Admission to the University

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Admission of International Students

The University of Mississippi welcomes the enrollment of qualified international students. Any applicant who does not hold U.S. citizenship, regardless of where he or she resides, is considered “international” and must check “international student” on his or her online application.

International students fall into the following categories:

- **Degree-seeking students:** Applicants intending to enroll in an academic degree program, applying for “conditional admission,” or intending to take courses in preparation for a graduate degree program or for personal enrichment.
- **Exchange, visiting, pre-college programs, etc., students:** See http://www.outreach.olemiss.edu/international/ for information on requirements for admission as a non-degree-seeking student.
- **Intensive English Language (IEP) students:** See http://www.outreach.olemiss.edu/iep/ for information on requirements for admission as an English language learner.

Application Forms, Fees, and Deadlines

International students interested in undergraduate admission must apply online at http://www.international.olemiss.edu/apply.html. A nonrefundable application fee of $50 (subject to change) must accompany the online application. Applications submitted without this fee will not be processed. International applicants are strongly encouraged to apply for admission no later than six months prior to their desired enrollment term. The application deadlines are April 1 for fall term admission and October 1 for spring term admission. Applications received after the stated application deadlines will be considered on a space-available basis. (Fall term begins in mid-August; spring term begins in mid-January.)

Requirements and Criteria for International Admission

The documents required to accompany the online form and application fee, and the criteria for admission to a degree program, depend on the applicant’s classification and on where he/she has received his/her previous education.

**Classification**

International Freshman: An international applicant who has completed the equivalent of 12 years or more of elementary and secondary schooling based on his/her country’s educational system and who has never attended a college or university.

International Transfer: An international applicant who has already completed course work at the higher education level (college or university), including a person who holds a bachelor’s degree or its equivalent from an accredited college or university and who is interested in taking additional undergraduate course work.

Location of Prior Education:

Abroad: The secondary school from which the freshman applicant graduated, or the college or university from which the transfer applicant is transferring, is outside the U.S. U.S.-outside Mississippi: The high school from which the freshman applicant has graduated, or the college or university from which the transfer applicant is transferring, is located within the U.S. but outside the state of Mississippi. Mississippi: The high school from which the freshman applicant has graduated, or the college or university from which the transfer applicant is transferring, is located within the state of Mississippi.

International Freshman/Transfer applicants graduating from a secondary school or transferring from a college or university abroad must provide the following items and meet the following criteria. Submit in hard-copy format to the Office of Admissions:

- Official or officially certified transcripts and degree certificates:
  - **Freshman:**
    - Official English language transcripts from secondary school(s) attended; degree certificate if already graduated
    - Evidence of college preparatory curriculum, achieving a minimum 3.00 cumulative high school grade-point average on a 4.00 scale (or its equivalent)
    - SAT/ACT is not required
  - **Transfer:**
    - Official English language transcripts from all colleges and universities attended; degree certificate if already graduated
    - Minimum 2.50 cumulative college or university grade-point average on a 4.00 scale (or its equivalent)
    - Transcripts and degree certificates from secondary school(s) required of those who have completed fewer than 30 credits (or the equivalent of one year of full-time enrollment) at a college or university
- Copy of passport identification pages, if available, to help ensure accuracy of name and birth date.
- Affidavit of Financial Support if intending to hold F-1 or J-1 visa status. Although not required for admission, submitting the affidavit with other application materials expedites the admissions/enrollment processes.

The University of Mississippi is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award certificates and baccalaureate, master’s, specialist, and doctoral degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097, call 404-679-4500, or visit online at www.sacscoc.org for questions about the accreditation.

http://catalog.olemiss.edu/2018/fall/undergraduate/admission/international-students
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http://catalog.olemiss.edu/2019/fall/undergraduate/admission/international-students

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of, one of a group of countries listed on the English Language Test Requirement exemption list (see http://www.international.olemiss.edu/internationaladmissions.html).

