



IELTS and TOEFL Tests



What are the IELTS and TOEFL?

The IELTS (International English Language Testing System) and TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) are **diagnostic** tests used to measure your ability to use academic English in university and college. You cannot pass or fail it, so it is a good idea to take it as soon as you get to your English language program. Both tests are generally accepted by colleges and universities.

When should you take the IELTS or TOEFL?

You should take the IELTS or TOEFL within the first 3 months of your English language study. In this way, you can get an idea of how much you need to improve your score. Many students have to take the tests more than one time and you can get reimbursed (receive your money back) for up to **3** tests.

Also, if you wait until the last minute, you will find locating a test center or test date to be very difficult and you will be required to pay late registration fees which may not be reimbursable by the Kuwait Cultural Office.

What is the difference between the IELTS and TOEFL?

Both tests consist of a reading, writing, listening, and speaking section. The TOEFL test is between you and a computer and the IELTS test is between you and the examiner. Most students prefer to take the IELTS test.

How much do the tests cost?

The IELTS costs \$205 and the TOEFL costs between \$160 and \$250 depending upon where you take the test.

Where can I register for the IELTS and TOEFL?

You can register for both tests online.

For the IELTS: http://www.ielts.org/test_centre_search/search_results.aspx

For the TOEFL: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/register/>



How do I request official scores for the IELTS and TOEFL?

Official scores are required when you apply to university. In order to request an official IELTS score, you will need to contact the test center directly.

You can request your TOEFL score to be sent to 4 universities for free. In order to request an official TOEFL score, you will need to submit the school information electronically on the TOEFL website: <http://www.ets.org/toefl/ibt/scores/send/>. You can add or delete schools until 10 PM on the day prior to the test date. After requesting 4 scores, there is a \$17 charge for requesting scores to be sent.

What score do I need for admission to university?

The score needed depends on the university, and you should check with the admissions office to make sure you have the correct type of test and score. The score range for most universities for IELTS is 5.5-7.0 and for the TOEFL iBT it is 61-100.

How do I get reimbursed for my IELTS or TOEFL test?

By email, please send to the Cultural Office:

1. A scanned copy of your official score
2. A copy of your bank statement showing the debit for the score as well as your name and bank account number OR
3. If you've taken the test in Kuwait, you will need to submit the ORIGINAL receipt by MAIL (not email).