INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION POLICY

General Admissions Policy

International applicants must meet the general admission requirements of Seattle University. Depending upon the educational system, official transcripts, mark sheets, or record of examination results are required from secondary schools for all first time freshman applicants as well as for those who will have fewer than 45 acceptable transfer credits. Each college attended must be listed on the application for admission. Required post-secondary transcripts differ by level as indicated below. Additionally, students educated in schools where the language of instruction is other than English and those for whom English is a second language must demonstrate English proficiency as noted below. Documents establishing financial ability are also required as indicated below.

I. International Applicants Applying From Abroad

A. International applicants applying from abroad will be considered as applicants for regular admission for all quarters except for those noted in "D" below. International applicants attending on an F-1 student visa cannot be considered for probationary admission.

B. All undergraduate or graduate application materials must be received by the Admissions Office by the deadlines listed below to ensure consideration:

Fall Quarter:	February 1 for *freshmen*
	March 1 for *undergraduate transfer students*
	April 1 for *graduate students*
Winter Quarter:	September 1
Spring Quarter:	December 1
Summer Quarter:	January 1

While these are the specific deadlines, graduate applicants are strongly advised to submit applications six months before they wish to begin a program.

C. Official records must be provided from each institution attended for undergraduate applicants. Graduate applicants must submit all transcripts from coursework in the last two years of full-time attendance toward the bachelor degree and any post-baccalaureate coursework. All required official documents must be in the original language; where the language is not English documents must be accompanied by a certified English translation. Individual exceptions may be granted by the Dean of Admissions or the Director of Graduate Admissions, as appropriate, for students from developing countries or those whose political situations might limit access to additional official copies of their educational records. Where countries' educational system do not grant sealed official transcripts a record of courses/subjects taken and grades/marks earned will need to be evaluated for authenticity and equivalency by the

designated member of the Seattle University Admissions office who will certify them as official and make copies of the original documents. Seattle University maintains the prerogative of requiring that certified copies of educational records or official transcripts directly issued by the granting institution as deemed necessary.

D. Per the English proficiency policy, #2008-01, most applicants for whom English is a not the first/native language must demonstrate English proficiency regardless of English language studies, academic history, residence in the United States or other English-speaking countries, or of immigration status. The chart below outlines Seattle University's English proficiency requirements for general admission as well as admission to the Culture and Language Bridge program. Exceptions are noted in policy #2008-01. The University maintains the right to require English proficiency testing when deemed necessary. Following the submission of English proficiency score reports, request for testing waivers will not be considered.

   TOEFL exams have two different grading scales: the currently administered internet-based test (iBT) and the paper-based test (PBT).

   ELS Language Center (US centers only) students who have completed level 112 with a 2.75 ELS grade point average are considered to have the equivalent TOEFL score of 520 PBT or 68 iBT and will be considered for the undergraduate Culture and Language Bridge Program.

	Undergraduate General Admission	Graduate General Admission	Undergraduate Culture and Language Bridge option	Graduate Culture and Language Bridge option*
TOEFL	580 PBT 92iBT	580 PBT 92 iBT	520 PBT 68 iBT	567 PBT 86 iBT
IELTS	7.0	7.0	6.0	6.5
PTE	62	62	46	58
Institutional Michigan Test (MELAB)	83%	83%	75%	83%
ELS Language Centers	N/A	N/A	Level 112 with a 2.75 GPA	N/A

* Because of curriculum design, some graduate programs cannot accommodate CLB students; such admitted students must complete CLB prior to starting their graduate studies.

E. Academic grade requirements for admission conform to the recommendations of the guidelines as set forth by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers and other definitive resources employed for the evaluation of foreign credentials. Cumulative academic performance when translated into a grade point average must minimally be 3.0 on a 4.0 scale to be considered for admission. Evaluations academic performance and institutional rigor are completed by Seattle University Admissions and U.S. educational equivalencies are determined. Seattle University does not utilize third parties or evaluation services.

F. Affidavits of financial responsibility must be dated within one year of the date of entry for those students applying from outside the United States; or six months for those currently residing within. The 'date of entry' is defined as 30 calendar days prior to the first class day of any given term. These affidavits must include statements from the sponsor and the applicant accepting financial responsibility for the duration of studies and include bank verification indicating the minimum amount required for three terms (9 months) including room and board, tuition and fees, personal expenses, and health insurance as recommended by the Student Financial Services office before the form I-20 may be issued. The initial affidavit of support or declaration of finances will be retained in the student's permanent record on file in the Registrar's Office; subsequent affidavits of financial responsibility may be kept on record in the International Student and Scholar Center. Affidavits of financial responsibility or declaration of finance forms and their supporting bank verification should be mailed, faxed, copied, or scanned directly to the appropriate Admissions Office at Seattle University. At the discretion of the Dean of Admissions or Director of Graduate Admissions, a deposit may be required prior to the issuance of the form I-20.

