

## Full-time International Students

In order to be considered for admissions to ACC, international students must submit the following:

1. A completed ACC application
2. An official high school or college transcript
3. An official Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score (minimum 173). The TOEFL requirement is waived only for International Students who are graduates of high schools located in the United States
4. A current statement of financial support
5. A current passport-size photograph
6. A completed Biographical Data Form
7. A completed Transfer Candidate Evaluation Form (only for students transferring from one U.S. institution to another)
8. \$100.00 nonrefundable application fee

After the International Student Admissions Office has received these documents, they will be evaluated. Once acceptance is granted, Form I-20 A-B is issued. Form I-20 A-B is required for obtaining a student visa from the student's home country or for properly transferring from one U.S. institution to another as required by BCIS regulations. All students must present their passport, I-94, and I-20 before registering for classes. Summer school is optional for F-1 students, and they may attend full or part time.

## Part-time International Students

In order to be considered for admission to ACC as part-time students, international students must submit the following:

1. A completed ACC application
2. \$100 nonrefundable application fee
3. An official transcript from the school of primary enrollment
4. A letter from the International Student Advisor of the current school indicating the student's enrollment status and approval for part-time enrollment at ACC
5. A current passport-size photograph
6. A completed Biographical Data Form
7. TASP verification
8. An official TOEFL score of 173

After the International Student Admissions Office has received these documents, they will be evaluated and acceptance will be determined. Not all visa categories allow part-time attendance and students should contact the International Student Office regarding their status.

## Summer Visiting International Students

In order to be considered for admission to ACC as summer visiting students, international students must submit the following:

1. A completed ACC application form
2. A passport-size photograph
3. A completed Biographical Data Form
4. \$100 nonrefundable application fee
5. Proof of current full-time enrollment at a U.S. institution (transcript, fee receipt, etc.)

After the International Student Admissions Office has received these documents, they will be evaluated and acceptance will be determined. Acceptance is granted for that semester only, and no Form I-20 A-B is issued.

## Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (formerly INS) Regulations

International students are required by BCIS regulations to enroll in, maintain, and complete at least 12 credit hours during the Fall and Spring semesters. Students are not required to attend summer school, although they may enroll for any number of credit hours desired, provided that number does not exceed the approved maximum. This maximum may be exceeded, however, by approval from the appropriate Student Services Dean.

If an international student's withdrawal from a course during the fall or spring semester results in completion of less than 12 hours, the student will be out-of-status except for documented nonacademic reasons. Students must meet with an international student advisor to obtain approval prior to withdrawing.

## Tuition for International Students

[www3.austincc.edu/evpcss/rss/admiss/howto/howto.htm](http://www3.austincc.edu/evpcss/rss/admiss/howto/howto.htm)

International students must pay the tuition set for nonresident aliens. If they are teachers or professors employed at least half time on a regular monthly salary (not hourly employees) by any Texas public institution of higher education, with an effective date of employment on the official census date of the relevant term(s), they may pay the same tuition as a resident of Texas for themselves, their spouses, and their dependent children regardless of the length of residence in the state.

To be entitled to pay the resident tuition, such employees must submit, prior to the time of each enrollment, a statement certifying employment from the director of personnel or payroll of the public institution of higher education of which they are employed. All tuition is subject to change without notice.

## Nonresident Aliens

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board defines a nonresident alien as follows:

“A citizen, national, or permanent resident of the United States or an alien who has been permitted by Congress to adopt the United States as his or her domicile while in this country, or a foreign student who has not met the state requirements for establishing residency for tuition purposes.” The tuition for nonresident aliens at Austin Community College is \$171 per credit hour.

Each of the student groups listed is considered by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to be nonresident aliens. The tuition for nonresident aliens at Austin Community College is \$171 per credit hour with a \$200 minimum required if student takes a 1-credit course.

Students under a visa permitting permanent residence, and aliens who are permitted by Congress to adopt the United States as their domicile while they are in this country, have the same privilege of qualifying for Texas resident status for tuition purposes as do citizens of the United States.

Domicile in Texas. Physically residing in Texas for at least twelve (12) consecutive months with the intent to make Texas one's permanent home. The burden of proof that a domicile has been established lies with the student.

The following categories of international students are eligible to establish domicile in the United States:

1. Holders of visas with A-1, A-2, A-3, E-1, E-2, G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, G-5, H-1B, H-4, I, K-1, K-2, L-1, L-2, NATO 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, O-1, O-3, R-1, R-2 classifications.
2. Individuals classified as Refugees, Asylees, Parolees, Conditional Permanent Residents (holding I-551 cards which have not expired), and Temporary Residents (holding I-688 cards which have not expired).\*

\*Students holding I-688A and I-688B cards are not eligible to establish domicile in the United States.

## Undocumented Immigrants

House Bill 1403 is a Texas law that became effective September 1, 2001. It allows undocumented immigrants who meet all of the following criteria to qualify for Texas resident status for tuition purposes at a public higher education institution in Texas:

1. Must have graduated from a Texas high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma (e.g. GED) in Texas
2. Must have resided in Texas with parents or court appointed legal guardian (must provide court documents) during the three years leading up to graduation from high school or receiving the equivalent of a high school diploma (e.g. GED)
3. Must not have taken any college credit hours prior to Fall 2001
4. Must provide a notarized letter stating that:
  - a. They will file an application to become a permanent resident of the USA at the earliest opportunity they will be eligible to do so
  - b. They resided with their parents or court appointed legal guardian (provide names) for at least three (3) consecutive years immediately prior to graduating from high school or receiving an equivalent diploma (provide name of high school or equivalent diploma)
5. All other undocumented aliens must meet the full-time international student admission requirements and pay the international student tuition rate.

## English as a Second Language (ESL) – Academic

ACC offers ESL in three skill areas—oral communication, reading and vocabulary, writing and grammar—and at four levels: high beginning, low intermediate, high intermediate, and advanced. Students should consult an advisor or ESL faculty member for an ESL assessment test to determine proper placement.

Students wanting to take ESL classes should fill out an ACC application, take the ESL assessment test, and consult an ESL faculty member or advisor. For information about the assessment test, call 223-3139 (RGC) or 223-4807 (NRG). For information about the ESL program call 223-3354 or 223-3349 (RGC), 223-6290 (RVS), 223-4014 or 223-4874 (NRG).

International students who wish to enroll in ESL courses are subject to all international student admissions requirements.