International Students

Additional Admission Requirements for International Students

Language Proficiency for Admission

All applicants whose native language is other than English must demonstrate the linguistic proficiency necessary to function in degree programs at UAH.

Unconditional admission to degree programs:

1. In order to be considered for admission to degree programs with no additional English language training required, applicants must meet the following minimums on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS):
   - TOEFL: all sub-scores greater than or equal to 18 OR
   - IELTS: all sub-scores greater than or equal to 6.0

2. Students with two or more sub-scores below these minimum qualifications must enroll in the UAH Intensive Language and Culture (ILC) Program before they can enroll in graduate course work.

*College and/or departments may require a higher minimum language score for admission.

Language proficiency is only one factor in admission decisions. To confirm the full admission requirements for specific degree programs, please refer to the application for your particular degree. Students who have earned a bachelor’s or higher degree from an accredited U.S. institution will be exempted from the TOEFL or IELTS requirements above. Students with degrees from non-U.S. institutions that have English as their primary language of instruction (e.g. United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, etc.) may petition the Graduate School for an exemption from the English Language Placement Test (ELPT).

Intensive Language and Culture Program

If a student does not meet the above language requirements, he/she may be admitted to our Intensive Language and Culture Program.

Admission to the ILC Program:

1. Applicants who do not currently meet the requirements for admission to a degree program at the university are encouraged to apply for admission to the UAH Intensive Language and Culture (ILC) Program. Successful completion of the UAH ILC Program meets the language proficiency standard for admission to degree programs at the university.

2. To be considered for admission to the UAH ILC Program, applicants must have the following minimums on the TOEFL or IELTS.*
   - TOEFL: Overall of at least 50 with no sub-score below 12 OR
   - IELTS: Overall of at least 4.0 with no sub-score below 3.5.

*NOTE: If an applicant does not have a TOEFL or an IELTS score, he/she may request a pre-assessment and be considered for admission to the ILC. He/she will then be formally assessed upon arrival at UAH and will be placed in appropriate classes in the ILC program. For information about English language courses visit http://www.uah.edu/ilcp (http://www.uah.edu/ilcp/).

Nonnative English-speaking Graduate Teaching Assistants

To be considered for positions as teaching assistants or graduate assistants, students must have the following minimums on the TOEFL or IELTS.

   - TOEFL: no sub-score below 22 OR
   - IELTS: no sub-score below 6.5

Submission of Additional Documents

Documents need for your application will be indicated within the application and will vary depending on the program selected. Please submit your documents directly within the application portal. In some cases, unofficial transcripts may be used for pre-admission, but if the student is later approved for admission, official documents must be received before the student is admitted. You will be notified if official transcripts are required and a physical courier address will be given. Once admitted an international student will also need to submit an Affidavit of Financial Support before an I-20 can be issued.

Please review our catalog admissions page (http://catalog.uah.edu/grad/admissions/application-procedure/) for additional information regarding required documents.

Priority admittance will be given to international students who have applied and submitted all required documents by:

Spring: October 1
Summer: February 1
Fall: June 1
In response to COVID-19, admission language test scores have been updated for Summer 2020, Fall 2020, and Spring 2021. Please visit our international admissions page to review the alternate requirements available (https://www.uah.edu/admissions/graduate/apply-for-admission/international-students/).