



UTHealth[®] Houston

School of Public Health

As an international applicant to UTHealth Houston School of Public Health (SPH), parts of your application will require extra steps. To make this process as easy as possible, we have consolidated all information specific to international applications in this document.

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY EXAM

All applicants to UTHealth Houston SPH must show proof of English language proficiency.

International applicants must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or the Duolingo English Test (DET). Information about these exams may be obtained by contacting the Educational Testing Service directly at <http://www.ets.org/toefl/>, <https://www.ielts.org/en-us>, or <https://englishtest.duolingo.com/applicants>. 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 must be sent directly to SOPHAS. Information about this process can be found [here](#).

For **IELTS**, we require:

- A minimum score of 7.0
- Test scores must be sent directly to SOPHAS. Information about this process can be found [here](#).

For **DET**, we require:

- A minimum score of 130
- Information on how to send these scores directly to SPH can be found [here](#). We are unable to accept exam scores directly from an applicant.

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 that the mode of instruction was in English (3 or more years).

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- 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 in a recognized English-speaking country as listed below:

Antigua	Falkland Islands	Liberia	Turk & Caicos Islands
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 SPHAdmissions@uth.tmc.edu with your waiver request and supplemental documentation for consideration.

TRANSCRIPTS

For your application, transcripts from a non-US institution must be verified by WES using a course-by-course evaluation and then submitted directly to SOPHAS.

- SOPHAS will only accept transcript evaluations from WES.
- WES will only accept an official transcript for review. This transcript must be sent directly to SOPHAS from 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 Houston School of Public Health, you will need to have your official transcripts sent directly from your previous institution to the UTHealth Houston Office of the Registrar to be eligible for graduation after completing your degree.

VISAS

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

- 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.