

## **Additional Requirements for International Applicants**

*Foreign nationals must meet the following additional requirements to satisfy visa eligibility:*

### **Passport**

International applicants must submit a photocopy of the name/photo page of their passport showing their image and the correct spelling of their name.

### **English Language Proficiency Requirements**

A strong command of the English language is essential to a student's success at Willamette University College of Law. To that end, Willamette requires that students demonstrate English language proficiency. Proficiency may be demonstrated through any **one** of the following methods.

- **International Applicants Whose Native Language is English**  
Applicants who are fluent in English because it is their first language, need not take any further action to demonstrate proficiency. This includes, but is not limited to, applicants who are from Canada, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, and New Zealand.
- **International JD Applicants Who Have Scored Satisfactorily on the LSAT**  
JD applicants who have completed the Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and achieved a score sufficient to gain academic admission need not take any further action to demonstrate proficiency.
- **International Applicants Who Have Completed English Proficiency Tests**  
Applicants may take either the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) exam and achieve one of the following minimum scores:
  - IELTS - 6.5
  - TOEFL iBT - 88
  - TOEFL PBT - 570
- **International Applicants Who Have Completed an ESL Program**  
Applicants may demonstrate proficiency by successfully completing the highest level of an accredited English language program. Official transcripts must be submitted.
- **International Applicants Who Have Studied or Worked in English-Speaking Institutions**  
Applicants may request a waiver of the English language proficiency requirements if they have previously studied in an English-speaking academic institution, or have used English extensively in their professional work. Applicants seeking a waiver must provide a formal letter requesting such an exemption, as well as evidence of English

language competence such as submission of a legal research paper, memorandum of law to a client or law partner, legal brief, or legal article.

- **Applicants Who Successfully Complete an English Language Interview/Evaluation**  
Applicants who do not satisfy one of the methods above may be invited to complete an English language interview to supplement the proficiency requirements listed above. The interviewer will document and evaluate the applicant's responses to each questions, assigning the answer a score pursuant to the [Independent Speaking Rubric](#). The scores for each question will be averaged. An applicant whose average score is 3 or higher will be deemed as having English language proficiency.

#### **Financial Requirements**

Applicants must be able to show they have sufficient resources to fund educational and living expenses for **one year** of the three-year JD program and provide the following:

- A completed [Statement of Financial Responsibility form](#)
- Official bank verification of funds (written in English), showing that you and/or your sponsor have sufficient resources to cover educational and living expenses for **one year** of the JD program, *or*
- A financial guarantee letter from any government scholarship you have been awarded.

All appropriate documentation must be sent by admitted students and received and approved by the College of Law before the school will send the applicant an I-20 (Application for Student Visa).