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1. How long does the admissions process take and how can I check the status of my application?

An admissions decision cannot be made until all transcripts, [Chronological Records of Education](#) and test scores have been submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions. Therefore, the timeframe on the admissions process can vary. Undergraduate students should utilize the [F-1 Student Application Checklist](#) or the [Visitor Exchange Application Checklist](#) for J-1 Students to ensure that all documents have been submitted. Please be advised that J-1 applicants must attend a university that has an agreement with UL Lafayette. The status of all applications can be checked by logging back into the [application portal](#).

2. How do I determine if I am a first-time freshman or a transfer applicant? Can I apply as a first-time freshman if I do not want to have my credits transferred to UL Lafayette?

If you have never attended a post-secondary institution (college or university in OR outside of the U.S.), then you would be considered a first-time freshmen applicant. If you have attended a post-secondary institution, then you would be considered a transfer applicant. All transfer credit is considered part of a student's academic record and cannot be erased without declaring academic amnesty. If you previously attended a university, you must apply as a transfer student.

3. Must I provide English translations of my transcripts? Do I also need to provide transcripts in my native language?

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions requires official transcripts (with school seal/stamp in a sealed envelope) in the language of instruction. Official/Certified English translations must also be provided if the original transcripts are not in English. [Click here](#) for more information on approved translations accepted by UL.

4. Do I need a TOEFL score if English is an official language in my country?

All freshman applicants must meet the university minimum requirement for SAT or ACT. In addition, all applicants must meet the minimum requirements for English language proficiency through TOEFL/IELTS/Duolingo/SAT/ACT/Accuplacer (unless exempt from this requirement). Freshmen applicants from [countries where English is an official language](#) must submit SAT or ACT scores, and do not need to submit TOEFL, IELTS or Duolingo.

5. Can I be admitted with unofficial transcripts and test scores?

Yes. However, official transcripts and test scores must be submitted prior to an admissions decision being rendered. This is because we cannot issue the SEVIS I-20 form needed until the admissions file is fully completed and all official items have been received. Unofficial transcripts and test scores may be mailed to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions or submitted electronically to etranscripts@louisiana.edu.

6. How can I submit my official test scores?

Make sure to indicate our score code when you register for your test. UL Lafayette's school score code for the SAT and TOEFL is **6672**. The ACT score code is **1612**. You can also request that your scores be sent to UL after you have taken the exam by contacting the company that administered the exam.

7. Can I come to UL Lafayette before achieving English proficiency?

UL Lafayette does offer an Intensive English Program where students can take English courses prior to enrolling at the University. For more information, please [click here](#).

8. Do I have to provide a financial guarantee if I apply for a scholarship?

Yes, however if you will be studying on an F-1 visa, you must provide proof of the amount that the scholarship does not cover in the form of an [Undergraduate Financial Guarantee \(F-1\)](#). The Confidential Financial Guarantee and matching bank statement must be received before a SEVIS I-20 A-B can be generated.

Please note that J-1 students, transfer students from universities outside of the U.S., reentry students, and students who have attained a bachelor's degree or the equivalent thereof are not eligible for scholarships.

9. When will I receive my SEVIS I-20 or DS-2019 and how will it be shipped to me?

Only after a student has been fully admitted to the university, will an I-20 or DS-2019 issued. Fully admitted means all items required for processing have been received, all official and completed school records are on file, and all official test scores are received. Students transferring from U.S. institutions will also have to complete the [Undergraduate Transfer Form](#) and be released from their current institution before being transferred to UL Lafayette.

I-20's can be issued electronically, shipped via regular mail (at the University's expense), or sent through eShip Global (with courier choices of UPS, FedEx, or DHL) at the student's expense. The courier option is strongly recommended. Most I-20s sent overseas through regular mail do not arrive at their destination. The DS-2019 cannot be issued electronically.

10. What is a ULID and when do I get one?

The ULID is the student identification number and is used by all students once they have been admitted. The number will appear on a student's admissions letter and should be used for all communication with any department on the UL Lafayette campus.

11. Once I am admitted, what is the next step?

Please carefully review and follow the [Pre –Arrival Information](#) and [Next Steps!](#)

12. How many credit hours do I have to take each semester?

Any international undergraduate student studying on an F-1 visa must maintain at least 12 hours of credit per semester to remain in status. Please visit the OIA's website for information about [maintaining your status](#).

13. How much is tuition and when can I pay it?

Tuition rates vary from semester to semester. See the Student Cashier Center's website for [current tuition and fees](#) and [information about payments](#).

14. Are international students required to live on campus?

International students are not required to live on campus, but [on-campus housing](#) is available. It is important to secure housing prior to arriving in Lafayette. You can contact the Housing Department at housing@louisiana.edu or (337)482-6471 regarding on campus accommodations.

15. When do I go to orientation? When do I register for my classes?

All incoming international students must attend two orientation sessions. The first session, [International Orientation](#), is offered virtually and provides information specific to student services and SEVP (Student Exchange Visitor Program) rules and regulations. The second session is hosted by the [Orientation Office](#). At this session you register for your classes and meet with academic advisors. **Students must be [complaint on immunizations](#) or have [requested an exemption](#) that is received and approved to be eligible to register for classes.** [Student Health Services](#) can be reached at shs@louisiana.edu or (337)482-1293.

16. When will I find out if I have received any transfer credit?

[Transfer credit](#) is awarded by the individual academic colleges. An official evaluation of transfer credit is not determined until after a student has been admitted. Once a student receives his/her Cajun Card (identification card) he/she can log in to the University's ULINK portal to view awarded transfer credit.

17. Can I work while attending school?

International students are allowed to work on-campus with special permission from the Office of International Affairs. They must first secure a campus job, which includes providing a letter from their prospective campus department, completing paperwork at the Office of International Affairs, and apply for a Social Security Card. For more information, please visit [Working in the U.S.](#) on the OIA's website.

For additional support international students can reach out to the Office of International Affairs within the Division of Global Engagement at uia@louisiana.edu or (337)482-6819.