

## Part-time International Students

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

- A completed ACC application
- An official transcript from the school of primary enrollment
- A letter from the student's current institution verifying their current enrollment status
- An official TOEFL score of 197 or higher
- A current passport-size photograph
- A completed Supplemental Application Form
- TSI verification
- \$100 nonrefundable application fee

The International Student Admissions Office evaluates a student's admissions application only after it has received all supporting documents. Not all visa categories allow part-time attendance. 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:

- A completed ACC application form
- A passport-size photograph
- A completed Supplemental Application Form
- \$100 nonrefundable application fee
- Proof of current full-time enrollment at a U.S. institution (transcript, fee receipt, etc.)

The International Student Admissions Office evaluates a student's admissions application only after it has received all supporting documents. Acceptance is granted for that semester only, and no Form I-20 A-B is issued.

## U.S. Department of Homeland Security Regulations

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security requires international students to enroll in, maintain, and complete at least 12 semester 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 fewer 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 before withdrawing.

## Tuition for International Students

International students pay tuition rates set for nonresident aliens. International students may be eligible for Texas resident tuition, regardless of their length of residency, if they are teachers, professors, teaching assistants, or research assistants 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. Such employees must submit a statement certifying employment from the director of personnel or payroll of the public institution of higher education of which they are employed. They must submit a statement before each registration in order to be eligible for Texas resident tuition rates. Texas resident tuition status applies to themselves, their spouses, and dependent children. 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."

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 \$179 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 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:

- 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, V-1, V-2, V-3 classifications
- Individuals classified as Refugees, Asylees, Parolees, Conditional Permanent Residents (holding I-551 cards that have not expired), and Temporary Residents (holding I-688 cards that have not expired). Note: 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 Sept. 1, 2001. It allows undocumented immigrants to qualify for Texas resident tuition status if they meet all of the following criteria:

- Graduated from a Texas high school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma (e.g. GED) in Texas
- 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)
- Have not taken any college credit hours before fall 2001
- Provide a notarized letter stating:
  - They will file an application to become a permanent U.S. resident at the earliest opportunity they will be eligible to do so
  - They resided with their parents or court appointed legal guardian (provide names) for at least three consecutive years immediately before graduating from high school or receiving an equivalent diploma (provide name of high school or equivalent diploma)

All other undocumented aliens must meet the full-time international student admission requirements and pay the International Student tuition rate.

## English for Speakers of Other Languages – Academic

ACC offers English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses in three skill areas—oral communication, reading and vocabulary, writing and grammar. The skill areas are divided into four levels: high beginning, low intermediate, high intermediate, and advanced. Students should consult an advisor or ESOL faculty member for an ESOL assessment test to determine proper placement.

Students planning to take ESOL classes should fill out an ACC application, take the ESOL assessment test, and consult an ESOL faculty member or advisor. For information about the assessment test, call 223.3139 (RGC) or 223.4807 (NRG). For information about the ESOL program call 223.3354 or 223.3349 (RGC), 223.6290 (RVS), 223.4014 or 223.4874 (NRG). For information about the ESOL program for deaf students, call 223.6316 (voice, TTY, or Sorenson videophone). Note: International students who wish to enroll in ESOL courses are subject to all international student admissions requirements.

**ESOL for deaf students:** ACC offers some ESOL classes especially for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. These ESOL classes are for deaf adults whose primary mode of communication is American Sign Language and who want to read and write practical, everyday English as well as gain a better understanding of American Sign Language. ESOL classes for deaf students are taught in American Sign Language and are adapted to meet the unique language needs of deaf students in three skill areas—reading and vocabulary, writing and grammar, and ASL grammar.

## Registration Procedures

### Semester-Credit Registration

Registration is permitted only on the days listed in the official college calendar. However, ACC reserves the right to change registration dates. Registration procedures are published in the course schedule each semester and listed on the web. Students who apply and register early will have a better selection of courses. All non-U.S. citizens who plan to enroll at ACC must see a counselor or an international student advisor before every registration. Students must complete all the steps in the registration process. In order to be officially registered, student must pay tuition and fees on or before the published payment date. Students may attend only the classes for which they have officially registered and paid.

### Short Session Registration

ACC offers instruction in a variety of formats including 6-, 8-, 12-, and 16-week classes during the academic year. Summer sessions may include 5½-, 9-, and 11-week sessions.

Short session registration makes it possible for students to enroll in courses after registration for the 12- and 16-week sessions has ended. These normally occur in September and February. Consult the current college calendar for short semester registration dates. A limited number of on-campus and Distance Learning telecommunications-based courses are offered during these special registrations.

A complete list of Distance Learning courses may be obtained at any ACC Admissions and Records Office, from the Distance Learning campus office, at [www.austincc.edu/schedule](http://www.austincc.edu/schedule) before each registration. Short session courses carry the same tuition rates and semester credit hours as those offered during the 16-week term. ACC reserves the right to cancel a short semester registration in the event there are not enough available courses to warrant separate registrations. Call 512.223.8026 or toll-free 1.888.223.8026 for more information.

## Registration Processes

ACC offers registration online and by telephone for eligible college credit students who have completed the application, orientation, and advising processes. Qualified current or former students in good standing also may register online or by telephone. Phone registration is available for Continuing Education students who pay with credit cards. Consult the course schedule for information on how to register and pay online or by telephone.