International Graduate Admission

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UWF is home to international students from a wide range of countries and nationalities. Applicants to the University are considered international if they are not U.S. Citizens, dual citizens, or permanent residents. In addition to the policies and procedures stated for the different categories of graduate admission, the information included in this section pertains to international applicants.


International Programs

International Programs (https://uwf.edu/offices/international-affairs/programs-and-services/international-services) is here to provide advice, counsel, and support services to international students and scholars concerning federal immigration regulations and University policies. They are also committed to furthering personal and academic development of the campus community through the advancement of multicultural competency educational programs, sponsoring intercultural experiences, and promoting the development of global leaders through international partnerships.

International Programs is the central point of contact for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and manages the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) for all international students and scholars in F-1 and J-1 status. International students and scholars must meet federal guidelines that govern their stay in the United States. The Office provides critical support services to students, faculty, and staff members who enter the U.S. and/or desire to travel out of the country.

Applicants should feel free to ask questions and seek assistance from this office at any time.

International Programs (https://uwf.edu/offices/international-affairs/programs-and-services/international-services) | Building 71 | (http://catalog.uwf.edu/graduate/admissions/internationaladmissions/internationaladmissions/graduatedmissions/internationaladmissions/graduatedmissions/internationaladmissions) | international@uwf.edu

Academic Records

International applicants must submit original documents or signed, officially certified photocopies of original documents, as well as certified translations of all documents that are not in English. International applicants must also have their foreign credentials evaluated by one of the four evaluation services listed below. The evaluation should contain a course-by-course description and a grade point average from each institution attended. Applicants have the responsibility to contact the evaluation agency directly and have the evaluation agency send the official evaluation report to UWF. The official evaluation report must be received by the application deadline for the semester the applicant plans to attend. The acceptable evaluation services are the following:

Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
P.O. Box 514070
Milwaukee, WI 53203-3470
Ph: (414) 289-3400
Fax: (414) 289-3411
www.ece.org (http://www.ece.org)
eval@ece.org

International Education Evaluators (IEE)
P.O. Box 545863
Surfside, FL 33154
Ph: (305) 503-9063
Fax: (305) 993-5550
www.iee-usa.com (http://www.iee-usa.com)
info@iee-usa.com

Josef Silny & Associates, Inc.
International Education Consultants
7101 SW 102 Avenue
Miami, FL 33173
Ph: (305) 273-1616
Fax: (305) 273-1338
Translation Fax: (305) 273-1984
www.jsilny.com (http://www.jsilny.com)
info@jsilny.com

English Proficiency Test

If the international applicant's native language is not English or the applicant is from a country in which the primary language is not English, he or she must take one of the following tests before consideration of admission. English proficiency test scores are considered official only when they are sent directly to the Graduate School from the testing agency. Not all exams are available outside the U.S. and most are offered on a fixed schedule. Contact the testing agencies directly for scheduling information.

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
- International English Language Test System (IELTS)
- Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB)

International non-degree seeking applicants, including applicants attending UWF under an international exchange agreement, must meet the English proficiency requirement.

Minimum Scores

The following minimum scores are required by the University. Individual departments may require higher scores.

Paper-based TOEFL (pBT): 550
Listening/Comprehension Sub Score: 53

Internet-based TOEFL (iBT): 79/80
Listening Sub Score: 19*

IELTS: 6.5
Listening/Comprehension Sub Score: 7

MELAB: 78

*International students expecting to receive appointments as teaching assistants also are required by Florida law to pass a test of spoken English and must obtain and report a minimum TOEFL iBT Listening sub score of 23 to the Graduate School.

Exemptions from Proof of English Proficiency

- UWF Intensive English Program (IEP) students who successfully complete the advanced level with an average of B+ (88) and score 78 or higher on the IEP exit test (MELICET) are eligible for
admission to the University of West Florida if they meet all other requirements of the University.

* International students with a bachelor's degree from a U.S. institution or who have successfully completed a full year of full-time academic course work at a regionally accredited institution in the U.S. preceding the semester for which admission is sought. Intensive English course work does not qualify.

**Deadlines for Applications and Supporting Documents**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester</th>
<th>Deadline</th>
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<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>June 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>October 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>March 1</td>
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Because some departments have earlier deadlines, applicants should contact specific academic departments for departmental deadlines. It is in the applicant's best interest to submit the application and documents early. Files completed after the published deadlines may not be processed in time for the applicant to be considered for enrollment in the desired semester.

**Notice of Admission**

If a student's application for admission to UWF is approved, an official letter of admission will be mailed by the Graduate School. Admission is for a specific semester only. If the student is unable to enroll for the semester indicated on the letter of admission, the Graduate School should be informed immediately.

Under no circumstances should an applicant make departure plans for Pensacola until official approval has been given by the Graduate School and the student has received the Form I-20 from International Programs (see F-1 Student Visa (p. 2)). Applicants who come to the campus without first receiving an official notice of acceptance do so at their own risk. The applicant's presence on the campus will not influence the decision of an application for admission.

**Form I-20**

Admitted students who will attend UWF on an F-1 student visa will need a Form I-20, which International Programs issues. All instructions for obtaining an I-20 are available through International Programs (https://uwf.edu/offices/international-affairs/programs-and-services/international-services/new-students/how-to-get-an-I-20).

**Getting an F-1 Student Visa**

Once admitted, international students are issued a Form I-20 by International Programs. The Form I-20 is used to apply for an F-1 student visa. All instructions for this process are available through International Programs (https://uwf.edu/offices/international-affairs/programs-and-services/international-services/new-students/whats-next).

**Immunizations**

Applicants must submit a Mandatory Immunization Health History Form (http://uwf.edu/offices/student-health-services/immunizations/uwf-online-immunization-form) completed by the applicant. Refer to the U (http://uwf.edu/offices/student-health-services/immunizations/uwf-immunization-policy)WF Immunization Policy (https://uwf.edu/offices/student-health-services/immunizations/uwf-immunization-policy) for more information.

**Insurance**

The State of Florida requires all international students to have health and accident insurance. Students can purchase the UWF insurance plan or submit an approved waiver. For more information on getting insurance, see Maintaining Required Insurance as an F-1 or J-1 Student (https://confluence.uwf.edu/display/public/Maintaining+Required+Insurance+as+an+F-1+or+J-1+Student). It is important to review a policy before purchasing because many foreign insurance companies and travel insurance plans do not meet State of Florida regulations.

* UWF AC-28.02-07/14 (https://uwf.edu/offices/board-of-trustees/policies)

**Transfer of Funds**

Prospective students should familiarize themselves with the current regulations of their own governments, as many restrict the purchase of U.S. dollars. Students should arrive with ample funds in U.S. dollars or in a credit card which is authorized to be used in the U.S. International wire transfer service to UWF is also available.

**Employment**


**International Exchange**

International students interested in participating in the UWF exchange program must be nominated by their home institution. Once confirmation of a student's eligibility has been received by the home institution, the acceptance process can begin through International Programs. For a list of participating exchange partner institutions and application procedures, please see Applying as an Exchange Student (http://uwf.edu/offices/international-affairs/programs-and-services/international-services/exchange-students/how-to-apply).

**Study Abroad**

International Programs provides access to international educational experiences for students and faculty at UWF. Study abroad programs are academically challenging, professionally relevant, and personally engaging. They are designed to enhance the development of multicultural competencies both domestically and abroad. See the Study Abroad page (https://uwf.edu/offices/international-affairs/programs-and-services/study-abroad) for more information.