

Proof of English Proficiency for Admission to the International Student Program at San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley

Cañada College, College of San Mateo and Skyline College

Applicants can demonstrate English proficiency by fulfilling one of the following criteria:

A. Exams

- **Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)**
 - A minimum qualifying score on the Internet based TOEFL (iBT) is 56
 - A minimum qualifying score on the pencil & paper TOEFL is 480, with no sectional scores below 48
- **International English Language Testing System (IELTS)**
 - A minimum qualifying level of Band 5.5
- **Pearson Test of English (PTE)**
 - A minimum qualifying score of 42
- **EIKEN Test in Practical English Proficiency**
 - A minimum qualifying score of Grade 2A
- **GTEC Global Test of English Communication**
 - A minimum qualifying score of 1055
- **Cambridge English Language Assessment**

We accept:

 - B2 First (FCE) scores of 160-179; C2 Advanced (CAE) scores of 180-199; and C2 Proficiency (CPE) scores of 200+

B. Intensive English Language Schools

Successful completion of the appropriate ESL level or higher at the following schools:

- **San Mateo Colleges of Silicon Valley (SVIEP): Located at Cañada College:** Level 4
- **AAE (American Academy of English):** Adv. Level of the ESL for Academic Purposes
- **Columbia West College:** Standard ESL Program Level V
- **EF International Schools:** Level B2-3
- **ELI (The English Language Institute):** Level 6 or the University Preparation Program level
- **ELS Language Centers:** Level 109
- **FLS International:** Level 14
- **Golden Gate Language School:** Level 12
- **Kaplan International:** Higher Intermediate Level
- **ILSC (International Language Schools of Canada):** Academic Preparation Level I4
- **Language Pacifica:** Level 5
- **Open Hearts Language Academy International (OHLA):** Advanced Level II
- **St. Giles International:** Level 5
- **Stafford House:** Upper Intermediate Level 5 of Level B2 of the GE Curriculum
- **TALK School of Languages:** Level 9
- **USC International Academy:** UP Gateway Level 4
- **Certification of completion of the highest level** from any accredited U.S. intensive English language school.

C. Other

1. Secondary Education: Earned a high school diploma, or studied for a minimum of 2 years and attained a grade of "C" or better in English in one of the English speaking countries (U.S., U.K., Canada, Australia and New Zealand).

a. Nordic institutions: Gymnasium English B and received grades of "VG" or "MVG".

b. For Sweden, "VG" = "C" and "MVG" = "A/B". Also, English B = English 6.

c. Singapore: Completed all years of study in Singapore schools. Completion of secondary school only will require a TOEFL or IELTS score.

2. International School: Earned a high school diploma in an International School or similar, where English is the primary language of instruction. You must submit high school transcripts and other documentation, such as a letter on school's letterhead, stating that English was the primary language of instruction.

3. Completed advanced level ESL or college-level English classes at a U.S. college or university. You must provide an official transcript to receive this waiver.

4. Received a degree from a college or university in the U.S., the U.K., Canada, Australia or New Zealand. You must provide an official transcript to receive this waiver.

5. Are a resident of and completed all years of study in a country (not listed above) whose official language is English.

PLEASE NOTE: *Change of Visa Status student (J-1 to F-1) may consult with the International Program Office for additional options*