

International (Foreign) Students

The CSU must assess the academic preparation of foreign students. For this purpose, “foreign students” include those who hold U.S. temporary visas as students, exchange visitors, or in other non-immigrant classifications. The CSU uses separate requirements and application filing dates in the admission of “foreign students.” Verification of English proficiency (see the section on the English Language Requirement for undergraduate applicants), financial resources, and academic performance are each important considerations for admission.

Academic records from foreign institutions must be on file by the deadline (see application deadlines in the copy that follows) for the first term and, if not in English, must be accompanied by certified English translations.

Applicants must have completed a comprehensive pattern of college preparatory courses. Verification of English proficiency (see the section on TOEFL requirement) and academic performance are required. Applicants who are seeking admission from American secondary or post-secondary schools must fulfill all requirements.

No admission decision will be made until required materials have been submitted to International Admissions.

Application Forms. All foreign students requesting admission for undergraduate or graduate study at California State University, Fresno must complete and file the international student application. Applicants must submit the following:

- an international application
- a \$55 nonrefundable processing fee (note that checks must be drawn on a U.S. bank account)
- a current official bank statement from financial sponsor
- an official TOEFL score taken no earlier than two years prior to attendance at California State University, Fresno
- official original or certified true copies of academic documents and other school records in the native language and in English translation

Graduate students must also submit current GMAT/GRE scores and letters of recommendation.

All documents submitted become the property of California State University, Fresno and will not be returned. They will be kept permanently for those students who actually attend; however, documents for those students who do not enroll will be retained for only one year.

Application Deadlines. The international application, fee, and all required documents, transcripts, and test scores must be received no later than:

Undergraduate

Fall Semester - June 1

Spring Semester - November 1

Graduate

Fall Semester - March 1

Spring Semester - October 1

Academic credentials will be evaluated for academic eligibility in accordance with the general regulations governing admission to California State University, Fresno. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate English proficiency. (See TOEFL below.)

Graduate applications will be reviewed by the individual academic departments to determine eligibility for the requested graduate program.

TOEFL. To ensure that students are prepared to take advantage of the educational opportunities available at California State University, Fresno, each international student who must submit TOEFL scores will be required to participate in a post-admission testing program. The test will be administered during orientation immediately before the student's first matriculated semester. The purpose of the testing program (e.g. the University English Exam) is to assess strengths and weaknesses in written English. As a result of the post-admission testing, a student may be required to enroll in certain English as a Second Language (ESL) courses. TOEFL will be waived for those students who hold a bachelor's degree from a U.S. university.

An undergraduate student whose academic qualifications are acceptable, but who has not achieved an acceptable TOEFL score, may be granted a conditional admission. Such a student must obtain an I-20 form (Certificate of Eligibility) from an English language school and attend an English as a Second Language (ESL) program. In order to transfer from a language school to California State University, Fresno, a conditionally admitted student must present an official TOEFL score of 500 on the pencil-based exam or 173 on the computer-based exam, on a test taken within the last two years. (See also TOEFL Requirement.)