

J-1 Exchange Visitor (Scholar)

English Proficiency Form for Academic Department Review

Visiting Scholar Name: _____

Last/Family Name

First/Given Name

Middle Name

Proof of English Ability:

DETERMINING ENGLISH PROFICIENCY OF PROSPECTIVE EXCHANGE VISITORS

Sponsors have always been required to determine whether a prospective exchange visitor's English proficiency was sufficient to enable the visitor to participate in the sponsor's exchange visitor program. The Subpart A rule modified this requirement at 22 CFR [62.10\(a\)\(2\)](#), and now requires sponsors to determine not only that the prospective visitor's English is sufficient to participate in the program, but is sufficient "to function on a day-to-day basis" outside of the direct activity of the exchange (e.g., outside the lab). Subpart A also requires sponsors to make their determinations regarding English proficiency using an "objective measurement of English language proficiency," by means of one of the following three methods:

1. "A recognized English language test,"
2. "Signed documentation from an academic institution or English language school," **or**
3. "A documented interview conducted by the sponsor either in-person or by videoconferencing, or by telephone if videoconferencing is not a viable option"

Sponsors must also "retain evidence of how they measured applicants' English language proficiency so that it may be made available to the Department upon request." [[79 FR 60294](#), 60301]

Suggested Interview Questions – Please take legible notes

1. Please introduce yourself to me and tell me about your family.
 2. How have your past experiences, training, and language study prepared you to operate in an English-speaking environment in your occupational field?
 3. What do you expect to learn about American culture and society?
 4. What skills and knowledge do you expect to gain while at UNO?
 5. How do you plan to share what you have learned upon your return home to your country?
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English Proficiency Checklist	Proficient	Somewhat Proficient	Not Proficient
The scholar demonstrated understanding of the questions asked.	_____	_____	_____
The scholar spoke clearly and fluency (without unnatural pauses) about every day and academic topics.	_____	_____	_____
The scholar developed answers at least two or three minutes long in response to multiple, open-ended questions and behavioral questions about academic topics.	_____	_____	_____
The scholar demonstrated appropriate communication strategies for resolving misunderstandings as needed.	_____	_____	_____

Based on this interview, is the scholar's English ability adequate for the proposed program at UNO?

YES. Scholar was able to, in most circumstances, understand and answer the interview questions. The scholar should be able to handle communication in English in his or her own field and would understand safety rules and/or instructions in English.

NO. Scholar was not able to understand and answer interview questions. The scholar would not be able to handle communication in English in his or her own field and would not be able to understand safety rules or instructions in English.

Interviewer Signature

Date

Dean/Chair Signature

Date