained an A or B
- **Take the Accuplacer**
 - This is typically not used, but can be a last resort. We would need to administer the test remotely, which is not often done.

