

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR GRADUATE STUDENTS**(Please note there are two pages)**

1. Fill in the online application and pay the application fee through The Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars: [Application Management](#). **The application deadline for graduate programs in the School of Languages and Cultures is December 1 for admissions to the Fall semester.**

Include the following with the application:

- a) **Three recommenders'** names and email addresses. When you create an online application; once you click "Send to Recommender," your recommendation providers will receive an email with instructions on submitting their recommendation online. For additional information, please visit the Letter of Recommendation [FAQ](#).
- b) International applicants whose first language is not English must submit TOEFL, IELTS, or Duolingo score. Your test results must be no more than 36 months old at the time the complete recommendation for admission is received by the OGSPS. **Due to long delays for score submissions, upload a copy of your PDF score report and attach it as a miscellaneous document to your application.** The required minimum TOEFL score is 80 on the internet-based test with a minimum in the following areas: writing 18, speaking 18, listening 14, and reading 19 to be admitted to the Graduate School. We accept the IELTS with a minimum band score of 6.5 (with a minimum in the following areas: writing 5.5, speaking 6.0, listening 6.0, and reading 6.5). The required minimum Duolingo score is 115 (with a minimum score of 115 in each area). The Graduate School will routinely waive the TOEFL/IELTS for applicants who have received a baccalaureate degree or graduate or professional degree, within the last 36 months, from a school where English is the primary language of instruction in a country/location where English is the native language. For further details, visit this page: [English Proficiency Requirements - Office of the Vice Provost for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars - Purdue University](#)
- c) **Personal History Statement.** Required of all applicants:
 - Describe how your background and life experiences contribute to your ability to be both persistent and resourceful in your graduate studies.
 - Describe how your life experiences have prepared you to contribute to an academic community where scholars with diverse research interests, abilities, backgrounds, and experiences are supported, respected, and valued.
- d) **Statement of Purpose** should be approximately 500 words concerning your purpose for undertaking or continuing graduate study, your reasons for wanting to study at Purdue, and your research interests, professional plans, and career goals. You also may explain any special circumstances applicable to your background and elaborate on your scholarly publications, awards, achievements, abilities, and/or professional history.
- e) **Writing samples** in English and in the language you wish to study. A term paper or a

part of a thesis would make a good sample. The ideal length from the writing samples is around 12-15 pages, double-spaced with 12-point font (Times New Roman, Arial, or other standard academic style).

- f) **Résumé** that highlights relevant work experience, skills, and previous education and training.
- g) **Transcript(s) and academic document(s)** (diploma and/or graduate certificates) for every institution of higher education you have attended. If your transcript is not in English, you must upload an English translation certified by the college or university which issued it. The uploaded transcript and/or academic document must be from the official version of the document. An official transcript bears the original signature of the registrar and/or the original seal of the issuing institution. All transcripts and/or academic documents uploaded to the online application system are considered **UNOFFICIAL**.

Note: You should not use ChatGPT or other generative AI technologies for any part of your personal history statement, statement of purpose, or writing samples for this application.

- 2. Send both the transcripts and the English translations of them to the address below, or they may be mailed directly from a university registrar's office to Purdue's Office of Graduate Admissions.

Official documents may be mailed to:

Purdue University
Office of Graduate Admissions
155 South Grant Street
Young Hall, Room 170
West Lafayette, IN 47907

3. Upload an audio file containing a speaking sample in English and in the language you wish to study to your application. **Please use spontaneous speech; in other words, speak naturally and freely, and do not read from a written text! Speak for 2 to 3 minutes in each language on a topic of your choice (e.g. self-introduction, your purpose and motivations for continuing with graduate studies).** UPLOADING can be done by editing the "Portfolio" section of your Slate application, directly under the "Application Checklist." Clicking on "Edit Portfolio" takes you to the "Upload Instructions." There is a list of what audio files will be accepted. Reading the instructions should answer any questions you might have.

- 4. Pay the [Application Fee](#) by the due date which for programs in the School of Languages and Cultures is **DECEMBER 1**.

Revised July, 2025