

## **English Proficiency and Teaching Assistant Appointments**

### **Requirements:**

International students and US permanent residents who are *not* citizens of countries where English is the primary language (as considered by the UCI Graduate Council) are required to produce an acceptable language proficiency test score before they can be hired for Teaching Assistant (TA) service. This requirement applies also to permanent residents who have completed an undergraduate or graduate degree in the US. Students must pass any one of the following five language proficiency exams, and achieve the minimum score indicated:

* Test of Spoken English (TSE)	50
* Internet-based TOEFL (TOEFL-ibt)	26 (Speaking sub-score)
* International English Language Testing System (IELTS)	8 (Speaking sub-score)
* UCI SPEAK Test	50
* UCI Test of English Proficiency (TOEP)	5

**(No exceptions to this requirement will be considered)**

### **Exemptions:**

- This requirement does not apply to citizens of the US or of countries where English *is* the primary language (as considered by the UCI Graduate Council – most commonly Australia, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa, and the United Kingdom).
- International students and United States permanent residents who have completed all four years of high school in the US may request an exemption from this policy. All exemption requests must be made in writing and should include an official copy of the student's high school transcript.

- Request should be addressed to: Graduate Student Employment Analyst  
UCI Graduate Division

- Please submit exemption requests to the Social Sciences Graduate Office, where they will be processed and forwarded to the UCI Graduate Division.

**No student requesting a language proficiency exemption is permitted to begin a TA appointment until the exemption is approved in writing.**

Summaries of UCI's English language proficiency requirements are available on-line at [www.grad.uci.edu/current/esl\\_tests.htm](http://www.grad.uci.edu/current/esl_tests.htm) and [www.humanities.uci.edu/hirc/](http://www.humanities.uci.edu/hirc/)