Applicants with English proficiency scores that are lower than the above minima may be admitted as follows:

- Applicants with scores of 69-78 TOEFL IBT; 5:50 IELTS; or 47-52 PTE-A may be admitted but are required to enroll in IE 090 English for International Students and IE 091 Academic Writing Lab for International Students during their first term of enrollment at the university and, if necessary, in subsequent terms until they complete the courses successfully.
- Students who lack an acceptable English proficiency score and who wish to be considered for an exemption from the IE 090/IE 091 requirement may choose to take the English Placement Test upon arrival at the university. The English Placement Test is offered by the university's ETS Computer-Based Testing (CBT) Center. The IE 090/IE 091 requirement is waived for international students who score at least 80 on the English Placement Test. The cost of the English Placement Test is the responsibility of the test taker.
- Conditional admission may be granted to applicants with English proficiency scores below 69 TOEFL IBT; 5:50 IELTS; 47 PTE-A who meet all other requirements for undergraduate admission, provided that they submit a written request to the Office of International Programs and ask for "Conditional Admission status." Students granted conditional admission will be permitted to enroll in undergraduate academic courses only after demonstrating satisfactory English language proficiency as required for unconditional admission (see above).

Please note that admission to the University of Mississippi’s Intensive English Language Program requires a separate application process in addition to the application process for conditional undergraduate admission (see http://www.outreach.olemiss.edu/iep/index.html).

**Estimated Costs**

The estimated minimum cost of attending the University of Mississippi for each 12-month period may be found at www.international.olemiss.edu. Costs include tuition (including base tuition and nonresident fees), the international student service fee, anticipated health insurance costs, and the estimated costs for housing, meals, and books.

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services requires international applicants who intend to hold F-1 or J-1 status to provide evidence of solvency to meet the estimated costs (as set by the university) of at least the first year of study prior to the issuance of Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant [F-1] Student Status for Academic and Language Study) or Form DS-2019 (Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor [J-1] Status). Evidence of solvency must be provided as part of the Affidavit of Financial Support.

**International Student Scholarships**

Please contact the Office of International Programs for information on scholarships for international undergraduate students, or see http://www.international.olemiss.edu/finaidcurrent.html.

**Health Insurance for International Students**

The University of Mississippi requires all international students who hold a temporary nonimmigrant status and who enroll in academic courses to have adequate health insurance coverage. Therefore, all international students, with the exception of those with H-1 status, will be automatically enrolled in the university-contracted student health insurance policy upon their registration for university courses for fall and spring semesters, with the cost of such policy subsequently added to each student's bursar bill. The policy includes health/medical insurance coverage as well as medical evacuation and repatriation of remains in the event of a medical emergency or death. Exemptions to the health insurance policy will be considered on the basis of pre-stated conditions on a case-by-case basis. For further information, please contact the Office of International Programs, or see http://www.international.olemiss.edu/healthinsurancecurrent.html.

**Intensive English Program**

The Intensive English Program (IEP) provides English language instruction for international students who wish to study at the University of Mississippi or other institutions in the United States. The IEP offers core classes in speaking and listening, reading, writing, and grammar at six different ability levels as well as content-based courses such as American Culture, Intercultural Communication, and Pronunciation. Full-time students are registered for 12 and 18 hours of non-degree credit. The IEP also offers a non-credit TOEFL preparation course for an additional fee. In addition to its academic program, the IEP plans and offers cultural activities as well as encourages its students to participate in on- and off-campus events. The program follows the university semester schedule and includes two one-month sessions in the summer. Special shorter programs are available. Arrangements for these must be made in advance with the program coordinator.

IEP students are considered to be international students and are subject to all regulations and fees pertaining to international students. Application forms are available from the Intensive English Program as well as from the Office of International Programs. Attending the IEP does not guarantee admission into an academic program at the University of Mississippi. Tuition and book fees for the Intensive English Program are listed in the Fees and Expenses section.