

Admissions

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Introduction

WVU provides excellent educational programs for well-prepared students. The goal of the University's admission policy is to select applicants who will succeed academically and socially. If space is limited, the better-prepared students are admitted.

WVU enrolls a diverse student population. While preference is given to West Virginia residents, qualified students from other states and countries are encouraged to apply. The University is committed to the goal of equal educational opportunity for all students: no candidate is denied admission because of race, religion, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, handicap or disability, veteran status, or national origin.

The primary focus of the admissions review is on academic potential. All of the required materials submitted by the applicant - application, transcripts, and standardized test scores - are reviewed carefully.

Applications for admission can be found online at: <http://apply.wvu.edu/> or write to:

Office of Admissions
West Virginia University
P.O. Box 6009
One Waterfront Place, 2nd Floor
Morgantown, WV 26506-6009
Telephone: (304) 293-2121
e-mail: WVUAdmissions@mail.wvu.edu

Some colleges and programs have admission standards that exceed the minimal requirements for admission to the University. For example, admission to the forensics major in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences and to the professional programs in the Division of Physical Therapy and the School of Pharmacy, among others, is competitive, and preference is given to West Virginia residents. Admission to the University does not ensure admission into a specific major, school, or college.

References to SAT scores for admission requirements are based on SAT administrations prior to March 2016. Please visit <https://admissions.wvu.edu> for updated admission requirements based on concordant SAT scores for tests taken March 2016 and later.

Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center

The undergraduate programs at the Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center have specific application periods and requirements. Please refer to the program's website for admission requirements for undergraduate health sciences center programs. The undergraduate application is available at: <http://admissions.wvu.edu/apply-now>.

Visiting Students Coming to WVU

Students wanting to take a course at WVU and have the credit transferred to another college or university must complete a Visiting Student Form. The application can be found at: <http://admissions.wvu.edu/admissions/forms>. A form must be completed for each term you plan to attend.

Veterans

Veterans not meeting minimal admission requirements may be reviewed for admission by the Admissions Review Committee.

Readmission

If a student leaves the University for at least one complete semester, an application for readmission must be submitted to the Office of Admissions. Decisions on readmission are based on the student's academic standing.

If another institution(s) was attended, readmission will be based on the WVU academic standing along with academic credit earned at any other institution attended after leaving WVU. In order to be readmitted, student must obtain an overall grade point average of 2.0 at all institutions attended since leaving WVU or attain a combined overall grade point average of 2.0 from all institutions attended including WVU.

If suspended from the University, a student must apply for readmission. Additional information may be found at: http://registrar.wvu.edu/current_students/probation-suspension.

Second Degree Students

College graduates wanting to earn a second bachelor's degree are required to submit an undergraduate application and official transcripts from all institutions previously attended. The Office of Admissions can only accept transcripts sent from the Registrars' Offices of these institutions. Transcripts issued directly to the student or facsimile (fax) transcripts are not considered official. In general, admission is granted on the basis of a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.0 in the first baccalaureate. Selected majors have higher requirements. After admission, the individual department evaluates the transcript and applies any appropriate credit from the first baccalaureate toward completion of the second. Students who have earned a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university generally meet all of WVU's General Education Foundations (GEF) requirements. All residence requirements must be met to receive a second bachelor's degree. (See Residence Requirements).

Undergraduate Non-Degree

Students with one or more bachelor's degrees from an accredited college or university (including WVU) who want to enroll for undergraduate credit may be admitted as non-degree students. Post-baccalaureate students who are not working toward a graduate degree may earn undergraduate credit and will be assessed undergraduate fees. Candidates for admission to this classification who are not graduates of WVU must submit an undergraduate application and an official transcript from the institution granting the undergraduate degree. The Office of Admissions can only accept transcripts sent from the Registrar's Office of the institution(s) previously attended. Transcripts issued directly to the student or facsimile (fax) transcripts are not considered official. WVU students need only to apply with an undergraduate application.

