

Undergraduate Admissions

Florida International University encourages and accepts applications from qualified applicants without regard to gender, physical handicap, cultural, racial, religious, or ethnic background or association.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students interested in applying can do so via the following methods:

Application Online

Students with internet access can apply online by visiting FIU's website at <http://admissions.fiu.edu> for application and instructions. A valid credit card is required for submitting online applications. A \$30.00 nonrefundable fee (U.S. dollar) will be charged for each online application.

Admissions Tuition Deposit

An admissions deposit of \$200 is required of all admitted students to secure their place in the class and is applied to the student's tuition. The deposit is considered a pre-payment on tuition and is non-refundable in accordance with the FIU Board of Trustees regulations. If a student chooses not to enroll after submitting the deposit, it is forfeited and administered in accordance with the applicable Board of Governors' regulations or law.

Paper Application

FIU uses a common institutional application form for all undergraduate programs. This application can be downloaded from <http://admissions.fiu.edu>. A \$30.00 non-refundable application fee (U.S. dollars) made payable to Florida International University must accompany applications submitted.

All credentials and documents submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions become the property of Florida International University. Originals will not be returned to the applicant or forwarded to another institution.

FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

In addition to the application, the following credentials are required:

1. Official secondary school transcripts and appropriate test scores: Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Test (ACT). All official transcripts, test scores, and any other required credentials must be received directly from the issuing agencies, and forwarded to P.O. Box 659003, Miami, FL. 33265-9003. It is the applicant's responsibility to initiate the request for credentials to the issuing agencies and to assure their receipt by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.
2. Proof of graduation from an accredited secondary school must be submitted.
3. Eighteen academic units in college preparatory courses are required as follows:

English	4
Mathematics	3
Natural Science	3
Social Science	3
Foreign Languages ¹	2

Academic Electives² 3

¹Two units in the same foreign language are required.

²Academic Electives are from the fields of mathematics, English, natural science, social science, and a foreign language. The academic grade point average will be computed only on the units listed above. Grades in honors courses, International Baccalaureate (IB), and advanced placement (AP) courses will be given additional weight.

Freshman admission decisions are made based on the student's strong academic preparation. Competition for placement in the freshman class is the result of the quality and extent of the applicant pool.

Applicants who do not meet the above criteria will be reviewed by the Admissions Review Committee. Those who show potential in areas not easily evaluated by standardized tests can be considered for admission under the Profile Assessment Rule.

Students who apply to majors in Theatre and Music, must meet University academic standards and receive the approval of the respective department through an audition. Students should contact the specific department for audition dates.

TRANSFER APPLICANTS

Degree seeking applicants with fewer than 60 semester hours of transfer credits must meet the same requirements as beginning freshmen. In addition, they must demonstrate satisfactory performance in their college work.

Applicants who receive an Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree from a Florida Public Community College or State University in Florida will be considered for admission without restriction except for published limited access programs within the University.

All other applicants from Florida Public Community Colleges or State Universities in Florida who do not hold an Associate in Arts degree (A.A.) must have completed 60 semester hours of transferable credit, have a minimum grade point average of 2.0, and achieve the competencies of the CLAS requirement.

Students transferring from independent Florida and out-of-state colleges into the University's upper division must have maintained a minimum 2.0 grade point average based upon a 4.0 scale.

Coursework transferred or accepted for credit toward an undergraduate degree must be completed at an institution accredited as degree-granting by a regional accrediting body or at an institution accredited as degree granting by a national accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education that participates in the statewide course numbering system at the time the coursework was completed. Each academic department reserves the right to determine how transfer credits may be applied to satisfy the specific requirements for the major and/or degree. Students must contact their academic department to obtain any additional requirements needed for their program of study.

All applicants must meet the criteria published for limited access programs and should consult the specific college and major for requirements.

Applicants who meet the above admissions requirements, but have not completed the University's core curriculum requirements, or the prerequisites of their proposed major, may complete this college work at FIU, or at any other accredited institution. Students may also fulfill

general education requirements through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP).

Official transcripts from all previous post secondary institutions must be forwarded to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Students are responsible for initiating this request.

Transfer applicants from the FL public institutions (community/state colleges) are encouraged to visit FACTS.org for additional information regarding the transfer process, including, but not limited to, program graduation requirements, transfer agreements, A.A. transfer evaluation (degree/advising audit), and common prerequisites (Common Prerequisite Manual).

All students seeking admission to the University regardless of whether the student holds an A.A., must have completed two years of credit in one foreign language at the high school level or 8-10 credits in one foreign language at the college level (American Sign Language is acceptable). If a student is admitted to the University without this requirement, the credits must be completed prior to graduation.

Students who can demonstrate continuous enrollment in a degree program at a SUS institution or Florida Community College since Fall Term 1989 (continuous enrollment is defined by the state to be the completion of at least one course per academic year) can be exempt from this requirement. Students holding an A.A. degree from a Florida Community College or SUS institution prior to Fall Term 1989 will also be exempt.

