

Undergraduate Admissions

Florida International University encourages and accepts freshman (FTIC) and transfer applications without regard to gender, physical handicap, cultural, racial, religious, ethnic background, or association.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students interested in applying can do so using the instructions below:

Application Online

The admissions application to FIU is only available online at <http://admissions.fiu.edu>. A \$30.00 non-refundable fee (U.S. dollar) will be charged for the application. Applicants may pay the \$30 application fee by credit card when applying or send a check, money order, or fee waiver (College Board/ACT) to P.O. Box 659003, Miami, FL 33265-9003.

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.

Undergraduate Admission Deadlines and Priority Dates

Admission to FIU is selective and space is limited for each term. Applications and supporting applicant materials received after the priority deadline will be considered if space is available.

Freshman Priority Application Dates

Summer: May 1st
Fall: May 1st
Spring: December 15th

Transfer Priority Application Dates

Summer: May 1st
Fall: August 1st
Spring: December 1st

Admissions Tuition Deposit

An admissions deposit of \$200 is required of all admitted applicants 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.

Freshman Deposit Deadline

Summer: May 1st
Fall: June 1st
Spring: December 15th

Transfer Deposit Deadline

Summer: May 1st
Fall: August 15th
Spring: December 15th

FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

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

1. Official secondary school transcripts and appropriate test scores: SAT with writing or the ACT with writing. All official transcripts, test scores, and any other required credentials must be received directly from the issuing agencies, through electronic platforms or mailed 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. All scores and transcripts submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions become the property of FIU.
2. Proof of graduation from an accredited secondary school must be submitted before enrolling.
3. High School diplomas accepted for undergraduate degree-seeking admission to FIU must be completed at a secondary institution accredited by a regional accrediting body or at an institution accredited by a national accrediting agency recognized by the United States Department of Education.
4. Eighteen academic units in college preparatory courses are required as follows:

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

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), Dual Enrollment, 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 includes a review of all academic credentials and a completed file. Applicants are encouraged to complete the MyMajorMatch assessment to match their interest with FIU majors, find an appropriate major, and explore possible careers.

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.

Students who are denied admissions to FIU may request an additional review of their admissions application if improved academic information such as a new transcript with a higher grade point average or new test reports with a higher score are received. Students seeking further review of a denial decision or who are seeking alternative admission can submit such requests to the Admissions Petition and Appeals Committee. The admissions committee will not overturn a denial decision made by an academic department or reverse transfer credit equivalency decisions made by academic advisors or faculty.

Admission Petition and Appeals Committee

The Admission Petition and Appeals Committee reviews requests for appeals from those undergraduate applicants who have been denied admission to the university;

excluding (a) those who have been denied by a department with a limited access program, unless the student is petitioning under a new major, or (b) those who have been denied by the Department of Conduct and Conflict Resolution. The committee consists of faculty, staff and administrators who review cases and determine a student's potential for success at FIU. Students requesting an appeal or additional review of their admissions status must submit the following:

- A written statement from the student which includes:
 - The student's goals, educational and/or professional objectives.
 - An explanation of past academic performance.
 - Information and/or circumstances that may have affected past academic performance.
 - Any other information the student wishes to have considered.
- At least one signed letter of recommendation from individuals who know of and can attest to the student's academic ability and/or potential such as teacher, counselor, mentor, tutor, academic or career advisor, former employer, etc. Such letter(s) should not be a "form" letter, but directly address any deficiencies in the student's academic history.
- Any new standardized test scores and updated academic transcripts or grades if applicable.

All supporting documents must be sent or delivered to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at the address and arrive at least 72 hours in advance of the next available admissions committee meeting. The dates for the committee's meetings are posted on the Undergraduate Admissions website at <http://admissions.fiu.edu>.

Students will be informed of the committee's decision within two business days of its meeting. Please note: appeal review requests can only come from the applicant.

Statements and all materials should be sent to:

Office of Undergraduate Admissions
C/O Admission Appeals
11200 S.W. 8th Street (MMC), PC 140
Miami, FL 33199

or

AdmissionsCommittee@fiu.edu

Alternative Admission Review

The Admission Petition and Appeals Committee also considers requests for holistic review of admissions applicants from undergraduate applicants who seek alternative admission according to Florida Board of Governors Sections 6.002 (2)(b) and 6.004 (4)(a). The FIU Board of Trustees established Regulation FIU-402 related to student admissions which allows for other factors such as the applicant's creativity, talent, and character to be considered in addition to academic ability. Students should follow the same directions stated above for Admission Appeals.

TRANSFER APPLICANTS

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

work.

Applicants who receive an Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree from a Florida State College or State University in Florida will be considered for admission without restriction except for published limited access programs within the University. We encourage all transfer applicants to apply for admission at least one semester prior to the term they wish to enroll.

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 using a 4.0 scale (with the exception of some limited access programs) and be in good academic standing at the last institution.

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 directly from the academic institution.

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.

Transfer applicants from the FL public institutions (community/state colleges) are encouraged to visit FLVC.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., should 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 Florida Public University or Florida State 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 state 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 Governors' rules.

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

- Accounting
- Architecture
- Business Administration
- Communication
- Dietetics and Nutrition
- Health Services Administration
- Music
- Nursing
- Social Work
- Theatre

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, along with the international transcript(s), 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.

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returned to the applicant or forwarded to another institution.

Proficiency in English

Applicants whose native language is not English and who have not successfully completed any college level English courses, must present a minimum score of 550 paper-based or 80 internet based (iBT) score on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) can also be submitted as proof of English Proficiency.

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, and the student has provided the bank/sponsor letter and the transfer release form (International students that are currently attending another U.S. institution must submit this form).

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 Cost and Residency information page on the admissions website at <http://admissions.fiu.edu> for more information regarding cost of attendance. International students who are married should plan on an additional \$6,000 in costs to cover the living expenses of a spouse. Additionally, 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 the International Student and Scholar Services Office (ISSO) and at the University Health Services Department website at

http://healthservices.fiu.edu/insurance/Pages/Mandatory_Insurance.aspx. 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 Deadlines for International Admissions 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. Deadlines to specific programs and to be considered for scholarships may vary so please visit <http://admissions.fiu.edu> for additional information and dates.

If the application and supporting documents are not received within the appropriate time, the application for admissions will be cancelled. Applications are good for one year.

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 both domestic and international students who are academically, artistically, and athletically talented and encourages them to apply. The University considers and awards several full and partial scholarships to domestic and international applicants.

See website for detailed scholarship information, <http://admissions.fiu.edu/financial/scholarships.php>.

RESIDENCY INFORMATION

Final determination of residency for tuition purposes is not a requirement for admission to the University; however the Residency Declaration on the admission application and submission of the required supporting documentation are required in order to complete the admissions record for each student admitted to FIU. Students not completing these requirements will not be permitted to register for classes until they accurately declare their residency in Florida or agree to the terms under non-Florida residency. Please refer to the Residency Information contained under University Undergraduate Rules and Regulations.