

## Undergraduate Admissions

Florida International University encourages and accepts freshman (FTIC) and transfer applications without regard to race, color, national origin, language, sex, religion, and disability.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

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

#### Application Online

The admission application to FIU is only available online at [admissions.fiu.edu](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 or e-check when applying or may mail a check, money order, or fee waiver (College Board/ACT) to PO Box 659003, Miami, FL 33265-9003.

All credentials and documents submitted to the Office of Admissions become the property of FIU. FIU will not return original documents to the applicant or forward to other institutions.

#### Undergraduate Admissions 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: March 15  
Fall: March 15  
Spring: December 1

##### Transfer Priority Application Dates

Summer A/C: April 1  
Summer B: June 1  
Fall: July 15  
Spring: December 1

#### Admission Tuition Deposit

An admission deposit of \$200 is required of each admitted applicant to secure a place in the class; the deposit 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 1  
Fall: May 1  
Spring: December 15

##### Transfer Deposit Deadline

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

### FRESHMAN APPLICANTS

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

1. Official secondary school transcripts and appropriate SAT or ACT test scores. All official transcripts, test scores, and other required credentials must be received directly from the issuing agencies, through electronic platforms, or mailed to PO 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 Admissions. All scores and transcripts submitted to the Office of Admissions become the property of FIU.
2. Proof of graduation from an accredited secondary school must be submitted before the decision is final.
3. High school diplomas accepted for undergraduate degree-seeking admission to FIU must be completed at a secondary institution accredited by an accrediting body or at an institution accredited by a national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. 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 <sup>1</sup>	2
Academic Electives <sup>2</sup>	2

<sup>1</sup>Two units in the same foreign language are required.

<sup>2</sup>Academic Electives are from the fields of mathematics, English, natural science, social science, and a foreign language. The academic grade point average is computed only on the units listed above. Grades in honors courses, International Baccalaureate (IB), Association of International Credential Evaluators Inc. (AICE), Dual Enrollment, and Advanced Placement (AP) courses will be given additional weight.

Admission to FIU is selective and 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. Students may be offered an alternate term of entry; be placed into an exploratory major; and/or be limited to the number of credit hours they can complete each term should they not meet criteria for the term for which they originally applied. Students may also be invited to submit additional documentation to be reviewed through a holistic process for an admission decision. A student seeking a holistic review will be required to submit an essay and meet deadline dates associated with the holistic review process. Applicants are encouraged to complete the MyMajorMatch assessment to match their interest with FIU majors, find an appropriate major, and explore possible careers.

A student applying to major in Architecture, Theatre, Art, or Music must be admitted to the appropriate exploratory major prior to receiving approval from the respective department through an audition or portfolio submission. Students should contact the specific department for audition dates and portfolio instructions. An applicant who auditions prior to receiving an admission decision from the university is not guaranteed admission to FIU; the decision for admission is made by the Office of Admissions.

Students who are denied admission to FIU may request additional review of the admission application if

improved academic information (e.g., a new transcript with a higher grade point average or new test reports with a higher score) is received. Students seeking further review of a denial decision or seeking alternative admission can submit such requests to the Admission Petition and Appeals Committee. The admission 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 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 Student Conduct and Academic Integrity. The committee comprises 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 an admission status must submit the following:

- A written statement from the student which includes:
  - The student's goals, and 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 (e.g., a teacher, counselor, mentor, tutor, academic or career advisor, former employer). Such letter(s) should not be a "form" letter, but instead should 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 Admissions at the address listed below; or uploaded per instruction, and must arrive at least 72 hours in advance of the next available admission committee meeting. Dates of committee meetings are posted on the Undergraduate Admissions website at [admissions.fiu.edu](http://admissions.fiu.edu).

Students will be informed of committee decisions within 2 business days of the committee meeting. Please note: appeal review requests can only come from the applicant.

Statements and all materials should be sent to:

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

or

[AdmissionsCommittee@fiu.edu](mailto:AdmissionsCommittee@fiu.edu)

### Alternative Admission Review

The Admission Petition and Appeals Committee and director of University Admissions will consider requests for holistic review of admission applications from undergraduate applicants who seek alternative admission

according to State University System of Florida Board of Governors' Regulations 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 (e.g., applicant's creativity, talent, 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 30 transferrable semester hours must meet the same requirements as beginning freshmen applicants. An applicant with more than 30 transferrable semester hours must have a 2.0 grade point average, must be in good standing at the prior institution, and must have successfully completed at least one college-level English and one college-level math class with a grade of C or higher.

Applicants who receive an Associate in Arts (AA) degree from a Florida state college or university will be considered for admission without restriction, except for published university limited-access programs or programs with prerequisites which were not met at the state college. All transfer applicants are encouraged to apply for admission at least one semester prior to the terms during which they wish to enroll.

A student transferring from an independent Florida or out-of-state college 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 prior institution.

Coursework transferred or accepted for credit toward an undergraduate degree must be completed at an institution accredited as degree-granting by an accrediting body or at an institution accredited as degree granting by a national accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. 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 specific requirements for the major and/or degree. Students must contact their intended academic departments to obtain any additional requirements needed for their programs of study.

All applicants must meet the criteria published for limited-access programs and should consult the specific college and major for requirements. Please note that exploratory majors are not open to transfer students.

Applicants who meet the above admission requirements, but who have not completed the university's core curriculum requirements, or the prerequisites for a 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 Admissions. Students are responsible for initiating this request directly from the academic institution.

