### 3110.1 New, Direct from High School Admissions Criteria and Categories

The following admission requirements apply to students who have completed their secondary education within two years of first enrollment at Wright State and have completed fewer than 12 credit hours of college-level course work after graduating from high school or earning the GED. College Credit Plus credit, dual enrollment credit, and advanced placement credit earned while the student is in high school are not included in the 12 college credit hours. To be eligible for admission an applicant must:

- Be a graduate of a senior high school approved or accredited by the department of education of the state in which it is located; or
- Have earned high school equivalency through the General Educational Development (GED) testing program; or
- Have earned an International Baccalaureate diploma or certificate.

New, direct from high school students and homeschooled students will be admitted based on an evaluation of their academic preparation.\ldots

### 3110.6 Transfer Students

Transfer students are admitted based on their college-level work reviewed by the appropriate college.

### Language of current policy leaves it unclear what “the following admission requirements” means: is it simply the requirement in 3110.1, or those in 3110.1-8, or some portion?
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<th>Current Policy</th>
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<td><strong>3110.7 International Students</strong></td>
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<td>As clarified in an email discussion on 3/11/16, the intent of the original policy was that it applied to graduates of a U.S. senior high school, whereas the general wording of the policy could apply to an international student.</td>
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| International applicants whose native language is not English and who do not have a diploma from a senior high school approved or accredited by the department of education of the state in which it is located must demonstrate proficiency in English. English proficiency is demonstrated by achieving a score of 61 or above on the TOEFL-IBT exam, a band score of 5.5 with no sub-score lower than 5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or a minimum score of 51 on the Pearson Test of English (PTE). Students who enter the LEAP program and earn the LEAP Substitution are exempt from the requirement to take the TOEFL or IELTS. | **International applicants whose native language is not English and who do not have a diploma from a U.S. senior high school approved or accredited by the department of education of the state in which it is located must demonstrate proficiency in English. English proficiency may be demonstrated by achieving**  
  - a score of 61 or above on the TOEFL-IBT exam, or  
  - a band score of 5.5 with no sub-score lower than 5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or  
  - a minimum score of 51 on the Pearson Test of English (PTE).  
**Students who enter the LEAP program and earn the LEAP Substitution are exempt from the requirement to take the TOEFL or IELTS.** | This substantive change attempts to capture the situation of international students who have passed ENG composition 1 at another US college/university and who have further demonstrated their ability to succeed in an academic English-speaking classroom by maintaining a GPA of 2.0 or above over a full semester or more of credit-bearing classes. The intent of this proposed change is to improve the clarity and effectiveness of the policy. |
| The above three instruments and the LEAP Substitution are the only proofs of proficiency accepted. Individual Departments may set higher requirements with the approval of the Faculty Senate, but may not accept any non-approved proficiency exam without the express permission of the Faculty Senate. |                                                                                                              | Deleted:                                                                 |
| Delete:                                                                                                                                  | **Commented [w1]: From Henry L:** What I want to clarify is that the change in verb tenses is not meant to require that the student have completed all 24 hours before applying. In the real world of transfer, the full-time student (all international students must maintain full-time status) will typically have completed 12 hours and have another 12 hours in progress when she/he applies. We may accept the student and waive the English proficiency conditionally, finalizing the acceptance only when the student presents a complete transcript showing that he/she has completed 24 hours with at least a cumulative 2.0 GPA and at least one English comp. class. I doubt the change in verb tenses was intended to affect that, but some confirmation of whether it was or not would be helpful. | Deleted: ing |
Current Policy | Proposed Policy (changes in bold italics) | Comments
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All international students for whom English is a second language and who have not completed a first year writing course accepted as the equivalent of ENG 1100 must take a university administered English writing placement test upon admission or during the first semester of enrollment. The results of this test will be used to place students in the appropriate basic ESL writing course and/or ESL section or ENG 1100. | All international students for whom English is a second language and who have not completed a first year writing course accepted as the equivalent of ENG 1100 must take a university administered English writing placement test upon admission or during the first semester of enrollment. The results of this test will be used to place students in the appropriate basic ESL writing course and/or ESL section or ENG 1100. | change is not to open up an easy pathway for students around our undergraduate English Proficiency requirement, but to help successful students, who have already demonstrated proficiency in academic English, gain admission to the university by removing an unnecessary barrier.

