

From: GSAS Admissions Office <gsas_admiss_comms@fas.harvard.edu>

Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 1:47 PM

Subject: Coronavirus Update: TOEFL and GRE Testing

Dear Colleagues,

We wanted to share a recent update from ETS (Educational Testing Service) concerning GRE and TOEFL testing options during the COVID-19 pandemic, including at-home testing options; please see the message below.

Please note that GSAS does not accept scores from the TOEFL ITP Plus examination. This is because the TOEFL ITP Plus does not provide a robust assessment of the candidate's proficiency in spoken English, which is one of the most critical components of our English proficiency requirement. Applicants unable to take the TOEFL IBT, IELTS or IELTS indicator exams may apply without these scores, and if programs recommend these applicants for admission, their admission will be provisional until they provide scores from one of the accepted tests that demonstrate the required level of English proficiency.

Sincerely,
GSAS Admissions

From: GRE and TOEFL Programs at ETS <donotreply@gre.ets.org>

Sent: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 11:16 AM

To: Larsen, Karen M. <larsen@fas.harvard.edu>

Subject: Coronavirus Update: TOEFL and GRE Testing



The higher education community has shown incredible resilience and innovation during this challenging time, and ETS is honored to have been working hard alongside you to help applicants and programs stay on track. We're writing to share some important updates with you about our test center network and the *TOEFL iBT®* Special Home Edition and *GRE®* General Test at home.

Test centers reopening — About half of our test center network outside of China has reopened. Openings vary by country and are entirely dependent upon the prevalence and threat of coronavirus and government mandates by region — factors that are outside of ETS's control.

All of the test centers in our network are following preventive measures to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. This includes the frequent cleaning of high-touch surfaces, requiring masks of test center staff and test

takers, and following social distancing guidelines. Prometric® is the largest member of ETS's test center network, and their additional safety precautions are enumerated on the [Prometric website](#).

In Mainland China, the government's National Education Examinations Authority has announced it will resume test administrations for the TOEFL iBT test and GRE General Test beginning July 11 at a dozen locations. They are also reviewing several additional test administration dates proposed by ETS for August and beyond. ~~However, availability of seats will still be limited for some time, so ETS is encouraging students who are unable to take the TOEFL iBT test at this time to register for the TOEFL ITP® Plus for China solution, and join the thousands of students who have successfully taken the test. Visit ets.org/toefl/itp-plus for details on the solution, setting score requirements and receiving scores, FAQs, and the updated list of accepting institutions, which is now over 400 worldwide.~~

In Iran, our test center network is operational and resumed testing in June.

The at home tests — More than 160,000 students from 163 countries and territories have registered to take the TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition and the GRE General Test at home. To date, we've announced availability through the end of September, but be assured that ETS intends to offer the at home tests as long as COVID-19 is a concern so that students can opt to take the test from the safety of home. And it remains available even in areas where test centers have reopened, so students can choose which option works best for them.

ETS has made a number of improvements over the past month to support test takers during this time. Test takers can now take the test on Mac® computers, in addition to computers running Windows®. To accommodate their schedules to the greatest extent possible, the TOEFL iBT Special Home Edition is available 24 hours a day, 4 days a week, and the GRE General Test at home is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as of today. We have increased testing capacity, so students can test within a few days after they register. GRE test takers who are currently registered to take the test in a test center but would prefer to switch to the at home test can now easily do so in their ETS account. *TOEFL®* test takers can contact ETS directly. To learn more about the at home tests, [register for an upcoming webinar](#) or visit:

- Web pages for [TOEFL® Institutions](#) and [TOEFL Test Takers](#)
- Web pages for [GRE® Institutions](#) and [GRE Test Takers](#)

Should there be any further assistance that ETS can provide to you during this time, please don't hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Michelle Hampton
TOEFL Client Relations
toeflnews@ets.org

Matt Bashi-Kadlubowski

GRE Client Relations

grehelpline@ets.org

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Subscribe](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

Copyright © 2020 by ETS. All rights reserved. ETS, the ETS logo, GRE, TOEFL, TOEFL iBT and TOEFL ITP are registered trademarks of ETS in the United States and other countries. All other trademarks are property of their respective owners. 527392769

ETS | Rosedale Road | Princeton, NJ 08541