

FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY
OPTIONS FOR DEMONSTRATING ENGLISH PROFICIENCY TO
SATISFY J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR VISA REQUIREMENTS
(revised June, 2019)

The US Department of State expects Exchange Visitors to have a level of English proficiency that allows them to successfully perform their jobs or complete their academic programs, to navigate daily life in the United States, to read and comprehend program materials, to understand fully their responsibilities, rights, and protections, and to know how to obtain assistance, if necessary.

An Exchange Visitor can document the English proficiency requirements in several ways. The CGE will accept any one of the following types of documentation as evidence that the prospective Exchange Visitor meets the required spoken and written English language proficiency. The documentation must accompany the Request for DS-2019 forms submitted by departments to the Center for Global Engagement. Options for documenting spoken and written English proficiency are:

- Prospective EV is a citizen of a country where English is an official language (copy of passport biographical page required).
- Prospective EV attended graduate or undergraduate level classes/courses at a university which English is the language of instruction, for at least one academic year (copy of diploma or transcript AND documentation confirming that English is the language of instruction if institution is not in a country where English is the official language required). Enrollment and attendance in English as a Second Language courses at an English speaking university does not fulfill this requirement.
- Prospective EV has attained an acceptable score on one of the following English proficiency tests (copy of score report required). Note: Scores are valid for two years.
ibTOEFL: ≥61 Paper-based TOEFL: ≥500 **Pearson Test of English:** ≥54
IELTS: ≥6 **MELAB:** ≥69
TOEIC : ≥600 (Listening and Reading or Speaking and Writing)
E3PT: ≥51 (register at <https://english3.com/e3pt>)
- Prospective EV has demonstrated spoken English proficiency in a video interview conducted by English3 and has received a score of at least 3 or higher on the interview. Prospective exchange visitors sign up for the interview at <https://english3.com/j1-applicants.php>, select FSU from the dropdown menu and pay for the interview. Interview scores will be sent to the CGE J-1Exchange Advisor to confirm required score before DS 2019 is issued. If the video interview does not demonstrate sufficient command of spoken English, the visitor may not repeat the English3 video evaluation but may submit one of the above test scores.
- In very limited cases, where the prospective EV is a senior faculty member or professional who is well-established in the academic or professional field and has demonstrated extensive use of spoken and written English, the inviting faculty member should provide a signed statement on their FSU department's letterhead attesting to the scholar's English proficiency. This should include a comprehensive list of the visitor's publications and presentations that were published or presented in English with links when available along with the prospective EV's CV for review by the Visiting Scholar Committee. If the documentation is not sufficient, the visitor will be required to submit one of the above alternative forms of documentation.