

**Recommendation of the Admissions & Records Policy Committee to Amend Faculty Document 2425R1: International Student Admissions Policies**

**Rationale:**

MOTION: To allow ESL programs, in collaboration with CIE, and following a specific protocol, to approve for purposes of fulfillment of the English proficiency admissions requirement specific performance levels at institutions requesting such approvals. The protocol for establishing and maintaining such approval will include: 1) Written documentation from the requesting institution outlining, such as entry requirements into the institution, institutional curriculum and student learning outcomes, institutional assessments, pedagogical materials and approaches used in fostering student progress toward desired competencies, instructor and administrator qualifications, institutional accreditations and any other material requested by the Director of ESL programs, or ISSS registration/enrollment officials. 2) The possibility for site visits to the requesting institution, should documentation alone prove insufficient for approval. 3) The creation of a plan for continued review of the relationship, and options for ending or continuing the relationship at regular intervals. Appropriate CIE and ESL staff will determine implementation of this policy, and any substantial departure from this policy would be brought before appropriate governance committees for further approval.

**Current language from Faculty Document 2425:**

3. Accept successful completion of UWM's ESL Program, with a passing grade after having completed at least eight weeks at the immersion level as equivalent to a score of TOEFL 520 (190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5 for UWM admission purposes. Students successfully completing would not be required to present TOEFL or IELTS scores.

**Changed language for Faculty Document 2425:**

3. Accept successful completion of UWM's ESL Program, or from an ESL program that meets the approval of UWM ESL and the UWM international Admissions office, with a passing grade after having completed at least eight weeks at the highest UWM ESL level (or its corresponding level at an approved institution) as equivalent to a score of TOEFL 520 (190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5 for UWM admission purposes. Students successfully completing would not be required to present TOEFL or IELTS scores.

## **Current Version of the Document:**

### **International Student Admissions Policies (Undergraduate Students)**

It is proposed to:

1. Accept IELTS (International English Language Testing System) test scores at the undergraduate level as an alternative to TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language).
2. Raise the undergraduate English proficiency requirement for international student admission from the current level of TOEFL 500 (Paper-Based test), TOEFL 173 (Computer-Based test), to TOEFL 520 (190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5.
3. Accept successful completion of UWM's ESL Program, with a passing grade after having completed at least eight weeks at the immersion level as equivalent to a score of TOEFL 520 (190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5 for UWM admission purposes. Students successfully completing would not be required to present TOEFL or IELTS scores.
4. Allow conditional admission to undergraduate programs for international students who apply to UWM without first having achieved a score of TOEFL 520(190 CBT)/IELTS 5.5. These students would fall into one of the following two categories:
  - A. Any student admitted conditionally to an undergraduate program who presents scores below TOEFL 500(173)/IELTS 5.5 (or who does not present one of these scores) would be required to enroll full time in the ESL program. Upon achieving a TOEFL score in the 500(173) to 517(187) range, the student would move to Category B.
  - B. Students admitted conditionally to an undergraduate program who present scores of TOEFL 500(173) or more, but less than TOEFL 520(190), would be allowed to enroll in 6 credits in their academic area on condition that they concurrently enroll in the Bridge Course for Dual Enrolled Students. After successfully completing the course with an 80% success rate on all modules, or achieving a TOEFL 520(190)/IELTS 5.5, these students will be eligible for full time academic enrollment