

Brothers, Sheila C.

From: Peterson, Martha L.
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2022 2:55 PM
To: Brothers, Sheila C.; Jackson, Brian A.
Cc: Cramer, Aaron M.
Subject: RE: Two GC Proposals

Hi Sheila,

On April 14, 2022, the Graduate Council approved the following two proposals put forth by the Graduate School related to language test requirements for Graduate School admissions for non-native English-speaking applicants:

1. Extend acceptance of Duolingo for 2022—2023 and 2023-2024 academic years. Propose a 115 minimum and may be interviewed by CESL faculty.

For the past two years, because of the COVID pandemic, the Graduate School has accepted Duolingo English Test scores with sub-scores for admissions. The test, unlike the traditional TOEFL, can be taken from an applicant's home and is less expensive, thus removing multiple barriers for potential students. The student taking the exam must have a video connection and the exams are recorded, thus ensuring the integrity of the exam. The Graduate School followed-up with students who were accepted with an interview by an English language specialist. So far, the experience of the Graduate Admissions Office with this exam has been positive, and they would like to continue to accept this exam over the next two years while continuing to monitor student success.

2. TOEFL Essentials: ETS has a new test it launched in August 2021-TOEFL Essentials. It is very similar to Duolingo but does test academic English. We are reviewing it to establish a minimum. We would like to accept these scores when we receive them in the same manner as Duolingo (with a follow-up interview by CESL faculty).

This exam will remove barriers for international students, similarly to the Duolingo exam, and Admissions would like to accept these scores if this is the exam a student has taken. There isn't yet a track-record for this exam, but Admissions will monitor the student's language skills with follow-up interviews of accepted students, like they did when they initially accepted Duolingo scores.

Thank you,
Martha

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