WVU will admit students who are not degree candidates but who wish to take additional courses. If students meet University requirements, they should submit a complete application and official transcripts from all institutions previously attended. If students have completed fewer than twenty-four college-level credits, they should submit an official high school transcript.

Academic Forgiveness Policy

WVU allows academic forgiveness to some undergraduate students who are not successful in their first attempt at higher education **within the West Virginia system**.

In order to determine eligibility, an Academic Forgiveness form must be completed, which is available at <https://admissions.wvu.edu/forms-and-procedures/academic-forgiveness>. Students should consult with their academic department for advising.

The conditions and rules of the academic forgiveness policy are as follows:

- A student cannot have been enrolled at any higher education institution for at least four calendar years.
- Admission or readmission to WVU under the academic forgiveness policy is contingent upon satisfying the above stated non-enrollment period. In addition, a recommendation that the student be admitted under the academic forgiveness policy must be submitted by the dean of the college or school that the student plans to enter, and the recommendation must be approved by the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs.
- Upon admission to WVU under this policy, the student will be credited with the hours earned for courses completed with a grade of D or higher.
- Grades earned during any prior enrollment period will not be counted for purposes of calculating the student's grade point average, but the grades earned will remain on the student's permanent record.
- The student must meet and complete all coursework required to meet the college's or school's requirements for graduation, but under no circumstances after the student has been admitted under the academic forgiveness policy shall the student complete fewer than sixty credit hours prior to earning a degree.
- A student admitted to WVU under this policy will follow all regulations regarding probation, suspension, and expulsion.

WVU Transient Students

In order to take a course or courses at another college or university, a student must complete a Transient Credit Form, which can be found at: <http://admissions.wvu.edu/r/download/134700>. To receive such approval, a student must have an overall 2.0 grade-point average. All approved college-level work is accepted for transfer from accredited institutions, provided the above requirements have been met. To view a list of schools and courses already reviewed, visit <http://admissions.wvu.edu>. In addition, an official transcript must be received by the Office of Admissions before any coursework can be

counted toward degree requirements. Students cannot choose to transfer courses based on the grades earned. All courses from the institution(s) will be transferred. The academic department will determine what courses satisfy degree requirements.

International students going to their home country for transient study must complete the same Transient Credit Form found at <https://admissions.wvu.edu/forms-and-procedures/transient-credit-application>. Credit only (not grades) will be transferred to WVU from an International institution. All students traveling abroad through the Study Abroad Program should complete the Study Abroad Transient Form which can be found at <http://studyabroad.wvu.edu/home>.

Immunization Requirements

Requirements for immunizations are posted at: <http://studentinsurance.wvu.edu/immunizations>.

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Freshman Admission Requirements

To be considered for freshman admission, a student must:

- Submit an application for admission
- Pay required application fees and provide all required documents to be reviewed for admission which includes: an official high school transcript and ACT/SAT test scores. Upon graduation, please ask the high school counselor to send an official final high school transcript verifying graduation to the Office of Admissions.

And successfully complete the following high school credits:

- Four units of English
- Three units of social studies (including U.S. History)
- Four units of college preparatory mathematics (three units must be Algebra I and II and Plane Geometry).
- Three units of science (ALL units must be laboratory science)
- Two units of the same foreign language
- One unit of fine arts

The following is a list of the GPA and test score criteria.

High school grade point average and comprehensive tests are the major criterion used to determine admission to WVU. WVU accepts either ACT (American College Testing) or SAT scores.

High school graduates from West Virginia are eligible to be considered for admission with a 2.0 grade point average and either a composite ACT score of 19 or a combined math and critical reading SAT score of 980. Non-residents are eligible to be considered for admission with a 2.5 overall grade point average and either an ACT composite score of 20 or a combined math and critical reading SAT score of 1020. If space is available and the required high school units, GPA, and test scores are met, the student will be admitted. Therefore, we encourage eligible students to apply as soon as possible after August 1 of their senior year. If one of the requirements is not met, students may still apply, and the Admissions Review Committee will review the application. If appropriate, students should submit a written statement explaining any extenuating circumstances that may have affected their academic performance. Each application is reviewed individually and given full consideration.

