

TOEFL Information for Non-U.S. Citizens and Non-Native English Speakers

English Proficiency and the Admission Decision

- All applicants who are non-native speakers of English must provide the Eastman School with a current TOEFL score (Test of English as a Foreign Language) taken within the past two years. Test scores that are more than two years old are not considered current indicators of your English ability and will not be accepted. This policy includes, but is not limited to: Eastman School of Music students adding a new degree program, applicants who will have graduated from a U.S. high school or college (regardless of level of study), and Green Card holders or U.S. citizens whose native language is not English.
- Non-native speakers of English who can demonstrate that they moved permanently to a country where the primary language is English before their 14th birthday are exempt from the TOEFL requirement; undergraduate applicants in this situation are required to submit SAT scores instead of the TOEFL; if they cannot submit SAT scores, they must submit the TOEFL. There are no further exceptions to this policy. Any questions regarding the TOEFL requirement should be addressed to the Director of Admissions at: admissions@esm.rochester.edu
- Eastman only accepts original Internet Based Test scores for TOEFL (iBT) issued by the testing agency, ETS. Eastman does NOT accept the IELTS exam. All applicants are compared using the same testing standard (iBT TOEFL).
- The institution code for your score to be sent to the Eastman School is 2224. Your TOEFL score must be sent directly by the testing agency by DECEMBER 1.
- On audition days in Rochester, non-native speakers will be scheduled for a short interview to assess their current level of English in conjunction with their submitted TOEFL score.
- For information on TOEFL: <http://www.toefl.org> e-mail: toefl@ets.org phone: 609-771-7500

Required Writing Sample

- All applicants whose native language is not English must submit a short (one page) essay sample describing their experience learning the English language. **Upload the essay in the online application (after your resume and personal statement)**, including your name and the title, “Non-Native English Essay” on the file. Do not use a translation from your native language or the services of a translator. This essay should tell us about your English studies including: the length of your study, the program content studied, and your comfort level speaking and writing English.

Degree Eligibility

- Bachelor of Music Degree (BM) A minimum score of **79 iBT** is required with a minimum writing score of **18**.
- Master Degree (MA or MM) A minimum score of **83 iBT** is required with a minimum writing score of **18**.
- Doctoral Degree (DMA or PhD) A minimum score of **100 iBT** is required with a minimum writing score of **28**.

Audition Eligibility

- To be assigned an audition in Rochester at the Eastman School of Music, Bachelor and Master Degree Candidates must demonstrate a minimum score of 62 on the iBT TOEFL; DMA candidates must achieve a minimum score of 100 iBT (with a minimum writing score of 28). Candidates who do not provide a score will not be granted an audition. Candidates with a TOEFL score lower than 62 are not eligible for admission to degree study. A review of an initial TOEFL score is a required part of the file review and decision, and is especially important in prescreened majors since audition places are limited.

English as a Second Language Summer Program (ESL)

- The Eastman School of Music provides a 6-7 week summer English program to assist Bachelor’s and Master’s students who have not reached the minimum competency score for admission.
- A Bachelor’s or Master’s student with a score of 68-79 will be required to attend the Summer ESL program.
- A Bachelor’s or Master’s Degree student with an individual part score of LESS THAN 12 (even if the overall minimum is reached) will be required to attend the Summer ESL program.

English Language and Music Program (ELMP)

- Masters degree applicants with a score between 58 and 68 iBT may be eligible to participate in a one-year, pre-degree English and Performance program designed to help students who need more time developing their language skills before entering a masters degree program in the United States of America.