



## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS POLICY

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**Number, Title:** AA-114, English Proficiency: Duolingo

**Effective Date:** Fall 2020

**Strategic Plan:** SP 1.1b

**HLC:** Criterion 3.A.1

**Consultations:**

New

Revision Change\*

\*Anything that is a revision must include the original policy.

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### PURPOSE

To set the University's requirements and standards for evaluating the English language ability of all applicants, and provision for supporting students with their English language, in order to be admitted to Upper Iowa University (UIU).

### DEFINITIONS

- ❖ Duolingo: a language learning platform, which has more than 100 million users around the world. It is free for anyone who wishes to learn other languages. The Duolingo English test is an affordable and convenient language certification option that is accepted by over 2,000 universities.
- ❖ TOEFL: Test of English as a Foreign Language
- ❖ IELTS: International English Language Testing System

### POLICY

Students who do not speak or have a limited ability to speak, read, or write English well enough to understand and communicate effectively must demonstrate English proficiency to be admitted as a student at UIU.

### PROCEDURES

#### Comparison with Current English Test Tools

	TOEFL	IELTS	Duolingo
Cost of the test	\$180	\$250	\$49
Location for test	Specified Locations	Specified Locations	Online
Testing time	Scheduled	Scheduled	Anytime

Testing Duration	3 hours	2 hours and 45 minutes	45 minutes
Type	Computer test	Paper test	Computer test
Sections	Listening; Reading; Writing; Speaking	Listening; Reading; Writing; Speaking	Literacy; Comprehension; Conversation; Production
Score validity	2 years	2 years	2 years
Undergraduate UIU requirement	61	5	83
Graduate UIU requirement	79	6	97

### **Duolingo Test Takers' Identity Verification**

Duolingo has its own security protocols. Candidate ID's are checked during the onboarding process. The test is automatically called, if test takers attempt to access external applications or plugins during the test. When test takers login to take the test, their face must be visible and unobscured. Headphones, mobile devices, communication with other individuals and writing utensils or paper are not allowed. They cannot look away from the screen or leave the test window on their web browsers for any reason. Once we become an accepting institution, we will be given access to review a short video and writing sample from each test-takers' test session. This will allow us to see that the candidate applying to UIU is the same person who took the test. For more detailed test security about the Duolingo English test, please visit [security protocols](#).

### **Iowa Universities and Community Colleges Currently Accepting Duolingo**

Luther College; Wartburg College; Kirkwood CC; Coe College; DMACC; Drake College; Iowa State University; Indian Hills CC; Morningside College; Mount Mercy University; University of Iowa; Waldorf University; Iowa Western CC; Marshalltown CC; St. Ambrose University; University of Northern Iowa.


### **RELATED DOCUMENTS, FORMS, AND POLICIES**

Academic Catalog

### ***Revision History***

<b>Revision Number:</b>	<b>Revision Date:</b>	<b>Revision Change</b>

**Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs Approval:**

<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
	Douglas L. Binsfeld	07.15.21
	<b>Sent to UPC on:</b>	