

Additional Requirements for International Students

English Proficiency Examination Requirements

Graduate students must be proficient in the reading, writing, and speaking of English to be successful in their degree completion. An English proficiency examination is required of all students whose undergraduate degree was completed outside the U.S. in a country where English is not the principal language.

- Official score reports must be submitted directly to Admissions from the testing service
- Test must be taken within two years from your desired date of enrollment
- If you are missing required test scores, your application will not be reviewed by the graduate admissions committee. In some cases, unofficial test scores can be used for initial review, however, official scores must still be sent.

Rutgers accepts the following standardized tests to determine the English proficiency of its international graduate applicants:

- **TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language)***
 - TOEFL (Internet-based test & Home Edition through January 21, 2026) Writing 22, Speaking 23, Reading 21 and Listening 17
 - TOEFL (Internet-based test & Home Edition from January 22, 2026 onward) Writing 4.5, Speaking 4.5, Reading 4 and Listening 4
 - TOEFL code is 2790.
- **IELTS (International English Language Testing System)***
The minimum IELTS score is bandwidth 7
- **DET (Duolingo English Test)***
The minimum Duolingo score is 120.

*The scores listed above are general requirements for most of our graduate programs. However, some language intensive graduate programs may have stricter requirements. Please review your programs requirements go.rutgers.edu/gradprograms.

Exemptions:

You may be considered for an English test waiver if you completed a bachelor's degree (or in some cases a master's degree) at an institution where English was the principal language of instruction. Proof of English instruction must be documented on your official transcript or in an official letter from your institution. Requests for waivers are reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Financial Documentation for I-20

If you plan to study at Rutgers on an F-1 student visa, you will need the Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant Student Status.

- Upon your offer of admission, you will be required to submit the **Certification of Funds** form along with supplemental financial documentation.
- All financial documents must be original and current, and no more than 6 months old.
- You must also show proof you can finance your first year of education and living expenses and provide a plan and sources for funding for future years.
- If you are offered a graduate assistantship and/or fellowship at the time of admission, we will notify you whether your proof of funding is fulfilled or if additional documentation is required.
- Rutgers will issue your I-20 once you accept our offer of admission and upload all of your required documentation to the **Rutgers Global Portal**.
- After your I-20 is issued, you may schedule an appointment at your nearest U.S. embassy or consulate to apply for a student visa.

Note: There are additional fees required by the U.S. government once you have received your I-20. For more information, please visit go.rutgers.edu/intlstudentfee.

Additional information for F-1 students can be found [here](#).

Immunization:

All health and immunization requirements and forms are found on the Rutgers Student Immunization Portal (rutgers.medicatconnect.com). Select Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey from the dropdown list and then login to the Portal using your NetID and password. Follow the instructions for the four steps to complete your immunization and health requirements. For more information regarding immunization requirements, please visit go.rutgers.edu/gradimmunizations.

Nondegree Study:

Students studying on an F1 or J1 visa are NOT eligible for part-time nondegree study.