Students who graduate fewer than five years before their admission request must present ACT or SAT scores with the admission application. If it is more than five years since the student's class graduated from high school or a GED diploma was earned and no other college has been attended, WVU may waive some of the admission requirements

General Equivalency Degree (GED)/Test of Accessing Secondary Completion (TASC)/ High School Equivalency Test (HiSET)

Students who have completed a General Equivalency Degree (GED) with an average standard score of 2250 (450) or above must request that the State Department of Education mails copies of scores to the Office of Admissions. In addition, a high school transcript must also be mailed to the WVU Office of Admissions.

Beginning January, 2014, the West Virginia Department of Education began to use the Test Assessing Secondary Completion (TASC) exam in place of the GED. The GED will continue to be accepted for students who took the GED prior to January, 2014 or from a state that does not administer the TASC exam. Those students passing the TASC will need to submit their "State of West Virginia High School Equivalency Diploma." A high school transcript must also be mailed to the WVU Office of Admissions. More information about the TASC exam can be found at: <http://www.tasctest.com>.

Beginning January, 2016, the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission also approved the use of High School Equivalency Test (HiSET). More information about the HiSET exam can be found at http://hiset.ets.org/states_educators/.

Advanced Placement Program (AP)

WVU encourages students to work to their full capacity and to earn their degree at their own learning speed. As a high school junior or senior, students can take college-level courses at their school through Advanced Placement courses. Administered by the College Board, Advanced Placement examinations verify if a student has earned competency equal to that of a college course. The WVU Office of Admissions' Advanced Placement chart (<http://admissions.wvu.edu/admissions/equivalency>) shows the subject areas and necessary test scores needed to earn WVU equivalent courses. In order to receive Advanced Placement credit, official scores must be sent to the Office of Admissions.

College Level Examination Program (CLEP)

If a student has gained a significant level of maturity through life experiences, he or she may receive college credit for those educationally-related experiences through the College Level Examination Program (CLEP) of the College Board. With the exception of English composition, up to thirty-five hours of general education or elective credit may be earned for successful performance on the CLEP general examinations. Although this program was designed primarily for adults, exceptionally well-qualified high school seniors may use the CLEP program. The chart at the WVU Office of Admissions' website: <http://admissions.wvu.edu/admissions/equivalency> indicates the areas for which WVU grants credit based on the minimum scores required. Students must be enrolled at WVU to receive credit. Students who have taken CLEP examinations prior to enrollment must submit an official CLEP transcript.

Active Military Service Credit

A student with at least one year of active military service may receive college-level credit by submitting a copy of his or her DD214 or a Sailor/Marine/ACE Registry Transcript (SMART) or Army/ACE Registry Transcript System (AARTS) transcript. The chart can be found at <http://admissions.wvu.edu/admissions/equivalency>.

International Baccalaureate (IB)

West Virginia University welcomes applications from students who have attended high schools that offer the international baccalaureate program. Credit given varies with level (standard or higher) and with score. The chart can be found at: <http://admissions.wvu.edu/admissions/equivalency>.

A and AS Levels

West Virginia University welcomes applications from students with Cambridge International A and AS Level Certificates for advanced placement credit.

A maximum of 6 to 8 credits per subject can be awarded for Cambridge International A Level grades ranging from E or above, with the submission of an official Cambridge Examination Certificate. Cambridge International AS Levels with grades of E or above will receive a maximum of 3 to 4 credits, with the submission of an official Cambridge Examination Certificate. For more information, please contact the Office of Admissions, International Unit (<http://oiss.wvu.edu>).

