

Motion for Change in Admission Standards
Submitted to the Undergraduate Academic Committee
And
The Graduate Academic and Curriculum Committee

Title of Motion: Amend the language in the policy manual in regard to English language requirements for international students.

Submitted By: Rebecca Bahan and Gail Schafers

Date Submitted: February 13, 2012

It is moved that section 6.3.5.4 of the Policy Manual be replaced with the following language:
Evidence of English language proficiency is necessary for those whose native language is not English. Undergraduate and graduate students must submit test scores from authorized testing organizations and/or participate in placement testing at the university. Individual graduate programs may set minimum English proficiency standards that are reasonable for predicting success in their programs. Admission may be granted conditionally to undergraduate students who do not demonstrate the required language test scores. Intensive English Program applicants seeking admission as unclassified students and who will be enrolled solely in IEP courses are not required to submit language test scores.

Proposed Date of Implementation: immediately upon approval

Estimated Number of Majors: 30 per semester

Financial Impact (describe and list amount):

- Faculty: no new faculty members are needed
- New Library Holdings/Audio Visual Materials: no new materials are needed
- Equipment: No specific equipment is requested
- Space: No additional space is required

Effect on currently enrolled students (if any): none

Effect on future students: future international prospects will be able to participate in the most current testing procedures.

Rationale:

The current language in the policy manual and catalog provides specific tests and specific scores that are required for international undergraduate and graduate students. Because of changes in technology, testing methods, test scoring, and test providers, the information in the policy manual becomes obsolete very rapidly. By delineating specific test providers and test scores Fontbonne's ability to compete for international students in real time is restricted.

The trend at Fontbonne in recent years has been to increase the level of English proficiency for international students, especially in graduate programs. This motion does not seek to lower admission standards for international students; it is understood that English proficiency is important for academic success and cultural immersion. The existing policy manual language is located at

https://griffinnet.fontbonne.edu/ICS/Info_Center/Faculty_and_Staff_Resources/Main_Page.jnz?portlet=Fontbonne_Policy_Manuals.

If approved, distribute to the following:

- Catalog
- Registrar
- Fontbonne Policy Manual Volume VI
- Student Handbook
- Part-time Faculty Manual
- Staff Handbook
- Other: Marketing materials