

Decision Tree for Nursing: Students with English as Second Language (ESL)

Background: In 2008 the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN) made recommendations that ESL students meet a minimum standard for testing. In accordance with that recommendation, in May of 2011, the Lewis-Clark Division of Nursing and Health Sciences has a minimum requirement for testing and scoring in order to be eligible to apply to the BSN Basic Track. Area schools were surveyed for their practices. LCSC faculty took these scores into account for the determination of our standard. The policy for the BSN Basic track is based on the fact that nursing has the public trust for safety. The element of accurate communication and understanding of medical situations is an essential component of safety in the delivery of nursing care. Therefore, the BSN Basic Track recommendation is that our admission standard for nursing is greater than the college requirement.

Policy: Students who are non-native to the United States and who do not have English as their native or 1st language are required to take the TOEFL or IELTS test prior to application to the nursing program. **The minimum score required for acceptance to the BSN Basic track is: 76/23 internet TOEFL or 6/6 IELTS.**

TOEFL scores obtained prior to or at the time of admission to LCSC are acceptable.

The table below addresses specific circumstances. It was formed under the advice of the program advisers for the Office of International Students at LCSC.

Student is non-native to US; English is not native or first language				
Bachelor's Degree from US college	Minimum BS/BA from college in foreign country in native language	HS in native country May have some college classes	HS in US or Canada; private schools in native country taught in English or BS/BA in native country taught in English or IIE with cum GPA at or > 3.3	US permanent resident ("resident alien") or US citizen whose native/1 st language is not English
English 101/102 taken in the US	TOEFL required for college admission Compass test required* English placement based on scores	Compass test required* English placement based on scores -OR- English 101/102 in US with grade of "C" or better and 2.0 GPA	Compass test required* English placement based on scores -OR- English 101/102 in US with grade of "C" or better	Compass test required* English placement based on scores -OR- English 101/102 in US with grade of "C" or better
LCSC College requirement : English 102 with grade of "C" or better.	LCSC College requirement: Minimum LCSC requirement Eng 101/102 with grade of "C" or better.	LCSC College Requirement: "X" credits in US college TOEFL waived	LCSC College Requirement: TOEFL waived if meets admission criteria for HS transcripts or ACT/SAT scores	LCSC College Requirement: TOEFL waived if meets admission criteria for HS transcripts or ACT/SAT scores
LCSC BSN NURSING REQUIREMENT	LCSC BSN NURSING REQUIREMENT	LCSC BSN NURSING REQUIREMENT	LCSC BSN NURSING REQUIREMENT	LCSC BSN NURSING REQUIREMENT
No TOEFL required for nursing	Eng 102 grade "C" or better TOEFL required for BSN nursing	English 102 grade "C" or better TOEFL required for BSN nursing	English 102 grade "C" or better TOEFL or petition**	English 102 grade "C" or better TOEFL or petition**

Specialized petition process:

\$45 fee at Center for New Directions

Proctored essay exam required.

Questions r/t rationales for waiving testing

Scoring is based on content, grammar, and writing level

Key:

IIE Institute of Intensive English

ELS English language schools

* May use ACT or SAT scores for placement

** Specialized petition process for BSN nursing application. Please consider the amount of time student has experience using the English language