All credentials and documents submitted to the Office of Admissions become the property of FIU. FIU will not return original documents to the applicant or forward to other institutions.

Transfer applicants from Florida public institutions (i.e., community and state colleges) are encouraged to visit FLVC.org for additional information regarding the transfer process, including information about program graduation requirements, transfer agreements, AA transfer evaluation (degree/advising audit), and common prerequisites (Common Prerequisite Manual).

Regardless of whether a student holds an AA degree, all student seeking admission to the university should have completed 2 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 without this requirement, credits must be completed at FIU prior to graduation from the university. If the student has already completed the requirement through an AA degree or high school diploma, an official transcript demonstrating completion must be sent to FIU at least one semester prior to graduation.

Students who can demonstrate continuous enrollment in a degree program at a Florida state college or university since the 1989 fall term may be exempt from this requirement; continuous enrollment is defined by the state to be the completion of at least one course per academic year. Students holding an AA degree from a Florida community college or university prior to the 1989 fall term are also exempt.

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

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

Applications are kept on file for 1 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 (e.g., faculty, instructional facilities, equipment, 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 AA degrees are given equal consideration with FIU students. Admission to such programs is governed by the Articulation Agreement and rules set forth by the State University System of Florida Board of Governors. Should a freshman applicant not meet the admission criteria for the limited-access program of interest, the applicant may be placed into the corresponding exploratory major. Please note that exploratory majors are not open to transfer students.

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 described in the previous sections and must comply with the following:

### Academic Records

Documents in a language other than English must be translated by an official translation agency. All credentials and documents submitted to the Office of Admissions become the property of FIU. FIU will not return original documents to the applicant or forward to other institutions.

**International University-Level Transcripts** must be original documents issued in a sealed envelope and sent directly from the university. Transcripts not provided in English must be accompanied by an official translation provided by a recognized translation service. International Admissions utilizes the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO). Edge and other professional credential evaluation resources to provide a course-by-course evaluation and a grade point average calculation for all international transcripts.

All credentials and documents submitted to the Office of Admissions become the property of FIU. FIU will not return original documents to the applicant or forward to other institutions.

### Proficiency in English

In addition to the general university admission requirements, foreign applicants must be academically eligible for undergraduate-level study in their own countries.

Applicants from non-English-speaking countries, including internationally educated domestic students, must demonstrate proficiency in the English language. The following is a list of acceptable methods for demonstrating English proficiency:

- Attaining Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) B2 Level on recognized academic tests of English language, (e.g., Test of English as a Foreign Language [TOEFL] 80 iBT);
- (For undergraduate students) Meeting the minimum State University System of Florida Board of Governors' regulation for college readiness scores in the Verbal/Reading and English sections;
- Successfully completing—with passing grades for all content areas—Level Six of an FIU English Language Institute program;
- (For undergraduate students) Completing ENC 1101, or its equivalent, with a passing score of C or better from an accredited U.S. institution or as part of a signed articulation agreement;
- (For applicants from institutions with an accreditation, or from other English-speaking countries) Holding an undergraduate or graduate degree;

- (For students applying to FIU under agreements for admission with foreign universities) Being eligible for a TOEFL waiver under terms of the agreement.

### Declaration and Certification of Finances

Upon receipt of the application for admission, the Declaration and Certification of Finances will be emailed to the applicant. It must be completed and returned to the Office of Admissions. A Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20) will be issued once the applicant has been found admissible to the university, and the student has provided the bank/sponsor letter and transfer release form (international students 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-20. 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.

Total funds available for a student for the first academic year 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 Admissions 2 months prior to the anticipated entry date. Refer to the Cost and Residency information page on the admissions website at [admissions.fiu.edu](https://admissions.fiu.edu) for additional 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 emergencies. The policy must provide specific levels of coverage established to ensure that the policy is adequate to provide for costs at U.S. hospitals, costs which are usually much higher than those in many other parts of the world. Additionally, a policy must have a U.S.-based claims agent accessible to medical providers facilitate prompt payment of claims. The university has approved a plan which meets state requirements and 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 on the Student Health Services website at [studentaffairs.fiu.edu/health-and-fitness/student-health/insurance/](https://studentaffairs.fiu.edu/health-and-fitness/student-health/insurance/). Students should not purchase insurance policies prior to arrival without verifying that those policies meet FIU and State University System of Florida 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 a program. FIU 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 Admission Consideration

Due to the additional processing time required for international students, applications and supporting documents should be submitted as early as possible. We recommend the following time frames: February 1 (if you are applying for the summer semester), April 1 (if you are applying for the fall semester), and November 1 (if you are applying for the spring semester). Program-specific deadlines and deadlines for scholarship consideration may vary. Additional information and important dates are available via [admissions.fiu.edu](https://admissions.fiu.edu).

The admission application will be cancelled for applications and supporting documents not received within the appropriate time. Applications are good for 1 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 and to maintain full-time enrollment. Full-time enrollment is a minimum of twelve credit hours per semester; six credit hours during summer A/B is fulltime. Please refer to the section on Student Fees and Student Accounts for additional 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 domestics and international applicants.

Detailed scholarship information is available at [admissions.fiu.edu/cost-and-aid/scholarships/](https://admissions.fiu.edu/cost-and-aid/scholarships/).

## 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 required supporting documentation are required to complete the admission record of 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.