Proposed New Admission Category for International Students
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Currently, for unconditional admission international students must have:

1. GPA >= 3.0
2. Admission test score meeting minimum requirements (i.e. GRE >= 300)
3. TOEFL (>=79) or IELTS (>=6.5)

If GPA OR admission test score are below above minimums, applicant can receive conditional admission.
If GPA AND admission test score are below minimums, department petitions for conditional admission (know as “double-stamped application).
If TOEFL/IELTS is below minimum, student can get “provisional language admission”. Student must take ELI classes or get a passing TOEFL/IELTS before they can register for grad classes. In some cases a student can get permission to register for one class.

Issues:

- A student who has not received a good grade on the TOEFL/IELTS exam will not do well in the, for example, GRE exam.
- We are missing out on enrolling international students who are actually very accomplished academically, but who cannot get a good GRE score.
- There are also cultural issues with the GRE exam - the exam format is not a common one elsewhere in the world.
- There are accessibility issues in third world countries, and those with poor resources (for example, due to recent conflicts).
- We are missing out on a large number of scholarship students, particularly from the Middle East and South America. These included emerging markets for graduate enrollment.
- There is confusion with terminology - the federal government definition of conditional admission is equivalent to our definition of provisional language admission.
- UA is behind the curve in facilitating the enrollment of the growing number of fully funded international scholarship students.

Solution:

Create a new admission category (named conditional admission, renaming our current conditional admission to provisional admission)

- Applicant can be admitted without an admission test score (i.e. GRE) and TOEFL/IELTS.
- Applicant is admitted on the condition that she/he:
  - Enrolls in the ELI and meets ELI requirements and/or passes the TOEFL exam.
  - While enrolled in the ELI takes the admission test (if not already taken) and receives an admissible score (i.e. 300 for the GRE).
- Departmental participation is optional.

Notes:

Other peer schools have developed similar admission categories to facilitate the recruitment of
fully-funded international students. These include (per Bill Wallace):

- Clemson (http://www.grad.clemson.edu/els_conditional.php)
- University of Florida (http://graduateschool.ufl.edu/personnel-and-policy/eli-conditional-admission
- DePaul University
- Eastern Washington University
- Iowa State University
- Ohio University
- Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
- SUNY Albany
- University of Iowa
- University of Kansas
- University of South Carolina
- University of Southern California
- West Virginia University
- Western Michigan University

Inside Higher Education Article: http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/01/03/conditional-admission-and-pathway-programs-proliferate#.UnPLsXkeMCw.email