Early Admission

WVU will admit a limited number of rising high school seniors who have demonstrated high academic achievement and maturity to enter college before high school graduation. Students who have completed their junior year in high school with 3.5 GPA or higher and a 26 enhanced ACT composite or 1240 on the SAT and have completed all requirements for graduation from high school except senior English may apply for early admission. In addition to submitting the freshman admission application and required documents (see Freshman Admissions), the principal or guidance counselors must submit a letter supporting the application. The student's parent(s) or guardian(s) must also submit a letter of support for the application. Once the above requirements are met, an interview with the student will be conducted for the Early Admissions Program. Accepted students are admitted as full-time students with all of the rights and privileges offered to other students.

ACCESS (Attaining College Credits and Experiences while in Secondary School)

High school students who have completed their junior year with a 3.0 cumulative GPA may be admitted to enroll in college courses before high school graduation. An ACCESS application for admission must be submitted along with permission from parent(s) or guardian(s) and high school counselor or principal. Coursework completed at the University must be at a level beyond that available in the high school setting.

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Transfer Students from Regional Campuses

Students enrolled at Potomac State College of WVU or WVU Institute of Technology must complete the Change of Campus form to transfer to the Morgantown campus. The form can be found at: <http://admissions.wvu.edu/r/download/134772>. WVU admission requirements must be met as well as requirements to specific programs.

Students wanting to transfer to WVU in Morgantown before completing two semesters at any of our regional or branch campuses need to meet freshman admission standards.

Transfers from Other Accredited Institutions

We welcome transfer students who have completed post-secondary coursework at a regionally accredited college or university. To be admitted as a transfer student at WVU, students must have at least a cumulative 2.0 grade point average in all college work attempted. Transfer students who have fewer than twenty-four transferable credit hours must also meet freshman admission standards. Some individual programs and majors have different course requirements and higher grade point average requirements.

Application Materials

To be considered for transfer admissions, the following materials are needed:

1. A completed application for undergraduate admission.
2. Official transcripts of all college work attempted must be sent to the Office of Admissions. Admissions can only accept transcripts sent directly from Registrars' offices. Transcripts issued to the student, or a facsimile (fax) transcript, are not considered official. Before final admission is granted, an official transcript must be submitted covering all courses taken after application to WVU.
3. If you have fewer than 24 transferable credit hours, ACT or SAT scores and a high school transcript must be submitted as part of your application.

All application materials must be received in the Office of Admissions by August 1 for fall admission and December 1 for spring admission.

Evaluation of Transfer Credit

Evaluation of transferable credit will be made after receipt of all final official transcripts and admission to WVU. All credits and grades accepted as transfer credit will be used in the calculation of the cumulative grade point average and total attempted and earned credits. Transfer credits from community colleges and junior colleges outside the West Virginia Regional Campus System are limited to 72 hours of lower-division courses.

In all cases, the application of transfer credit toward completion of a bachelor's degree is determined by the school or college upon enrollment. The student's academic department will determine which credits will be used to meet degree requirements. If more than 58 semester hours are being transferred, entrance requirements for the specific program must be met. Individual consideration is given to a limited number of students with more than 58 transferable hours who do not meet specific program requirements.

Transfer Credit Appellate Process

Students who transfer credits to WVU, from a West Virginia institution, may appeal decisions on how credits were evaluated. Students opting to appeal a transfer evaluation must appeal to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions within one semester of the transfer. Appeals should be made in writing and provide syllabi or other supporting documents. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions will review the appeal and make any technical corrections to work evaluated as needed. If the Office of Undergraduate Admissions finds no technical error in how the credit was evaluated, the student's appeal and syllabi will be forwarded to the respective college through which the course or similar course is offered and reviewed by the Dean's designee for a determination. If it is determined the course in question is not equivalent to an existing course, the appeal will be denied. If the appeal is denied, the student may appeal to the Associate Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs. The Associate Provost will convene a panel of faculty members to review the appeal. This panel will decide to either uphold the transfer evaluation as it stands or direct that the evaluation be changed. The Associate Provost will notify all parties to the outcome of the process within 60 days of receipt of the appeal by the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.

Students who wish to appeal the decision of the faculty panel may contact the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission. The Commission will review the request and make a recommendation to the President of the University.