Students who are applying to majors in Theatre and Music, in addition to meeting university academic standards, must meet the approval of the respective department through an audition. Students should contact the department for audition dates.

Admission decisions will not be made before the application is completed and all supporting documents are on file in the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Applications are kept on file for one year from the anticipated entrance date.

Admission to the University is a selective process and satisfying the general requirements does not guarantee acceptance.

LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAMS

A limited access program utilizes selective admission to limit program enrollment. Limited access status is justified where student demand exceeds available resources such as faculty, instructional facilities, equipment, or specific accrediting requirements. Criteria for selective admission include indicators of ability, performance, creativity, or talent to complete required work within the program. Florida community college transfer students with Associate in Arts degrees are given equal consideration with FIU students. Admission to such programs is governed by the Articulation Agreement and the Florida Board of Education rules.

The following current FIU programs have been designated as limited access:

- Accounting*
- Business Administration*
- Communication*
- Dietetics and Nutrition
- Health Services Administration*
- Hospitality Management*
- Music*

- Nursing
- Social Work*
- Theatre*

**Pending 2010 BOG approval*

INTERNATIONAL APPLICANTS

International student applicants must meet the admission requirements of the University as described in the previous sections and comply with the following:

Academic Records

International University-level Transcripts require a course by course evaluation, with a calculated U.S. equivalent grade point average, through a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (**NACES**) Organization. Visit their website: <http://www.naces.org/members.htm>. Official evaluations must be forwarded directly to FIU from the evaluation service. One exception to this policy exists: Chinese language transcripts from Tianjin University of Commerce will be evaluated by FIU staff for admission to the Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management.

Proficiency in English

Applicants whose native language is not English and who have not taken any college level English courses, must present a minimum score of 500 paper-based and a minimum score of 173 computer-based or a 63 internet based (iBT) minimum score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), or a minimum of 3 on the Advanced Placement International English Language Examination (APIEL).

Declaration and Certification of Finances

Upon receipt of the application for admission, the Declaration and Certification of Finances will be mailed to the applicant. It must be completed and returned to the Office of Admissions. A Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20A) will be issued once the applicant has been found admissible to the University.

The University is required by immigration authorities to carefully check the financial resources of each applicant prior to issuing the Form I-20A. Therefore, it is important that applicants are aware of the cost of attending the University and have the necessary financial support for the period of enrollment. Applicants should refer to the Annual Estimate of Cost Chart in this catalog.

The total funds available for the student for the first or second academic year, or both, must equal the total estimate of institutional costs and living expenses. All items in the Declaration and Certification of Finances must be accurately answered to avoid unnecessary delay in processing. This document along with proof of sufficient funds must be received by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions two months prior to the anticipated entry date.

Refer to the Annual Estimate of Cost table for more information. A married student should plan on an additional \$6,000 in costs to cover the living expenses of a spouse.

A couple with children should anticipate further yearly additional costs of no less than \$4,000 for each child.

Medical Insurance

The State of Florida requires that all international students maintain health insurance coverage to help defray the costs in case of catastrophic medical emergency. The policy must provide specific levels of coverage which have been established to ensure that the policy is adequate to provide for costs at U.S. hospitals, usually much higher than costs in many other parts of the world. In addition, a policy must have a claims agent in the United States who may be contacted by medical providers and who facilitates prompt payment of claims. The University has approved a plan which meets the state requirements and which meets the needs of most students; however, a student on F status may select alternate coverage provided it meets the state requirements for minimal coverage. A copy of these requirements is available at International Student and Scholar Services Office. Students are advised not to purchase insurance policies prior to arrival without verifying that the policies meet FIU/State University System (SUS) requirements. Students in J status are required by the United States Information Agency to maintain health insurance coverage for themselves and their dependents for the full length of their program. Florida International University requires students on J status sponsored by FIU to purchase the University approved medical insurance plan for themselves and their dependents. Compliance with the insurance regulation is required prior to registration.

Priority Consideration

Due to the additional processing time required for international students, application and supporting documents should be submitted as early as possible. We recommend the following time frames - February 1st if you are applying for the summer semester, April 1st if you are applying for the fall semester, and September 1st if you are applying for the spring semester.

If the application and supporting documents are not received within the appropriate time, the application for admissions will be considered for the following term.

Tuition

An international student is considered a non-resident and is assessed non-resident fees. Immigration regulations require an international student to attend school each fall and spring semester. An undergraduate student is required to take a minimum of twelve credit hours per semester. Please refer to the section on Student Fees and Student Accounts for more information.

SCHOLARSHIPS

FIU recognizes students who are academically, artistically, and athletically talented and encourages them to apply. The University awards several full and partial scholarships.

See Website for detailed scholarship information, <http://admissions.fiu.edu>.