Mentored Study in Entrepreneurship Program

Language Proficiency Clearance Process

All students admitted to the Fuqua School of Business MBA program have superior academic records, significant achievements in their working careers, and demonstrated ability with the English language. However, because of the unique oral and written communication demands involved with part-time internships, the MSP has established a language proficiency prerequisite for all participants. The level of proficiency required is higher than that used in admission decisions. This memo describes the process used to satisfy the prerequisite.

All students who attend the Language Institute must complete the language proficiency clearance process. In addition, any student who does not satisfy one of more of the following four criteria will be required to complete the clearance process:

1. U.S. citizenship;
2. citizenship of any country where English is the first language (i.e., Canada, U.K., Australia, New Zealand, India, Singapore);
3. a four year undergraduate degree from a U.S. college or university; and/or
4. full-time employment in the U.S. for not less than three years.

Students should contact the Management Communication Center (MCC) to initiate the clearance process. The normal sequence will be as follows:

1. Certain students may receive a waiver from the formal oral test (but not the written test) by the MCC based on a student’s performance in MCC courses, a student’s personal interactions with MCC faculty, or any other basis deemed appropriate by the MCC in its sole discretion; or,

2. A student may take the Versant Test of English, a professionally prepared oral skills evaluation. A score of 70 or higher has been established as satisfactory. The test takes very little time and is free to students. It will be administered only on-site by the MCC; and, results with comprehensive feedback will be available to both the student and the MCC;

3. A student who achieves a Versant Test of English score of 70+ will be given a brief Oral Proficiency Interview conducted by the MCC; and,

4. All students who satisfy the oral clearance process will be asked to prepare a writing sample for evaluation by a member the Fuqua faculty.

5. Upon a student’s satisfactory completion of the oral and written screening process, the MCC will certify to the MSP that the student has obtained clearance and may participate in the internship program.

If you have any questions about this policy, please contact either Jim Sheldon (929-3688) or Janet Maceda (660-7867).