Discussion

The current policy is unclear and/or contradictory: 3110.1 states that “the following admission requirements apply to students who have completed fewer than 12 credit hours of college-level course work after graduating from high school.” But international students who have completed 12 or more hours of college credit in a U.S. college or university are still required to demonstrate English proficiency with TOEFL/IELTS, or must enter the LEAP Intensive English program, even if they have passed both ENG 1100 and 2100 at another university. Theoretically, such students must demonstrate English proficiency even if they are transferring to WSU after three or more years of undergraduate study in a U.S. college/university.

The current policy is unfair: The international student who completes an Associates’ degree with a GPA of 2.0 at a nearby two-year college may enter WSU with no additional requirements, according to state regulation and transfer articulation agreements. But WSU’s policy requires that the international student who has demonstrated genuine success in the US college classroom with (for example) a GPA of 3.5 over 16 hours of course work must still take the TOEFL test or enter the LEAP program. It is likely that students who have completed “24 hours or more of credit-bearing course work with a GPA of 2.0 or above” in a US college or university have demonstrated their proficiency in academic English and are likely to succeed at WSU.

The current policy may be unsustainable: The Ohio Department of Higher Education has repeatedly emphasized that the transfer of credit between public colleges and universities should be seamless. When an English proficiency policy is as rigorously applied as ours is, we risk being reprimanded and forced to remove it altogether. This proposal intends to find a reasonable and defensible middle ground where the university will be more likely to make a successful case for applying its English proficiency requirement to transfer students. This proposal would put WSU squarely in the middle of the current international transfer requirements of other Ohio universities (see below). Some require as few as one or two classes; others require 24-30 hours of undergraduate course work.
Other public Ohio Universities:

One course or two courses:

Ohio U—“English proficiency exams are not required for undergraduate admission.” International students must take an English proficiency test on campus unless they meet one of five exceptions; the fifth exception is “Have completed the equivalent of Ohio University's English 1510: Writing and Rhetoric I (Freshman Composition) with a grade of C or better.” (Source: OU website)

Miami University—English proficiency is required, but can be demonstrated in several ways, one of which is “Course equivalency of Miami University's English composition requirement at another U.S. university or community college (not English as a Second Language courses). You must provide an official transcript showing a minimum grade of C or better.” (Source: MUOhio website)

Two semesters (24 hours):

Bowling Green—According to the SIO at BGSU, “If students transfer 24 or more credits (the equivalent roughly of one year of study at a CC) BGSU then does not require proof of English proficiency.” (Source: email)

University of Toledo—“Transfer students currently enrolled in undergraduate study at a college or university in the United States can fulfill the English language requirement if they have completed 24 semester or 45 quarter credit hours of undergraduate coursework.” (Source: UT website)

University of Cincinnati (McMicken College of A&S)—Proof of English proficiency is “not required if transcripts show 24 semester credit hours or more of degree-seeking credit (not English as a second language) and if the student has earned a C- or higher in Freshman English Composition (UC equivalent course: ENGL1001).” (Source: UC website)

Wright State University (proposed): “International applicants who transfer from a U.S. college or university may demonstrate English proficiency by having completed 24 hours or more of credit-bearing course work taught in English with a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above. The courses taken must have included at least one course in English composition (the equivalent of WSU’s ENG 1100) with a C or better.”

More than 24 hours:

Cleveland State University—English proficiency can be demonstrated by several items, including “Successful completion of 30 semester credit hours of college-level coursework from an accredited college in the United States or English speaking country with a cumulative 2.0 GPA, including the equivalent of CSU’s ENG 101 and ENG 102 with a grade of C or better.” (Source: CSU website)