

English Language Proficiency

Yale University is a globalized campus that promotes cultural diversity, values different perspectives and celebrates the presence of international students, scholars and family members within our community. Many international scholars are native English language speakers, or have spent years in study and research using the English language. For those who are still perfecting their English language skills, it is important to recognize that proficiency is a scholarly tool that can ensure higher levels of academic achievement in most fields. In addition, good English communication skills are essential to ensure the health, safety, and welfare of yourself and your family members.

English Proficiency Requirement and Evidence of English Proficiency

All J-1 Exchange Visitors are required by the Department of State to have sufficient proficiency in the English language to successfully to participate in their academic program and to function on a day-to-day basis in the United States.

[Federal regulations require evidence of an assessment of English language proficiency](#) [1] [prior to sponsoring a J-1 Exchange Visitor vis](#) [1] [a](#) [1]. For more information about meeting this requirement, [please see our guidance for departments](#) [2].

[English Language Support](#) [3]

There are a few resources at Yale for improving your English language proficiency, and still other resources in the New Haven community.

Source URL: <https://oiss.yale.edu/immigration/j-1-scholars/understanding-j-1-status/english-language-proficiency>

Links

[\[1\] http://yale.app.box.com/v/j1-eng-regs](http://yale.app.box.com/v/j1-eng-regs) [2] <https://oiss.yale.edu/english-language-proficiency> [3]
<https://oiss.yale.edu/programs-events/english-conversation-groups>