



Center for Graduate Medical Education Exchange Visitor Program English Proficiency Requirement

The U. S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (DOS/ECA) is the U.S. government body which regulates the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program. Recently, ECA issued revised regulations pertaining to all J-1 Exchange Visitor Programs (EVP) and all categories of J-1 visa.

The new rule now requires that all EVP sponsors (Cleveland Clinic) add an English examination component to their program requirements. The rule goes into effect from January 1, 2015. This includes all J-1 research scholars and J-1 short-term scholars (6 months or less).

Therefore, any J-1 Exchange Visitor commencing a program at Cleveland Clinic on or after January 1, 2015, must show proof of English proficiency by completion of the Educational Testing Service's TOEFL iBT (Test of English as a Second Language Internet Based Test) with a minimum score of 65 or higher. There are four components to the exam: reading, speaking, listening and writing.

The required scores for each section are as follows (see attached):

Reading and Listening: within the Intermediate Range

Speaking and Writing: within the Fair Range.

When registering for the examination, applicants should **use institutional code 3491** and select the Cleveland Clinic Exchange Visitor Program. They can register for the TOEFL iBT at this website: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/>

If you have questions regarding this requirement email Cleveland Clinic at meded@ccf.org and enter "TOEFL" in the subject line.



FOR TEST TAKERS

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TOEFL iBT

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Scores

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Improve Your Skills

Want advice on improving your English-language skills? Choose your performance level below.

Reading

| Skill | Performance Level | | |
|---------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | (0–14) | (15–21) | (22–30) |
| Reading | Low | Intermediate | High |

Listening

| Skill | Performance Level | | |
|-----------|---------------------|------------------------------|----------------------|
| | (0–14) | (15–21) | (22–30) |
| Listening | Low | Intermediate | High |

Speaking

| Skill | Performance Level | | | |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | (0–9) | (10–17) | (18–25) | (26–30) |
| Speaking about Familiar Topics | Weak | Limited | Fair | Good |
| Speaking about Campus Situations | Weak | Limited | Fair | Good |
| Speaking about Academic Course Content | Weak | Limited | Fair | Good |

Writing

| Skill | Performance Level | | |
|---|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | (1–16) | (17–23) | (24–30) |
| Writing based on Reading and Listening | Limited | Fair | Good |
| Writing based on Knowledge and Experience | Limited | Fair | Good |

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