ETS Proficiency Profile

What is the Proficiency Profile?
Every freshman at UIS is now required to take the ETS Proficiency Profile, formerly called MAPP. The Proficiency Profile assesses four core skill areas — critical thinking, reading, writing and mathematics. The Profile is composed by Educational Testing Services of Princeton, NJ and is a nationally normed test used by University of Illinois Springfield to assess the skills of students at the beginning of their college careers. During the 2011-12 academic year, UIS will also begin testing seniors to determine their skills as they exit college. For more information on the Proficiency Profile, go to http://www.ets.org/proficiencyprofile/about.

When will I take the Proficiency Profile and how long will it take?
Freshmen will take the Proficiency Profile during Freshman Welcome on Friday, August 20, 2010. All freshmen are required to take the profile, and students will use their I-Cards to verify their attendance. Students who fail to take the Profile may have holds placed on their accounts. The test takes about two hours. Students who finish early should plan to stay the whole time and should spend extra time rechecking answers.

Why does UIS require the ETS Proficiency Profile test of all students entering as freshmen?
The ETS Proficiency Profile is designed for colleges and universities to assess their general education outcomes to improve the quality of instruction and learning. It focuses on the academic skills developed through core curriculum courses rather than on the content knowledge acquired in these courses. We test you at the beginning of your college career so that we can compare the skills levels of freshmen with those of seniors. That helps us evaluate how much students at UIS learn during the time spent at college. Your participation will provide valuable information on general education skills that you possess and assist the university in continuing to improve for all our students.

Why is it important for me to do well on the ETS Proficiency Profile (MAPP)?
Your results are not used by the University as a graduation requirement. Scoring well on the ETS Proficiency Profile (MAPP) is important because the group scores for UIS are compared with national peers. The prestige of your degree will be impacted through national recognition based on UIS performance.

Do I have to pay for the ETS Proficiency Profile (MAPP) test?
No, UIS pays the examination fee.

Do I need to study for the ETS Proficiency Profile (MAPP) test?
No. There is no material to study or preparation needed for this test.

How is the test formatted?
The web based ETS Proficiency Profile (MAPP) test consists of a set of multiple choice questions that measure college-level reading, writing, critical thinking and mathematics skills.

Is the ETS Proficiency Profile test difficult?
Students are most surprised by the amount of reading involved. Students do not need calculators to complete the math problems. Answer every question. Your score is based on the number of questions you answer correctly. There is no penalty for guessing.

Will I get my scores?
Yes, test completers will receive individual test scores from academic advisors. UIS maintains all ETS Proficiency Profile results in the Office of Institutional Research and the Office of Undergraduate Education to ensure confidentiality and security. You may contact us at 217-206-7413 if you have questions about our policies.