

English Waiver Guidelines

Southern Illinois University

Table 1: Undergraduate Direct Entry

Test	Requirements
IELTS	6.0
TOEFL iBT	68
TOEFL Paper-based test	520
New TOEFL (as of January 2026)	4
PTE (Academic)	47
Duolingo	95
iTEP (Academic plus exam)	3.6
I/GCSE/AS/A Level	Any combination of at least 5 O/AS/A Levels with a B (5) average
SAT	Overall score: 1140
ACT	Overall score: 23
US High School	Graduated from a U.S. high school, having spent the final 2 years in the US
US University	2 Face-to-face English composition classes taken in the US at the college level with grade of A or B OR Completed more than 48 college-level credit hours at a US institution
Applicants from one of the following countries whose primary language is English: USA and US Territories, United Kingdom and British Overseas Territories, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Cameroon-Anglophone, Canada, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Dominica, Fiji, The Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Ireland, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tokelau, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe	Yes

Table 2: Graduate Direct Entry

Test	Requirements
IELTS	6.5
TOEFL iBT	80
TOEFL Paper-based exam	550
New TOEFL (as of January 2026)	4.5
PTE (Academic)	64
Duolingo	115

iTEP (Academic plus exam)	3.8
Cambridge English	C1
US University (Master's degree)	An applicant was awarded a Master's degree at an accredited college/university in the United States and has been in residence in the United States continuously prior to application to SIU (not out of the country for more than one calendar year)
US University	Minimum of 60 graded (A, B, C) hours of recent coursework completed at an accredited college/university in the United States with continuous residence in the United States prior to application at SIU. Pass / Fail, Satisfactory / Unsatisfactory, or Proficiency credit is not acceptable.
Bachelor degree equivalent (earning a minimum GPA of 2.7 on a 4.0 scale) or a master's degree or higher (earning a minimum GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale) from an international institution in a country on the SIU Exempt Country and Territory List, within 5 years of the proposed semester of initial enrollment.	Yes
SIU Exempt Country and Territory List: USA and US Territories, United Kingdom and British Overseas Territories, Antigua and Barbuda, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Botswana, Cameroon-Anglophone, Canada, Christmas Island, Cook Islands, Dominica, Fiji, The Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Ireland, Isle of Man, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Republic of Ireland, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, South Sudan, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Swaziland, Tanzania, Tokelau, Trinidad and Tobago, Tuvalu, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe	Yes