

SUBJECT: New English Language Assessment option for J-1 scholars

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to announce that CGE has decided to use [E3J1 English Interview](#) for meeting English proficiency requirements for incoming J-1 exchange visitors. The E3J1 Interview is an online English assessment that provides the following benefits:

- English proficiency that is consistently verified by a qualified third-party
- The burden of completing the interview is removed from the PI or department
- The scholar can complete the interview at a time and place that is convenient
- Is free for departments, the cost will be covered by CGE
- CGE will inform the scholar when the Test is available or necessary

Scholars may now demonstrate their English language skills in one of three ways:

1. Online interview conducted by English3
2. Signed documentation from an academic institution
3. English language test score (TOEFL, IELTS, PTE-Academic)
4. A documented interview by the PI or department*

If you have any questions or concerns about this change or the scholar request process, please contact Grace Semple-Paul by email Grace_Semple-Paul@baylor.edu or by phone at X4858.

*Option 4 will only be used when the scholar does not meet the minimum score of “3”, but the faculty strongly believes that the Scholar has adequate language skills that can be demonstrated through an interview with the faculty.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Will scholars have to use the English3 interview?

A: ONLY, if they do not meet the English language requirement for Option 2 or 3. *(See Options above)*

Q: Why are we changing to the English3 interview option?

A: Federal regulations require all J-1 exchange visitor sponsors to confirm and document that the scholar has adequate English language skills to be successful in the exchange program and for day-to-day living in the U.S. Baylor has decided to use English3 to provide a professional, neutral third-party interview and assessment.

Q: What happens when scholar does not receive a high enough score?

A: Baylor’s minimum score is “3”. If the scholar does not meet the score, and the faculty host strongly believes that the scholar has adequate language skills that can be demonstrated through an interviewed with the faculty, then CGE will accept a documented interview by the faculty *(See Option 4)*

Q: Who do departments contact with questions?

A: Please contact me by email at Grace_Semple-Paul@baylor.edu or by phone at X4858.

Q: How will we know the scholar’s interview score?

A: After the scholar completes the interview, English3 will evaluate their assessment and send a score to ISSS and the scholar.

Q: What is a passing score for the interview?

A: The interview is an assessment, not a pass/fail test. English3 provides an interview score on a 1 to 5 scale. Scores of 3.0 or higher will be accepted without any further follow up.

Q: Who will pay for the interview?

A: CGE will pay in advance and assign a code to the scholar.