

Office of International Student and Scholar Services has partnered with the Maryland English Institute on campus to conduct the English Proficiency Interview.

Evaluation Tool

The evaluation tool created by MEI will not evaluate scholars at a level required for admissions, but rather for an adjusted level of proficiency sufficient to perform their research tasks and allow for some functional independence in the community. As you will note in the attachment, the evaluation scale distinguishes three broad levels of proficiency: an A-Level (basic user of English), a B-level (independent) user of English, or a C-level (proficient) user of English. At each level, candidates are assigned a subrating of 1, 1+, 2, 2+. The level that will be considered the minimum for a J-1 researcher application will be A2+. This level should ensure that the scholar comprehends laboratory safety, general research instructions and will be able to live independently in the community.

Cost

MEI has developed a process whereby the scholar or department can pay for the cost of the English Proficiency Interview. The fee for the interview is \$100.00, which includes the interview, administration of the booking and payment and the results of the interview for auditing purposes.

Please note that the appointment can be rescheduled and the fee is non-refundable.

Process

The process begins with the department or the scholar depending on who will pay for the interview. The payment must be made before an interview can be scheduled by the scholar. The process does require a 2-day advance notice. We are receiving the results on the same day of the interview and at this time, we are planning for ISSS to receive these results and ISSS will distribute the results to each department.

Please see below email templates that can be used to communicate with your scholars about this new process.

Email Template – Department pays for interview

Email Template – Scholar pays for interview