

Passing TOEFL Score

There is no "passing" or "failing" score on the TOEFL. The test measures English language proficiency only and it is up to the individual college or university to set its own minimum TOEFL score for admission. Minimum scores can vary from a low of 450 to a high of 630 or more. A score of 677 is considered perfect.

Keep in mind that schools with low TOEFL admissions score requirements may also have lower academic standards. In many colleges, to major in communications, journalism, public relations, marketing, advertising, and English/American literature, you need a TOEFL score of 600. The most prestigious American universities require a paper-based TOEFL score of 600 or more for all students admitted. Most top-tier master of business administration (MBA) programs require a TOEFL score of 600 in addition to good GMAT scores.

It's possible to cancel your scores by contacting TOEFL/ISE Services immediately after the test.

Paper-Based Scores versus Computer-Based Scores

The concordance table on the previous pages will tell you how paper-based TOEFL scores compare with computer-based TOEFL scores. For more details on how each section is scored, read through the introductory pages of each Power Lesson section carefully.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: Is the TOEFL written or administered by the U.S. government?

No. The U.S. government has nothing to do with the TOEFL. The TOEFL is administered by the Educational Testing Service. ETS is a private, nongovernmental, not-for-profit organization that writes, manages, and administers standard exams for American college and university entrance.

Q: What score do you need to pass the TOEFL?

There is no passing or failing score on the TOEFL. The test measures English language proficiency only, and it is up to the individual college or university to set its own minimum TOEFL score for admission. For the paper-based TOEFL, minimum scores can vary from a low of 450 to a high of 630 or more. A score of 677 is considered perfect.

Q: Is it possible to use a TOEFL score from a test taken several years ago?

Not usually, but it depends on the school and how long ago the test was taken. Admissions officers want to know what your *current* English level is, so most admission officers require a recent TOEFL score, not more than six months old, when they consider a candidate for admission.