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International Student Admission

West Virginia University is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant foreign nationals as international students. International students wishing to enroll as undergraduate students at WVU must comply with the stated academic requirements for admission and with certain additional academic and non-academic requirements.

Application deadlines are as follows:

- Fall Semester – Apply by June 1, all academic documents need to be submitted by July 1
- Spring Semester – Apply by October 1, all academic documents need to be submitted by November 1
- Summer – Apply by February 15, all academic documents need to be submitted by April 1.

Applications submitted after the deadline and incomplete applications will be considered for the next term.

International students applying for admission to WVU must submit the following:

- Completed International Student Admission Application
- Application fee
- Results of the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or International English Language Testing System (IELTS). TOEFL results should be sent to WVU directly from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) and the IELTS results should be sent directly from the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate.
- Original or certified copies of an official academic record in original language of issue
- Original or certified copy of all certificates or diplomas in original language of issue
- Official English translations of academic record and certificates/diplomas
- Copy of current passport or visa for visa status

NOTE: Copies of academic records/transcripts, certificates or diplomas from international institutions may be sent by email for review purposes after application. However, original or certified copies of all official records/transcripts, certificates and diplomas must be submitted by mail or special delivery such as FedEx or DHL after admission or as soon as possible prior to registration.

Transcripts from US institutions must be sent directly from the US institution to West Virginia University.

Applicants for undergraduate programs must submit all secondary school records as well as all university-level records. Undergraduate transfer applicants should submit course descriptions or syllabi for all courses completed at the university level.

International applicants who have completed high school in the United States will also be required to submit ACT or SAT results.

The above items should be sent to the following address by the application deadline: Office of Admissions, West Virginia University, P.O. Box 6009, 2nd Floor, One Waterfront Place, Morgantown, WV 26505-6009.

If possible, all application material should be submitted at one time (TOEFL/IELTS scores and official transcripts from United States institutions should be requested so that all material arrives at WVU close to the same date). Incomplete applications cannot be guaranteed consideration for the desired semester.

Please note: Documents received by WVU, including original documents, become the property of WVU and cannot be returned to or copied for the applicant.

Please review our instructions for applicants from Chinese institutions and an important note on submitted documents.

APPLICANTS FROM CHINESE INSTITUTIONS

Applicants from Chinese institutions should request and submit official transcripts directly through CHESICC. Requests are processed by CHESICC and will be sent electronically to WVU's admissions office. You **will not** need to submit a paper copy of your transcript. Visit CHESICC to get started.

WORLD EDUCATION SERVICES (WES)

To expedite the application process, it is recommended, but not required, that all undergraduate students (both freshmen and transfer) who have attended high school, post-secondary educational institutions and college or universities outside the United States use World Education Services to complete professional credential evaluation of all academic work completed. Transfer applicants should request a "course-by-course" International Credential Advantage Package (ICAP). Freshman applicants should request a "document-by-document" International Credential Advantage Package (ICAP). ICAP evaluations include WES certified copies of official documents.

IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT NAMES ON SUBMITTED DOCUMENTS

Materials from applicants are retained alphabetically, under the family name, as indicated by the applicant on the International Student Admission Application. It is important that all forms, records and correspondence use the same name and spelling. Your name needs to be as it appears or will appear in your passport. Materials often cannot be matched to files when papers arrive with different names.

IGCSE and GCSE Levels

West Virginia University welcomes applications from students with IGCSE and GCSE Level Certificates from Cambridge International for admissions consideration. We require a minimum of 5 subject passes of which two must be English and Mathematics. The average of the grades must be at least a 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale). A passing grade in the subject of English will be accepted as evidence of sufficient English ability.

Admission Requirements

The following are the minimum admissions requirements for international students applying as freshman or undergraduate transfer students.

FRESHMAN:

- Must have at least a 2.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale for general admission.
- Must meet English Proficiency or request conditional admission.
- Please be advised that some majors such as Engineering may reach capacity and therefore will be restricted from entry.
- For direct admission to some colleges and majors, SAT or ACT scores are required and must be sent to WVU directly from the respective testing services. For all other majors, international students are encouraged but not required to submit SAT or ACT scores, if available. SAT/ACT scores are useful for determining scholarship eligibility.

