

# INTERNATIONAL UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

For admission and tuition purposes, someone is considered an international applicant if they are NOT a U.S. citizen or permanent resident, or do not hold refugee or political asylum status. Those who are U.S. citizens, permanent residents, refugees, or political asylum holders, should apply for domestic student application.

## International Student Applicants

Youngstown State University welcomes applications from qualified students around the world. The University's International Programs Office (IPO) provides a wide range of support services for international students, described in detail in other sections of this *Undergraduate Catalog*.

For issuance of an immigration document, F-1 and J-1 students must demonstrate the financial ability to pay for at least **one year of academic and living expenses**.

## General Admission Statement

The admission information contained in this section reflects standard admissions requirements. Meeting these requirements does not guarantee admission to the university or to specific programs.

## Academic Credentials

Academic credentials include high school and college transcripts, test scores, GED scores, and/or any other records required for admission or granting credit. Unofficial copies of academic credentials are accepted for admission purposes. Applicants who are admitted based on the submission of unofficial credentials must produce all official academic credentials by the end of their first term of enrollment. **Only properly certified and signed credentials issued to YSU and received directly from the issuing institution will be accepted. All must be in a sealed envelope(s) from the issuing institution.**

### International Application Deadlines

| Semester | Freshman   |
|----------|------------|
| Fall     | June 1     |
| Spring   | November 1 |

## International Freshman and Overseas Transfer Students

Applicants from overseas must submit the following information well in advance of the desired date of admission. Admission is possible during all terms provided the deadline for application is met. Students must attend the mandatory new international student orientation.

- A completed application form, a \$45 non-refundable application fee and submission of all required supplemental items.
- Applicants seeking F-1 or J-1 (student) non-immigrant status must submit certification of sufficient financial resources available for education and living expenses while attending the University.
- Official credentials and transcripts from all secondary schools, colleges, and universities that the student has attended, including subjects studied, grades, and a key to the grading system. If credentials are not in English, official translations will be required.
- Transfer credits may be granted for courses taken at U.S. and overseas accredited institutions only if an official syllabus or course description is provided; evaluation of transfer credit will be made prior to the start of classes. Applicants must present evidence of academic excellence with a minimum grade point average of 2.0 (on a 4.0 scale) and disciplinary good

standing at the previous institution. Some YSU programs may have higher grade point average requirements.

- *Transfer applicants* must submit all college official transcripts prior to the I-20 issuance.
- Applicants who have a grade point average of 2.0 or lower (on a 4.0 scale) may be considered for Special Admission. The applicant will be required to submit additional supporting materials in their application for consideration, at the discretion of the International Programs Office Special Admissions Committee.
- English Language Proficiency - Applicants whose education is from an English-medium secondary or post-secondary institution in certain countries may exempt from the standardized English proficiency testing requirement. See Information on International English Proficiency (<https://ysu.edu/international-programs-office/apply-now/quick-menu/more-information/english-proficiency-requirements/#EXP>). International students who graduate from an English medium secondary school in the United States may be exempt from submitting English Language Proficiency test score.

All other undergraduate applicants for whom English is a second language must present evidence of proficiency in the English language with official test scores on one of the following:

- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL): minimum score of 67 or higher on the Internet Based TOEFL test (IBT) sent directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS)
- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) a minimum score of 6.0 composite (with at least 5.0 on each subscale)
- SAT: minimum score of 920
- ACT: minimum score of 17
- PTE Academic (Pearson Test of English): 50
- Duolingo English Test (DET): 95
- Successful completion of 24 semester hours of college-level coursework from an accredited English-medium college in the United States or another country where English is an official language.

## The English Language Institute (ELI)

The English Language Institute (ELI) at Youngstown State University offers an intensive English program with non-credited classes for English language learners. In addition, the ELI provides an orientation to college life and American culture. Classes are available to college-bound students, permanent residents, immigrants, and special interest groups.

Upon graduation from the program, students will have satisfied the English proficiency requirement necessary for admission to an undergraduate or graduate University program.

**Please note:** ELI courses cannot be used as credit toward a degree. Applicants should be aware that deficiencies in English may increase the amount of time and money required for completing a regular program of study.

## Types of Admission for International Students

### Regular Admission

Regular admission will be granted if the student's records meet YSU's academic requirements for admission, satisfy the high school curriculum requirements, and show that the applicant has adequate preparation for study in the proposed major.

### Conditional Admission

Students meeting all the above admissions requirements except the specified level of English proficiency may be admitted conditionally. This admission is conditional upon successful completion of English language study at YSU's English Language Institute (ELI). Conditionally admitted students are not permitted to submit TOEFL or IELTS scores as evidence of English proficiency.

**Admission with Transfer Credit**

Credits from accredited or officially recognized institutions in other countries will be evaluated upon presentation of official transcripts, official translations and complete course descriptions and/or syllabi. Students holding undergraduate degrees equivalent to the bachelor's degree may be admitted to the University for post-baccalaureate undergraduate study upon recommendation of the Dean of the proposed college, IPO's Associate Provost, and the Chair of the relevant department.

**international pathway program admission**

Applicants with a qualifying English Proficiency score may be admitted to the International Pathway Program on a 1 or 2 semester pathway. Applicants who are eligible for admission to the 1 semester pathway must present one of the following scores: IELTS 5.0, TOEFL 46, DET 85. Upon successful completion of the International Pathway Program, the student's admission status will be changed from Pathway to undergraduate.

**SPECIAL ADMISSION**

Special admission may be considered if the student's academic records do not meet YSU's requirements for admission. In such instances, eligibility for special admission will be made on a case-by-case basis. Applicants who qualify under this policy will be required to demonstrate evidence of admissibility as determined by the IPO Special Admissions Committee.

**International Graduate Admission**

Application for admission to the University for graduate study is made directly to Graduate Admissions (for details, consult the *Graduate Catalog* or the College of Graduate Studies (<https://ysu.edu/international-programs-office/apply-now/quick-menu/international-graduate-admissions/>) website).