

Minimum Qualifications for Admission to Masters and Doctoral Programs

The University of Houston requires the following minimal qualifications for admission to its master's and doctoral programs. Additional requirements for admission to specific programs may be imposed by the colleges and departments. Applicants should write directly to the department for specific information, as well as consult the appropriate college section of the graduate catalog. For more information on application and admission policies contact the Enrollment Services Office at <http://www.uh.edu/enroll/index.html>.

Master's Programs

Applicants must have earned a bachelor's degree from an institution accredited by one of the six regional accrediting associations. Foreign institutions not accredited by U.S. accrediting agencies must be recognized by the Ministry of Education or another appropriate agency of the country in which the institution is located. The university reserves the right to evaluate foreign credentials. In general, these evaluations will follow nationally accepted standard practices and will rely on standard references such as the World Education Series published by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Offices. Students who transfer from another graduate school must have at least a 3.00 (A=4.00) grade point average on all graduate work attempted.

Doctoral Programs

Applicants must have earned a master's degree or have completed 30 semester hours of graduate work with a minimum grade point average of 3.00 (A=4.00). Students may obtain specific requirements for admission to doctoral programs by writing directly to the department they wish to enter.

English Proficiency Requirement

All graduate applicants, regardless of citizenship status, must demonstrate proficiency in English to obtain admission to the university. To fulfill this requirement, applicants must satisfy one of the following criteria:

- Baccalaureate degree earned from a regionally accredited U.S. institution or at an institution at which English is the medium of instruction in the following countries: Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, the Bahamas, Belize, the British Isles, Fiji, Jamaica, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Trinidad, the Virgin Islands, the West Indies, Zimbabwe, and English-speaking Canadian provinces.
- Present a score of 550 (213 on the computer-based exam) or better on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). Departments may require a higher minimum TOEFL or IELTS score where previous experience and demands of the discipline warrant it. Admission materials contain details on this requirement. Note: The College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics requires the TOEFL or IELTS of all international students (with the exception of students who have completed their bachelor's degree in one of the above-mentioned exempt countries) even when a previous degree has been earned in the United States.

Only the Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies may make exceptions to the above upon recommendation from the dean of the college of the student's major. Graduate students whose English proficiency is judged inadequate by the department or college may be denied permission to continue work on graduate degrees.