



Overview of IEP Levels

ILI's Intensive English Program (IEP) helps students whose native language is not English make the transition to undergraduate and graduate programs and professional work both in and outside of the United States.

The IEP runs in consecutive 4-week sessions 47 weeks a year. The weekly schedule consists of 21 hours a week (Monday to Friday 9:00-12:00 and Monday to Thursday 1:00-2:30).

The IEP bases its 6 levels on the internationally recognized Common European Framework (CEFR). IEP curriculum and materials dovetail with CEFR learning objectives and sequencing. IEP instructors utilize the rubric to assess proficiency, measure progress, and provide feedback. This feedback is delivered to students via daily error correction, weekly Monday Homework Folder comments, monthly Student Progress Reports, and monthly one-on-one student/instructor conferences.

IEP/CEFR Level	TOEFL iBT Score	IELTS Score	Estimated length of study from the beginning to the end of a level
A1 (Elementary)	0-15	0-1.5	2-3 months
A2 (Upper Elementary)	15-40	1.5-3	3-4 months
B1 (Intermediate)	40-70	3-5	5-6 months
B2 (Upper Intermediate)	70-95	5-6.5	8-9 months
C1 (Advanced)	95-110	6.5-8.5	12-14 months
C2 (Proficiency)	110-120	8.5-9	Not applicable

Note: Students in the Academic Pathways Program receive a recommendation for an ILI Partner School upon achieving Competency in B2, which correlates approximately to TOEFL iBT 80+ and IELTS 6.5+.

The IEP approach is based on Jim Cummins' theory of English proficiency. According to Cummins, there are two kinds of English proficiency: Basic Interpersonal Conversational Skills (BICS) and Cognitive Academic Language Proficiency (CALP). Levels A1-2 focus mainly on BICS and functional English for everyday survival and social situations, dealing with familiar topics. Levels B1-B2 focus on both BICS and CALP, English for academic and professional situations, working with unfamiliar topics and authentic materials in increasing depth and detail. Levels C1-C2 focus mainly on CALP and authentic materials.

ILI's classes consist of 70-80% speaking in class, which is important to foster individual language production. Building on classroom activities, written homework assignments afford both guided structure and self-directed freedom. Students develop not only academic skills to succeed in college, but also communication skills to be successful in their local community or campus. Students work towards becoming fluent in both the language and culture in which they study, work, and live.

Each incoming student is assessed by a 45-minute BESTEL grammar test, 45-minute writing sample, and a 10-15 minute oral interview, utilizing the 6-level IEP/CEFR rubric. Ongoing assessment is undertaken through daily classwork, weekly homework portfolios, and monthly progress reports. Students who demonstrate Satisfactory Participation and Satisfactory Progress are awarded a Certificate of Completion.

Students with questions and concerns about their progress, coursework, and ILI policies may schedule an appointment with the IEP Coordinator every Wednesday and Friday, 2:30-4:00.

ILI is accredited by ACCET (Accrediting Council for Continuing Education and Training) and IALC (International Association of Language Centres).