



South Carolina State University

English Proficiency Exam

What is the English Proficiency Exam?

The English Proficiency Exam (EPE) is a graduation requirement for every SC State undergraduate student. This exam demonstrates that students have proficiency in the English language and the objectives covered in the Freshman English courses (E 150 and E 151).

Who has to take it?

All undergraduates must pass the EPE in order to graduate.

Can I be exempt from the exam?

If you have passed the writing portion of Praxis I, the ACT or the SAT, you can exempt the EPE. Please bring your exam results to the English Department office in Turner Hall (201B) to validate your exemption.

When do I take the exam?

If you are a student who is currently enrolled in E 151, your instructor will notify you of the exam dates for the course.

If you are a transfer student, or if you have already completed E 151 but have not taken the EPE, the exam is offered in the fall and spring. Check with the English Department office for exam dates at the [beginning](#) of each semester. **You must register for EPC 111 (English Proficiency Exam) to take the exam.**

How do I register for the exam?

If you are a student who is currently enrolled in E 151, you should also be enrolled in EPC 111 (English Proficiency Exam), and thus you are already registered for the exam.

If you are a transfer student, or if you have not taken the EPE, you need to contact the English and Modern Languages office at (803) 536-7016 or (803) 536-8808 to register for EPC 111 to take the exam.

What is on the exam?

The English Proficiency Exam contains three parts.

1. The Speech portion is administered by the Speech Pathology and Audiology Department.
2. The Grammar portion is a multiple choice exam. Topics include: fragments, run-ons, comma splices, punctuation (commas, colons, semi-colons, end-punctuation), pronoun-antecedent agreement, subject-verb agreement, rhetorical context, and citation.
3. The Essay portion is a timed essay that employs the modes of writing covered in E 150.

What if I did not take entire exam?

If you did not complete both the Grammar and Essay portions of the exam, you must repeat the entire exam.

What happens if I do not pass the exam?

If you do not pass the EPE, you must enroll in E 152 (Practical English).

Whom do I contact if I have questions?

If you have questions about the English Proficiency Exam, please contact the English and Modern Languages office. We are located in 201 B Turner Hall. You can reach us by phone at (803) 536-7016.