

## International Students Additional Requirements

We are glad you are interested in UTHealth School of Public Health. Texas is a diverse and welcoming place to live, study and work. As an international student, parts of your application will require extra steps. To make this process as easy as possible, we have consolidated all the information specific to international applications here.

### VISAS

It's important to note that all visa applications and processes, including I-20 forms, are managed by the UTHealth Office of International Affairs <https://www.uth.edu/international-affairs/index.htm>. Once you are accepted into a program, they will reach out to you.

- Degree-seeking students applying via SOPHAS requiring F-1 student sponsorship is only available for fall admissions and at this time only at the Houston campus
- We do accept master's-level applicants for spring admissions if the applicant already resides in the US and has a visa that allows them to study for the full duration of the spring semester

### ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

All applicants to UTHealth School of Public Health must show proof of English language proficiency.

International applications must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Information and application booklets may be obtained by contacting the Educational Testing Service directly at <http://www.ets.org/toefl/> or <https://www.ielts.org/en-us>. Your test scores are valid for two years from the test date

For TOEFL, we require:

- A minimum score of 95 (for internet-based testing)
- Test scores to be sent directly to SOPHAS (use institution code 5688, no department code is needed)

For IELTS, we require:

- A minimum score of 7.0
- Test scores be sent directly to the school using the following address:  
ATTN: UTHealth School of Public Health Admissions  
1200 Pressler Street, RAS E-201  
Houston, TX 77030

## EXCEPTIONS TO ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

You may be exempt from taking the TOEFL/IELTS if:

- If you are a Permanent Resident or Citizen of the United States
- If you earned a bachelor's, master's or doctoral degree from the United States.
- If the degree reviewed by the World Education Services (WES) Transcript Evaluation indicates, the mode of instruction was in English (3 or more years).
- If you earned a degree from an English-speaking country – Graduation with a diploma or degree (attended for at least 3 years or a standard period of attendance as required by the country; Bachelor's, Master's or Doctoral degree) from an accredited school from a recognized English-speaking country as listed below:

Antigua	Falkland Islands	Liberia	Turk & Caico Island
Australia	Gambia	New Zealand	Uganda
Bahamas	Ghana	Nigeria	United Kingdom (UK)
Barbados	Grenada	Sierra Leone	US Virgin Islands
Bermuda	Guyana	St. Helena	Zambia
British Virgin Islands	Ireland	St. Kitts & Nevis	Zimbabwe
Canada	Jamaica	St. Vincent	
Cayman Islands	Kenya	Trinidad & Tobago	

If you meet the above reference criteria or have questions regarding waivers, please email [SPHAdmissionsTestWaiver@uth.tmc.edu](mailto:SPHAdmissionsTestWaiver@uth.tmc.edu) with your waiver request and include supplemental documentation for consideration.

## TRANSCRIPTS

For your application, transcripts from a non-US institution will need to be verified by World Education Services (WES) using a course-by-course evaluation and then submitted directly to SOPHAS.

- SOPHAS will only accept transcript evaluations from World Education Services (WES)
- WES will only accept an official transcript for review, meaning that they must receive it directly from your school or the transcript should arrive in an envelope that has been sealed and stamped by an official at your school\*
- Please do not send original international transcripts directly to SOPHAS, as they will not be accepted
- If you have your 11-digit SOPHAS ID, you may use the special WES online application for SOPHAS applicants

Following your acceptance to UTHealth School of Public Health, you will need to have your official transcript sent directly from your previous institution to the UTHealth Office of the Registrar to be eligible for graduation after the completion of your degree.