

ACAHM COMPREHENSIVE STANDARDS AND CRITERIA

PROPOSED CHANGES – FOR PUBLIC COMMENT – 4 NOVEMBER 2021



Criterion 5.02: ADMISSIONS

INSTITUTIONAL COMPONENTS

There are no institutional components for this criterion.

PROGRAMMATIC COMPONENTS

ALL PROGRAMS

- A. The program must have admissions policies, procedures, and practices that include explicit English language proficiency requirements, and are consistent with students achieving the statement of purpose and goals of the program.
- B. Admissions policies, procedures, and practices must result in matriculated students who meet the program's admissions criteria and are capable of achieving the professional competencies expected from the program.
- C. The program's admissions policies, procedures, and practices must be regularly and systematically assessed to determine their effectiveness and revised as necessary.

D. International applicants whose native language is not English are required to provide proof of English proficiency for admission to degree, certificate, and non-degree graduate programs. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:

1. The applicant must have completed one of the following:

- a) four years at a U.S. high school demonstrably delivered in English;
- b) at least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education in an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education;
- c) at least two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education demonstrably delivered in English;
- d) high school or two-years (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) of undergraduate- or graduate-level education in an institution in one of the following countries or territories: American Samoa; Anguilla; Antigua & Barbuda; Australia; Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; Bermuda; Botswana; British Virgin Islands; Cameroon; Canada (except Quebec); Cayman Islands; Christmas Island; Cook Islands; Dominica; Federated States of Micronesia; Fiji; The Gambia; Ghana; Gibraltar; Grenada; Guam; Guyana; Ireland; Isle of Man; Jamaica; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Malawi; Montserrat; Namibia; New Zealand; Nigeria; Norfolk Island; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Pitcairn Islands; Sierra Leone; Singapore; South Africa; South Sudan; St. Helena; St. Kitts & Nevis; St. Lucia; St. Vincent & the Grenadines; Swaziland; Tanzania; Trinidad and Tobago;

Turks and Caicos Islands; United Kingdom; U.S. Virgin Islands; Uganda; Zambia; Zimbabwe.

1. In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used

OR

2. The applicant must have completed one of the following assessments at the required level:

<u>ASSESSMENT TOOL</u>	<u>ACCEPTABLE SCORE</u>
<u>Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT)</u>	<u>Total: 61</u>
<u>International English Language Testing System (IELTS), Academic Format</u>	<u>Overall band: 6</u>
<u>Duolingo English Test</u>	<u>90</u>
<u>China Standard of English Language (CSE)</u>	<u>CSE 6</u>
<u>Cambridge First Certificate in English (FCE)</u>	<u>C</u>
<u>Cambridge English Advanced (CAE)</u>	<u>C</u>
<u>Common European Framework Reference (CEFR)</u>	<u>B2</u>
<u>Occupational English Test (OET)</u>	<u>250, C</u>
<u>Pearson Test of English (PTE), Academic</u>	<u>Overall: 45</u>

MASTER'S LEVEL AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

D.E. Prospective students must meet the programmatic admissions requirements in effect at the time of their official matriculation.

- The admissions criteria for the master's program must include the satisfactory completion of at least two (2) years of undergraduate-level education (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) from an institution accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. In considering the acceptance of education and training obtained in foreign countries, credits earned at a foreign educational institution must be validated by a recognized, educational credentials, evaluation service.
- A maximum of 30 semester credits (or 50%) of the prerequisite two-year education requirement may be earned through prior learning assessment using either, or a combination, of the following assessment techniques: (1) credit by examination using recognized, independently administered, and validated standardized tests and/or (2) assignment of credit for military and corporate training based on recommendations established by the American Council on Education.
- Pre-requisite and co-requisite credits must not be counted towards degree completion credits.
- ~~English language competency is required of all students seeking admission to the master's-level program. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:~~

- ~~a) The student must have completed a two-year (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) undergraduate or graduate-level, English-based education in an institution:
 - ~~(i) accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, or~~
 - ~~(ii) in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada (except Quebec), New Zealand, or Ireland.~~In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used;~~
- ~~b) Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT) – Acceptable scores: TOEFL iBT total score – 61 with minimum speaking score – 20 and minimum listening score – 17; or~~
- ~~c) International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Format – Acceptable scores: IELTS overall band score 6 with minimum speaking score – 6.5 and minimum listening score – 6.~~

5.4. The admissions criteria for the master’s-level **certificate program in Chinese herbal medicine** must include current enrollment in, or the satisfactory completion of, an ACAHM-accredited/pre-accredited entry-level (i.e., master’s-level or professional doctoral) program in acupuncture or in acupuncture with a Chinese herbal medicine specialization. In considering the acceptance of education and training obtained in foreign countries, credits earned at a foreign educational institution must be validated by a recognized educational credentials evaluation service.