G. As noted on the I-20 budget documents, international applicants are required to maintain medical insurance while enrolled at Seattle University. Accordingly, they will be automatically enrolled in the Seattle University health insurance plan until proof of other coverage is provided and a waiver form completed.

I. All international students must register at the International Student Center upon arrival in the United States or before the start of entry term classes.

J. Through a petition with Immigration, Customs and Enforcement, Seattle University is responsible for complying with regulation 8 CFR related to non-immigrant F-1 and J-1 visa holders. Entering and updating information in the SEVIS system and the responsibility of school reporting will be held by the Designated School Officials (DSO or PDSO) who are granted their status by Immigration Services.

II. International Students Applying as Freshmen from U.S. High Schools

A. Academic work for all four years of upper secondary school must be recorded on transcripts. Any period not recorded on American high school transcripts must be addressed with transcripts from all schools attended abroad. Official records are required in the original language; if not English, certified translations are required.

B. Affidavits of financial responsibility for the first year's expenses (or, at the discretion of the dean of admissions, tuition deposits) must be submitted by applicants requiring student visas.

C. Applicants who have attended U.S. high schools for fewer than four years must meet the same English language proficiency requirements as those international students applying from abroad. (See number I, item D above.) Applicants who have attended high school in the United States or Canada, or at American schools abroad, may have the TOEFL waived if they have earned critical reading and writing scores of 450 or higher on the respective sections of the SAT or English sub-scores of 22 or higher on the American College Test (ACT).

D. Ordinarily freshman applicants attending American high schools must minimally have cumulative grade point averages of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

III. International Students Applying as Undergraduate Transfer Students from Another U.S. College or University

A. Applicants must have completed at least 36 transferable quarter credit hours/24 semester hours and minimally earned cumulative grade point averages of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale in performance at American collegiate institutions. Official records must be provided from each institution attended. Any prior university level work from other countries must minimally be equivalent to 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

B. Affidavits of financial responsibility for the first year's expenses (or, at the discretion of the dean of admissions, a tuition deposit) must be submitted by all international applicants. (See number I, item F above)

C. Students attending or transferring from other U.S. colleges or universities must meet the same English proficiency requirements as international students applying from abroad. (See number I, item D above)

D. Transfer applicants must show evidence of being in good immigration status by submitting the Form I-20 issued by their previous schools as well as Transfer Verification Forms completed by their previous schools. If status was not maintained, a student must apply to Immigration and Customs Enforcement for reinstatement after being admitted to Seattle University.

E. Credit will not be allowed in transfer from any school, foreign or domestic, for course work in English taught as a second language or intended to develop proficiency.

IV. International Students Applying as Undergraduate Transfer Students from Foreign Educational Institutions

International transfer students must meet specific Seattle University school or college admission requirements and are governed by the same regulations as international students applying to transfer from other U.S. college or universities as stated in number I above, items A through I.

A. Collegiate grade point averages should reflect a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or in the above-average range, when there is no direct correlation to a 4.0 scale.

B. Applicants may be requested to submit documentation from previously attended colleges/universities in addition to official transcripts or certified education records. (See number I, item E).

C. Credit for coursework completed at collegiate institutions in other nations that are English-based and patterned after the American community college system will be evaluated for credit on a course-by-course basis, If needed, transfer applicants may be asked for course descriptions of syllabi before actual credit be granted.

D. While applicants may have been granted provisional admission, the I-20 form may only be issued when the provision has been met.

V. International Students Applying for Graduate Study

A. International applicants should submit the Graduate Application for Admission to apply for any graduate degree program, accompanied by any additional forms that are required by the specific graduate program. Follow the application deadline for the program of study or the international application deadline, whichever is earlier.

B. Applicants must demonstrate receipt of the equivalent of a four-year baccalaureate degree, as determined by Seattle University's international evaluator, to be eligible for consideration. Students must minimally have earned the equivalent of the stated GPA minimum for their program of interest. A copy of the degree diploma will be required if the degree is not posted on the official transcript, record of examination results, or mark sheets.

C. Applicants requiring student visas to study in the United States must submit an affidavit of financial responsibility for the first year's expenses demonstrated in U.S. dollar equivalencies. International students not seeking an F-1 visa will not need to provide this documentation (See number 1, item F).

D. All applicants must meet English proficiency requirements as stated in Section I, item D of this policy.

E. International students on a student visa cannot be admitted on probation. While provisional admission is possible, I-20 documentation may not be issued until certain conditions of the admission have been met.

VI. International Students Applying as Non-matriculating Students

A. International students cannot apply for non-matriculating status unless attending Seattle University during the session designated by their university as a vacation term. Seattle University immigration documents will not be issued to non-matriculating students.

B. International students can attend as non-matriculating student with the approval of the host university who issued the student's visa.

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