

Graduate Admission Information

Admission of International Students

North Dakota State University welcomes international students as part of the student body, and the Graduate College encourages applications from qualified students throughout the world. More than 25% of the approximately 2,100 graduate students are international.

In addition to meeting the previously stated admission requirements, to qualify for admission in an advanced degree program, all international students must demonstrate proficiency in English and must provide evidence of adequate financial support for themselves and any dependents for the duration of their graduate program.

Language Proficiency for Admission

English proficiency must be demonstrated prior to admission by obtaining a minimum score of 525 (paper-based test) or 71 (internet-based test) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a score of 6 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Some programs require higher scores for admission to their degree programs. The test date must be within two years of the date of the application to the Graduate College. Information about these tests is available on our website (http://www.ndsu.edu/gradschool/prospective_students/international_applicants/english_language_score_requirements/#c41215).

The TOEFL or IELTS score may be waived for students who have been raised in one of the following countries or who have earned a bachelor's degree or higher from a recognized institution in one of the following countries.

Antigua and Barbuda	Liberia
Australia	Mauritius
Bahamas	Micronesia (Federated States of)
Barbados	New Zealand
Bermuda	Nigeria
Canada (except Quebec)	Saint Lucia
Dominica	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Gambia	Scotland
Ghana	Sierra Leone
Great Britain	Solomon Islands
Grenada	Trinidad and Tobago
Guyana	United States
Ireland	Zambia
Jamaica	Zimbabwe

Required Student Health Insurance

All international students in F and J status are required by the North Dakota University System (NDUS) to purchase the approved health insurance policy through UnitedHealthcare StudentResources. The charge for health insurance is due no later than the sixth week of each semester, and it is to be paid onto your student account. For more information on payment deadlines and the policy itself, please see the following website: <https://www.ndsu.edu/international/insurance> (<https://www.ndsu.edu/international/insurance/>).

Immunization Requirements

Please see the NDSU Student Health Service 'Immunization' webpage for important information about immunizations and all other immunization requirements. To familiarize yourself with these requirements, please visit this website: <https://www.ndsu.edu/studenthealthservice/immunizations/>.

Language Proficiency for Teaching Assistants

There are two recognized categories of teaching assistants:

(1.) Graduate Teaching Assistants (who have direct contact with students) must have one of the following minimum scores:

- TOEFL iBT 81 (speaking 23 or above and writing 21 or above)
- IELTS 7.0 (speaking and writing 6.0 or above)
- PTE Academic 54 (speaking 62 or above and writing 56 or above)

(2.) Graders (who have no direct contact with students) must have one of the following minimum scores*:

- TOEFL iBT 79 (speaking 19 or above and writing 21 or above)
- IELTS 6.5 (speaking 5.5 or above and writing 6.0 or above)
- PTE Academic 53 (speaking 51 or above and writing 56 or above)

*Graders may serve in this capacity for no more than one (1) calendar year. To continue as a GTA, students must meet the GTA language requirements listed under (1.) above OR successfully complete the following courses:

1. LANG 701 English Language and Classroom Skills for International GTAs
2. LANG 702 English Language Tutorial for International GTAs