PROFESSIONAL DOCTORAL [DAc] PROGRAMS

E.F. Prospective students must meet the programmatic admissions requirements in effect at the time of their official matriculation.

1.G. The admissions criteria for the DAc program must include the satisfactory completion of at least three (3) years of undergraduate-level education (defined as 90 semester credits or 135 quarter credits) from an institution accredited or pre-accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education. In considering the acceptance of education and training obtained in foreign countries, credits earned at a foreign educational institution must be validated by a recognized educational credentials evaluation service.

~~2. English language competency is required of all students seeking admission to the doctoral program. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:~~

- ~~a) The student must have completed a two-year (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) undergraduate or graduate-level, English-based education in an institution:
 - ~~(i) accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, or~~
 - ~~(ii) in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada (except Quebec), New Zealand, or Ireland.~~In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used;~~

~~b) Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT) –
Acceptable score: TOEFL iBT total score – 80; or~~

~~c) International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Format –
Acceptable score: IELTS overall band score – 6.5.~~

~~F-H.~~ Prerequisite undergraduate-level education required for admission to the DAc program must include chemistry, biology, and psychology. Institutions may offer professional-level programmatic courses in chemistry, biology, and psychology in lieu of program admission prerequisites.

~~G-J.~~ Institutions/programs that confer a master's degree as part of the DAc must ensure that separate enrollment agreements for each degree program are simultaneously executed at the date of initial enrollment; and clearly outline if/when it is possible for a student to be awarded a master's degree without completing the full DAc program.

ADVANCED PRACTICE DOCTORAL [DAOM] PROGRAMS

~~H-K.~~ Prospective students must meet the programmatic admissions requirements in effect at the time of their official matriculation.

1. The admissions criteria for the DAOM program must include the satisfactory completion of an ACAHM-accredited/pre-accredited entry-level program (i.e., master's or professional doctorate). In considering the acceptance of education and training obtained in foreign countries, credits earned at a foreign educational institution must be validated by a recognized educational credentials evaluation service.

a) For DAOM programs that include advanced study or specialty concentrations in herbal medicine, the admissions criteria must include the satisfactory completion of the minimum credits and clock hours of instruction stipulated under *criterion 7.02 – Chinese herbal medicine certificate programs*.

b) For DAOM programs that do not include advanced study or specialty concentrations in herbal medicine, the admissions criteria must include the satisfactory completion of a minimum of three (3) semester credits (45 clock hours of instruction) of introductory coursework in the fundamentals of Chinese herbal medicine either as a prerequisite or as a co-requisite.

~~2. English language competency is required of all students seeking admission to the DAOM program. This must be demonstrated by one of the following means:~~

~~a) The student must have completed a two-year (60 semester credits or 90 quarter credits) undergraduate or graduate-level, English-based education in an institution:~~

~~i) accredited by an agency recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education, or~~

~~ii) in the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada (except Quebec), New Zealand, or Ireland.~~

~~In all cases, English must have been both the language of instruction and the language of the curriculum used;~~

~~b) Test of English as a Foreign Language Internet-Based Test (TOEFL® iBT) – Acceptable score: TOEFL iBT total score – 80; or~~

~~c) International English Language Testing System (IELTS) Academic Format – Acceptable score: IELTS overall band score – 6.5.~~

J. Applications may be accepted for admission into the DAOM program from licensed acupuncturists who have not completed an ACAHM-accredited/pre-accredited entry-level program (i.e., master's or professional doctorate) provided the program:

1. Demonstrates and documents an acceptable process for validating that the applicant has achieved professional competencies equivalent to an ACAHM-accredited/pre-accredited master's-level program.
2. Provides opportunities from the institution's master's-level program to rectify any deficiencies identified through the program's entrance evaluation and admission standards. Completion of the identified curriculum can be accomplished through the successful completion of specified courses, or by demonstrating achievement of the specific course objectives through successful completion of challenge examinations.
3. Does not count prerequisite and co-requisite credits toward degree completion credits.