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Announcement of Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University

Subject: Foreign Language Assessment of Master and Doctoral Students as a Requirement for Graduation

Whereas it is expedient to issue the Announcement of Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University
Subject: Foreign Language Assessment of Master and Doctoral Students as a Requirement for Graduation,

By virtue of section 44 of Prince of Songkla University Act, B.E. 2559, clause 42(2), (3) of Prince of Songkla University Graduate Studies Regulation, B.E. 2563, and the Graduate School Committee, at the 3/2565 meeting on May 26, 2022, approved the announcement of the following:

1. This announcement is called "Announcement of Graduate School, Prince of Songkla University
Subject: Foreign Language Assessment of Master and Doctoral Students as a Requirement for Graduation."

2. This announcement shall come into effect for students enrolled from the academic year 2022 onwards.

3. English is required as a foreign language for the language proficiency assessment required for graduation.

4. A student enrolling in a master's or doctoral program directly related to the study of the English language shall be exempt from the English proficiency test.

5. Criteria for passing the English proficiency test for the master's degree program are as follows:

(1) The official score from testing institutes accepted by the Graduate School should be no more than 2 years from the test date until the date of graduate admission, or should be obtained during the status of graduate students.

PSU-TEP or New PSU-TEP	Set by a program;
CU-TEP	Set by a program;
TOEFL (Paper-Based)	Minimum score of 450;
TOEFL (Revised Paper-Delivered Test)	Minimum score of 34;
TOEFL (Institutional Testing Program)	Minimum score of 450;
TOEFL (Computer-Based)	Minimum score of 133;
TOEFL (Internet-Based)	Minimum score of 45;
IELTS	Minimum score of 4.5;

(2) In case the student fails the English proficiency tests according to item 5 (1), the student can register for English courses for graduate studies as specified by the Graduate School in the attachment of this announcement for not less than 3 credits and shall pass the exam with the S symbol. As a requirement for enrollment in the above English courses for graduate studies, the students must attach at least one PSU-TEP test result or other test results according to number 5 (1) as a supporting document for registration.

In the case that any program requires students to register for English courses within the program, the results of the study cannot substitute English proficiency tests, according to this announcement. However, the program may submit an application to the Graduate School for consideration of whether a particular English course is equivalent to the prescribed common courses in terms of content and learning outcomes. If a particular English course is considered equivalent, the Graduate School may approve the registration for such a course in place of the prescribed common courses.

6. Criteria for passing the English proficiency test for the master's program (international) and doctoral program are as follows:

(1) The official score from testing institutes accepted by the Graduate School should be no more than 2 years from the test date until the date of graduate admission, or should be obtained during the status of graduate students.

PSU-TEP	The average score for all 3 skills (listening, reading and writing) is not less than 60% or the level set by the program
New PSU-TEP	The average score for all 3 skills (reading, listening, integrated reading & writing) is not less than 60% or the level set by the program
CU-TEP	Minimum score of 60;
TOEFL (Paper-Based)	Minimum score of 500;
TOEFL (Revised Paper-Delivered Test)	Minimum score of 46;
TOEFL (Institutional Testing Program)	Minimum score of 520;
TOEFL (Computer-Based)	Minimum score of 173;
TOEFL (Internet-Based)	Minimum score of 61;
IELTS	Minimum score of 5.0;

(2) A student who does not pass an English proficiency test may register in an English course for doctoral students with at least 4 credits or another English course for graduate studies as determined by the Graduate School. Upon completion of the course, examination results shall be taken into account together with the scores of the English proficiency test according to item 6 (1). The average score of examination results and the English proficiency test shall not be less than 60%.

(3) In the event that students have made full efforts to improve their English skills but still fail to pass the criteria according to item 6 (1) or item 6 (2), if they have fulfilled all other graduation requirements and their duration of study is nearing to the end of the maximum study period, they could request to take a special English proficiency test arranged by the Graduate School according to the relevant announcement of the Graduate School.

7. Graduate programs can set passing criteria for the English proficiency test higher than those specified in item 5 (1) or 6 (1), subject to the discretion of the program committee. The criteria must also be approved by the faculty committee before notifying the Graduate School.

8. In the case of master and doctoral students who are retired because of their duration of study reaching the maximum allowable period and re-enroll as graduate students in the semester or academic year next to the semester or academic year in which student status is terminated, they could transfer the results of the English proficiency test already approved by the Graduate School prior to the termination of student status to fulfill the graduate requirement. However, such an English proficiency test result must not exceed 2 years from the date of approval by the Graduate School until the date of admission. The transfer is subject to the discretion of the program committee and the approval of the faculty committee. The results of the special English assessment, according to Item 6 (3), organized by the Graduate School, are not allowable for such a transfer.

9. A doctoral student could use the results of an English proficiency test submitted at the time of admission to fulfill the graduation requirement study for graduation if the test scores are not lower than the criteria specified in Item 6 (1).

10. Students with the following qualifications

(1) Graduation from an international program or having evidence confirming that the English language is being used as a medium of instruction;

(2) Being a graduate from a country where English is the official language; or

(3) Being a foreigner from a country where English is the official language;

will be exempted from the requirement on the English proficiency test according to item 5 or item 6, which requires evidence to prove English proficiency. The exemption is at Graduate School's discretion on a case-by-case basis.

11. A student who wishes to file the results of an English proficiency test as determined by the Graduate School can submit a form (RF 5) with the approval of an advisor (and signed by the advisor) along with relevant documents to the faculty or Graduate School for consideration.

12. Details on the assessment of English proficiency in master and doctoral students as a requirement for graduation are to be in accordance with the attachment to this announcement.

13. In the case where there is a problem or question in complying with this announcement, the dean of the Graduate school is authorized to make a decision. The decision of the Dean of Graduate school is final.

Announced on August 24, 2022.

(Signed) Damrongsak Faroongsarng
(Prof. Dr. Damrongsak Faroongsarng)
Dean of Graduate School