

University of California

IGETC Certification of Proficiency in a Language Other Than English

Students transferring to the University of California who intend to complete the IGETC are required to demonstrate a minimal level of competence (proficiency) in a language other than English equal to two years of high school study. Proficiency may be demonstrated as follows:

1. Satisfactory completion of two years of high school course work in one language other than English with grades of “C” or better.

- a) One year each in two languages will not satisfy the requirement, the two years must be in the same language.
- b) Courses completed in seventh or eighth grade with grades of at least “C” may be used. Seventh and eighth grade courses must be included on the student’s high school transcript. By including these courses on the high school transcript, the high school principal certifies that the content of the 7th and 8th grade courses is equivalent to the content of courses taught at the high school level.
- c) The University does not count “minus” or “plus” grades in computing the grade point average from high school; only the whole grade is used. In other words, a “C-” grade is counted as a “C.”
- d) A more advanced course may be used to “validate” a less advanced course even though the less advanced course does not appear on the high school transcript. Language II in high school with at least a “C” validates Language I even though it does not appear on the high school transcript.
- e) Students may clear “D” and “F” grades in less advanced work by completing more advanced work with at least a grade of “C” or higher.
- f) Students may also clear “D” and “F” grades by repeating the course(s) in which the “D” or “F” was received.

2. Satisfactory completion of a course or courses at a college or university with a grade of “C” or higher in each course.

Any course (excluding conversation courses) considered by the college or university to be equivalent to two years of high school language may be used. Many college catalogs list the prerequisite for the second course in a language as: “Language 1 at this college, or two years of high school language.” In this case Language 1 clears both years of the requirement.

3. Satisfactory completion with “C” grades or better of two years of formal schooling at the sixth grade level or higher in an institution where the language of instruction is not English.

If secondary school was completed in a non-English speaking country and the language of instruction of the secondary school was not English, language other than English proficiency can be certified for IGETC without further evaluation. The student must present appropriate documentation of attendance at the secondary school.

4. Satisfactory score in the SAT II: Subject Test in languages other than English.

Before May 1995 use the first score; if taken after May 1995, use the second score.

TEST	Before 5/95	After 5/95	TEST	Before 5/95	After 5/95
Chinese with Listening	500	520	Japanese with Listening	500	510
French/French with Listening	500	540	Korean/Korean with Listening	Not offered	500
German/German with Listening	500	510	Latin	500	530
Hebrew (Modern)	500	470	Spanish/Spanish with Listening	500	520
Italian	500	520			

5. Satisfactory score of 3 or higher in the College Board Advanced Placement Examinations in languages other than English.

6. Satisfactory score of 5 or higher in the International Baccalaureate Higher Level Examinations in languages other than English.

7. Satisfactory completion of a proficiency test administered by a community college, university, or other college in a language other than English.

The test must assess the student’s proficiency at a level equivalent to at least two years of high school language.

8. If an achievement test is not available, a faculty member associated with a United States regionally accredited institution of higher learning can verify a student’s competency.

The institution must provide a document on letter head asserting that the student has mastered proficiency in the language equivalent to two years of high school study.

9. Language other than English “O” level exam with a grade of A, B, or C.

10. Language other than English International “A” level exam with a score of 5, 6, or 7.