

INTRODUCING TOEFL AND GRE

One of the major activities of the Institute of Educational Research (IER) is to give testing services of various types of local and foreign tests. The local tests are used for selecting candidates for employment, promotion and training, whereas the foreign tests are mainly employed for selecting candidates for training and fellowship programs. A brief and general information on both types was given in the 1990 IER FLAMBEAU. Since then, the Institute has found out that many people would still like to have more information about both types of tests. In this paper, we provide brief information about two of the major foreign tests, namely, TOEFL & GRE.*

1. TOEFL - Test of English as a Foreign Language

1.1 Purpose To evaluate the English Language proficiency of candidates whose native language is not English. The test is mainly used for purposes of admission into colleges and universities in the USA, Canada and institutions in other countries as well as for scholarship grants.

1.2 Contents The test includes three parts, which deal with:

- . Listening Comprehension - measures ability to understand spoken English.
- . Structure and Written Expression - measures ability to recognize the language that is

*Information on local tests shall be given in future issue of IER FLAMBEAU

appropriate for standard written English.

Vocabulary and Reading Comprehension - measures ability to understand non-technical reading materials.

1.3 Study materials No specific study material is required. However, to get some ideas about the nature of the test, interested individuals may order study materials (not free) by contacting the Educational Testing Service (ETS)*

1.4 Information bulletin TOEFL Information Bulletin can be obtained from the Tests and Measurement Unit of the Institute of Educational Research (IER). Since the bulletins we receive are limited candidates must produce a letter stating that they are required to take the

test. Those who cannot produce this letter may get the bulletin directly from ETS.

1.5 Registration Candidates should register with ETS, using a form in the Information Bulletin (indicated in 1.4 above).

Candidates must complete their registration at least six months before the anticipated date of admission consideration by the foreign higher institutions of learning.

1.6 Test dates TOEFL is administered by the Tests and Measurement Unit of IER up to eight times a year. The examinations are generally held in the months of August, October, November, December, January, March, May and occasionally in June.

*Address: TOEFL/TSE Services, P.O. Box 6161, Princeton, N.J. 08541, U.S.A

1.7 Expiry date of TOEFL results TOEFL results are valid only for two years. ETS (TOEFL/TSE) does not report scores that are more than two years old.

2. GRE - GRADUATE RECORD EXAMINATION

2.1 Purpose To assess academic knowledge and skills relevant to graduate studies.

2.2 Content The GRE test has two major parts: General and Subject Area tests. The General test contains sections that measure verbal, quantitative and analytical abilities, whereas the subject area tests are designed to measure knowledge and understanding of subject matter related to graduate studies in specific fields.

2.3 Study materials GRE Study materials can be obtained directly from ETS.* To get the materials one should complete a form which is available in the

Information Bulletin (See 2.4 below), and send it to ETS directly with the payment required.

2.4 Information bulletin A Copy of GRE Information Bulletin can be obtained either from the Test and Measurement Unit of IER or from ETS directly.

2.5 Registration Candidates should register for GRE by filling in a registration form which is available in the GRE Information Bulletin.

2.6 Test dates The Test and Measurement Unit of IER Administers GRE four times a year, usually in December, February, April and June.

2.7 Expiry date of GRE results According to the GRE Board Policy, GRE scores are reportable for a maximum of five years to institutions designated by candidates as score recipients.

*Address: Graduate Record Examination
Educational Testing Services
P.O. Box 6000
Princeton, N.J. 08541-6000
U.S.A.

FACTS AND FIGURES

Distribution of Students Sent Abroad by Scholarship Type and Program Level (1989/90)

Scholarship Type	Program Level			%	
	Under graduate Degree	Post graduate Degree	Total	Female	Male
Government	432	133	565	13.5	86.5
Private	3255	-	3255	50.2	49.8
Total	3687	133	3820	44.8	55.2
% Female	46.1	7.5	44.8	-	

Source: Higher Education Main Department, Facts and Figures. Jan. 1991 (p. 22)

*IER Observes: If, in fact, all the 3255 private applicants have gone abroad, this number is nearly twice the number of regular freshmen admitted into AAU degree programs during the same year. One wonders how many of those who went abroad will be back!

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