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Proficiency Exam Guide

Students who apply for LFI for grades 1 through 12 must pass a proficiency exam in order to be eligible for enrollment, unless the student has attended a school accredited by the French Ministry of Education. You can find the list of schools accredited by the French Ministry of Education worldwide [here](#).

Exam Waiver Requirements

Students who wish to have the testing requirement waived must prove the following:

- If entering 1st grade, 1 year of attendance in a French-accredited school
- If entering 2nd grade, 2 years of attendance in a French-accredited school
- If entering 3rd grade and beyond, at least 2 years of attendance in a French-accredited school with passing grades

Families should submit report cards reflective of the required time period to admissions@lfn.org. Report cards must include all grades earned and show attendance over 80%. If the report card does not list attendance, this information may be provided in a separate document.

Alternatively, students entering 6th grade may provide DELF A2 certificates, and students entering 9th grade may provide DELF B1 certificates. The minimum acceptable DELF score is 70%.

Testing Procedure

Each proficiency test assesses the following components: oral comprehension (listening), written comprehension (reading), oral production (speaking), and written production (writing). The content is grade-level specific, and topics are familiar to students. Students entering grades 3 through 12 must pass a written exam with a minimum score of 60% before being offered an oral exam. Students entering grades 1 and 2 test in a single session.

Exam duration varies by grade level:

1st Grade	2nd Grade	3rd-5th Grades	6th-7th Grades	8th-9th Grades	10th-11th Grades
20-30mn	30-40mn	45-75mn	50-80mn	60-90mn	80-120mn

The expectations per grade level are as follows:

Grade	Oral comprehension (Listening)	Written comprehension (Reading)	Written production (Writing)	Oral production (Speaking)
1st	Understand basic questions and instructions related to daily school tasks in French	(Pre-reading skills) Be able to name the letters of the alphabet and recognize very common French words used on daily basis in a school setting	Write name in cursive	Answer basic questions about self and school activities in French
2nd	Understand basic instructions related to daily school tasks and understand a story read aloud in French	(Pre-reading/reading) Read letters, sounds, and a few sentences in French Read a text out loud in French	Be able to write letters, sounds, and very simple sentences in French	Answer basic questions about self and school activities in French
3rd	Understand common instructions and tasks related to schoolwork in French	Read a grade-level specific text (about 100-150 words) in French and answer questions about it Read a text out loud in French	Be able to spell dictated common French words Write a short story of 4-5 sentences in French.	Answer basic questions about self, school activities, and describe an image in French.
4th	Listen to a text read out loud (100-150 words) in French and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text (about 150-200 words) in French and answer questions about it Read a text out loud in French	Write a short text of 5-7 sentences in French	Answer basic questions about self, family, hobbies, and school activities in French Explain an answer in French

5th	Watch a short video in French (about 2 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text (150-200 words) and answer questions about it in French Read a text out loud	Write a short text of 6-8 sentences in French	Answer basic questions about self, family, hobbies, and school activities. Explain an answer
6th	Watch a short video in French (about 3 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text in French and answer questions about it. Read a text out loud	Write a short text of 8-10 sentences in French	Answer questions about self, family, hobbies, and school activities Explain an answer or a reasoning

7th	Watch a short video in French (about 3 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text in French and answer questions about it. Read a text out loud	Write an argumentative text of 10-15 sentences in French	Talk about self, family, hobbies, and school activities with a short prompt Explain an answer or a reasoning
8th	Watch a short video in French (about 3 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text in French and answer questions about it Read a text out loud	Write an argumentative text of 10-15 sentences in French	Talk about self, family, hobbies, school activities, past and future events with a short prompt Explain an answer or a reasoning
9th	Watch a short video in French (about 3 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text in French and answer questions about it Read a text out loud	Write an argumentative text of 100-120 words in French	Talk about self, family, hobbies, school activities, past and future events with a short prompt Explain an answer or a reasoning
10th	Watch a short video in French (about 3 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text in French and answer questions about it Read a text out loud	Write an argumentative text of 120-150 words in French	Talk about self, family, hobbies, news events, and career goals with a short prompt Explain an answer or a reasoning

11th	Watch a short video in French (about 3 minutes) and answer questions about it	Read a grade-level specific text in French and answer questions about it Read a text out loud	Write an argumentative text of 150-180 words in French	Talk about self, family, hobbies, news events, and career goals with a short prompt Explain an answer or a reasoning
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Test results are communicated to families via email within 5 business days after the test date. If students need special accommodations, families must provide documentation (i.e. IEP or 504 plan) at least one week prior to the test date. Any questions or concerns regarding testing may be directed to admissions@lfno.org