TRANSFER

- Must have at least a 2.5 grade-point average on a 4.0 scale for general admission.
- Must meet English Proficiency or request conditional admission.
- In addition, transfer students who have fewer than 24 transferable credit hours, must also meet freshman admission standards and submit secondary school/high school transcripts. Some individual programs and majors have different course requirements and higher grade point average requirements; please review the various program requirements.
- Grades and credits are transferable for college-level courses from regionally accredited U.S. institutions. Only credits (no grades) are transferable from college-level courses from International institutions.

Applicants must submit academic records from all secondary and post-secondary institutions attended regardless of whether grades were issued or credit was received. WVU requires that original or certified copies of the original academic documents from non-United States institutions be submitted. The required documents include the official academic record (showing course titles, dates taken, and grades received) and diploma(s) or certificate(s) showing degree awarded. These documents must be in the original language of issue; official English translations must be included. Translations must be literal, word-for-word translations and must indicate actual grades received, not an interpretation of the grades. Applicants who have studied in the United States are required to have the institution(s) in the U.S. send the official transcript directly to WVU.

Documents received by WVU become the property of WVU and cannot be returned to the applicant or copied for the applicant. It is therefore recommended that students who receive only one original copy of credentials submit certified copies with the application.

English Language Proficiency

All applicants whose **native** language is not English must provide proof of English language proficiency. WVU uses the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) as the measure of English language proficiency. A score of 500 on the paper-based TOEFL, or 61 on the internet-based TOEFL, or 6.0 on the IELTS is the minimum required of all such undergraduate applicants. Applicants must make arrangements to take the TOEFL/IELTS well in advance of the desired date of enrollment at WVU. Information about registration for the TOEFL can be obtained by writing to: Educational Testing Service, P.O. Box 6151, Princeton, NJ 08541-6151, USA, or by contacting the local

office of the United States Information Service (USIS). Information about registration for IELTS can be obtained by accessing the IELTS website at <http://www.ielts.org>.

TOEFL results are not required for applicants who have received a high school diploma and have obtained the required ACT/SAT test scores or a bachelor's degree from schools in the United States.

In some cases, SAT Reading or ACT English test scores may be used to meet English proficiency. A passing grade in the subject of English on the IGCSE or GCSE certificates from Cambridge International will be accepted for English proficiency.

Applicants who have completed English composition courses which are equivalent to WVU's ENGL 101 and ENGL 102 with a "B" average at a United States institution are not required to submit TOEFL/IELTS scores. Many online English composition courses are not considered equivalent and will require review and approval from the English department.

In some cases, it may be possible to consider applications from students who lack adequate TOEFL or IELTS scores and who will enroll in WVU's Intensive English Program. Such applicants must contact the Intensive English Program and notify the Office of Admissions of their intentions. Admission to the Intensive English Program does not guarantee admission to the University or to a specific program of study. Inquiries should be directed to: Intensive English Program, WVU Department of Foreign Languages, P.O. Box 6298, Morgantown, WV 26506-6298, Telephone: (304) 293-3604. Online: <http://iep.wvu.edu>.

Financial Documents and Student Visa

Before WVU can issue the document necessary to apply for a student visa (Form I-20 or Form DS-2019) the student must provide proof that he or she has the adequate financial resources to provide for his or her expenses incurred while studying at WVU. All financial documents along with a copy of the visa or passport must be submitted to the Office of International Students and Scholars Services. For more on the Student Visa process, visit the Office of International Students and Scholars Services at <http://oiss.wvu.edu/>.

Student Health Insurance

International students will be automatically enrolled in our student health plan unless an appropriate waiver has been submitted and approved. Information regarding the plan, enrollment information, waiver forms, etc., can be found at the Student Health Insurance Plan (<http://studentinsurance.wvu.edu>).