

English Language Admission Requirements

Mount Angel Seminary requires all applicants whose native language is not English to take either the TOEFL Test **or** the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and Writing Proficiency Test (WPT) as in previous years. However, beginning in 2019, only the TOEFL test will be accepted. Applicants who speak a second language in their homes are also strongly encouraged to take the exam and may be required to do so if a need becomes apparent.

OPI and WPT

For students taking the OPI and WPT tests offered through ACTFL, the procedures and the requirements remain the same. Namely, a score above IL (Intermediate Low) is normally required to enter the seminary. A score of AL (Advanced Low) is the minimum score needed in order for the student not to be required to take additional English skills courses. Please note that even with a score of AL, the professors or formation team may recommend a student to continue working on specific language skills.

For more information about the OPI and WPT tests, visit www.languagetesting.com or contact the chair of the English Communications Department at Mount Angel Seminary.

TOEFL

The TOEFL iBT (Internet-Based Test) tests English ability in reading, writing, listening, and speaking. A full score is 120 and each sub-score is considered a full score at 30 points.

Since the TOEFL score indicates applicants' ability in four separate skills, placement in language courses can address a student's need more directly.

With a cumulative score of 50 or better, students may enter the seminary provisionally. These applicants understand that they may need significant language development to best profit from the courses, formation, and other experiences at the seminary. For some students, English classes may be needed throughout the student's career.

With a language score of 80 with minimum scores of 20 in each skill area, the student may enter the seminary without restriction. Applicants who achieve this level of proficiency in English are judged proficient enough to complete their desired degree and participate fully in seminary life. Nevertheless, students may be asked by their instructors or the formation team to use campus-based services such as the Writing Center or the Speech Center to fine tune their skills. Additionally, these students may be asked to take courses to reduce their accent when speaking English.

It is recommended that any candidate scoring less than 50 on the TOEFL should spend time developing his English ability prior to entering the seminary. An Intensive English Program (IEP) offered at a local college or university would best suit the needs of these students.

For more information about TOEFL iBT, visit <https://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/about>. The site provides a variety of resources such as more information about the test, how to register, and a practice test. You may also wish to contact the chair of the English Communications Department at Mount Angel Seminary.