English Proficiency

OIS does not set up the standard for English Proficiency for graduate students; these determinations are made by individual departments.

Common test centers used for English Proficiency tests are (but are not limited to):

- TOEFL
- IELTS
- Duolingo

You can find a list of countries that OIS exempts for an English Proficiency test during our undergraduate reviews here.

While OIS does not set the English Proficiency standards for graduate students, there may be times when we have to verify that students pass the department's standards (students coming in on a J-1 visa). If the department does not have published standards on their website or if the student does not have acceptable, official scores in SIS, we may reach out to the department to fill out a template to explain how the student has passed English Proficiency. The template looks like this:

This is to confirm that STUDENT NAME has demonstrated English proficiency sufficient to participate in the academic program and to function on a day-to-day basis in the United States. The student demonstrated this proficiency by INSERT (recently completing a US educational program, via an admissions interview, through certification testing, or some other way – please explain).