

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADMISSION

The University of Maryland seeks to enroll international students who demonstrate strong academic performance with records suggesting potential for success at Maryland. Admission to the University of Maryland is competitive. Typically, admission is offered to applicants whose academic credentials indicate marks of "very good" to "excellent." Due to space limitations and the competitive nature of undergraduate admission at the University of Maryland, an international applicant should submit a complete application as early as possible, and always before the deadlines listed in this section. Evaluation of an applicant's credentials will take place only after all application materials are received.

Applicants currently holding or intending to seek an F-1 Student or J-1 Exchange Visitor visa to study in the United States are considered international applicants and should observe the following instructions. All other non-immigrant visa holders (including A, E, G, H, I, and L) should follow the domestic Freshman and Transfer instructions. However, please refer to the Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://admissions.umd.edu/apply/requirements/international/english-proficiency>) for more information regarding English proficiency requirements.

## Freshman Admission - International

You are considered a freshman applicant if you have completed fewer than 12 semester hours of university-level credit beyond secondary school at the time you plan to enter the University of Maryland. Successful freshman applicants demonstrate satisfactory completion of diverse college-preparatory subjects in secondary school, proficiency in English, and evidence of sufficient funds to cover all expenses. Due to space limitations, we are unable to offer admission to all students who have the ability to be successful academically at the University of Maryland.

The Fall (August) deadline for applications to be received is November 1. The Spring (January) general deadline is August 1.

For a listing of required documents, please visit our website: <https://www.admissions.umd.edu/apply/requirements/international>.

## Transfer Admission - International

Students who graduate from high/secondary school and subsequently complete a minimum of 12 semester hours or 18 quarter hours during a regular term excluding summer school, at a regionally accredited college or university are considered transfer applicants. Students who complete fewer than 30 semester or 45 quarter hours are expected to submit high/secondary school records and SAT I and/or ACT scores for review. When an applicant has attended more than one institution, a cumulative average for all previous college/university work attempted will be computed and included in the review process. To be considered, coursework must have been completed at a regionally accredited college or university.

Admission is competitive. Transfer applicants demonstrate better than average grades in strong academic courses, proficiency in English, and evidence of sufficient funds to cover all expenses. Due to space

limitation, we are unable to offer admission to all students who have the ability to be academically successful at the University of Maryland.

The fall priority deadline for applications to be received is March 1. The spring regular deadline is August 1st. <https://go.umd.edu/AppDeadlines>

For a listing of required documents, please visit our website: <https://go.umd.edu/InternationalReq>

## Non-U.S. Academic Credentials

Beginning with the Fall 2018 admissions cycle, the University of Maryland will require all degree-seeking students to submit a third party academic evaluation for *only post-secondary/university credentials* from one of the two evaluators listed below. Evaluations must be received by the appropriate deadline (<https://admissions.umd.edu/apply/application-deadlines>).

- Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE) (<https://www.ece.org/ECE>)
  - Start the evaluation process with ECE by visiting their Education Reports page (<https://www.ece.org/ECE/Individuals/Education-Reports>).
  - Requirements:
    - Course-by-course evaluation
    - Original transcript(s) and certified English translation of the transcript(s)
    - Grade point average calculation
    - Upper division course designation
- Josef Silny & Associates (JS&A) (<http://www.jsilny.org>)
  - Start the evaluation process with JS&A by using their application for evaluation form (<http://www.transfercredit.umd.edu/silnyform.pdf>).
  - Requirements:
    - Course-by-course evaluation
    - Original transcript(s) and a certified English translation of the transcript(s)
    - Grade point average calculation
    - Upper division course designation for students with more than 1 year of post-secondary/university education completed.

## English Proficiency

Non-native English speakers (regardless of citizenship) who seek admission to the University of Maryland must verify their proficiency in English by taking and submitting an official score report from one of the following English proficiency exams: Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Test System (IELTS). Please note that while TOEFL or IELTS scores are required to satisfy proficiency in English, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions will conduct a full file review considering all application materials submitted in the application package to make a determination about the student's level of English proficiency. Transfer credit for an English composition course from a U.S. institution does not waive the English proficiency exam. Please refer to the Undergraduate Admissions website (<https://go.umd.edu/InternationalReq>) for more information regarding English proficiency requirements.

## Visa Requirements

Applicants Residing Outside of the United States: To enter the United States, international students residing abroad will need a passport from

their government and a visa from the U.S. Consulate. In order to obtain a visa for the purposes of studying in the United States, the applicant must present a Certificate of Eligibility form (I-20) to the U.S. Consulate for non-immigrant student status. The university will issue this form to admitted students who have submitted proof of having sufficient funds to cover the cost of a program of study. Admitted students with personal, family, or other source of private funding will be issued the Certificate of Eligibility form (I-20) in order to obtain the F-1 Student Visa. Admitted students who are sponsored by agencies, foundations, or their home government, or are participating in an established exchange program may be issued the Certificate of Eligibility form (DS-2019) in order to obtain the J-1 Exchange Visitor Visa.

**Applicants Currently Residing in the United States:** Applicants currently holding F-1 Student or J-1 Exchange Visitor status in the United States need to submit a photocopy of their I-94 Arrival/Departure Record, visa stamp, and current I-20 or DS-2019 form along with proof of having sufficient funds to cover the cost of a program of study.

Applicants holding another type of non-immigrant status need to submit a photocopy of their I-94 Arrival/Departure Record and visa stamp, and must indicate if they intend to seek a change to F-1 Student or J-1 Exchange Visitor status. Upon admission and submission of the appropriate financial support documentation, the university will issue the appropriate Certificate of Eligibility form (I-20 or DS-2019) to the student.

For more information, please visit the Office of International Student and Scholar Services website: <http://globalmaryland.umd.edu/offices/international-students-scholar-services>.

## **International External Exam**

The University of Maryland awards credit for some Advanced Level/Advanced Subsidiary Level (A-Level/AS-Level) Exams taken through Cambridge International Exams (CIE) or other recognized organizations. There are other types of college level exams that may be awarded credit on a case-by-case basis. For additional information on the transferability of these exams, please see Prior Learning Credit - AP, IB, A-Level/AS-Level, BMT, Credit-by-Exam on the Transfer Credit page (<https://academiccatalog.umd.edu/undergraduate/registration-academic-requirements-regulations/transfer-credit>).