



The International Connection:

CONNECTING THE INTERNATIONAL STUDENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

QUICK ANSWERS FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Here is a quick list of frequently asked questions about the University of Arkansas.

Why do I want to study at the University of Arkansas?

The University of Arkansas offers you a place to achieve your goals in a comfortable, friendly, inexpensive setting. Located in Fayetteville, in the beautiful northwest corner of the state of Arkansas and in the central U.S., we highly value our international students. We are now connecting over 900 international students from over 100 countries to success through our fully accredited academic programs leading to bachelor's, master's, PhD, and EdD degrees.

How do I apply?

We invite you to visit our website and apply online or download the international application forms. If you are unable to do this, or if an application packet is not available to you through an overseas advisor, please contact:

International Admissions Office
747 W. Dickson Street #8
1 University of Arkansas
Fayetteville AR 72701 USA
1-479-575-6246 • 1-479-575-5055(fax)
intlapp@uark.edu (application requests only)
iao@uark.edu (other questions)

and ask for a graduate or undergraduate application packet. We will quickly send you everything you need to successfully complete the admission process. You may phone, fax, or email your request or any questions you may have.

We welcome your questions!

Graduate applicants in the area of business should request applications and information directly from the Sam M. Walton College of Business Graduate School of Business at gwb@walton.uark.edu. Applicants for graduate programs in law should contact the Law School directly at jmiller@uark.edu.

Our catalogs are available online at <http://catalogofstudies.uark.edu/>. The catalogs itemize courses and requirements for the degree programs we offer. For a list of undergraduate programs available, see <http://admissions.uark.edu/students/majors/list.shtml>. For a listing of graduate programs, see <http://www.uark.edu/depts/gradinfo/recruit/degrees/index.html>.

Return the completed application forms to us with a US \$50 application fee. Your check must be drawn on a US bank. Please do not send cash! We do not offer fee waivers. Have your official TOEFL score (institution code = 6866) or your official IELTS score sent and notify your previous schools to send official transcripts. Documents not in English should be accompanied by an attested English translation. Once you have been admitted, we will send you an official acceptance letter, I-20, and arrival and housing information. To reserve a room in one of our residence halls, you will be expected to pay a housing deposit. You will not have to pay tuition until you actually arrive and register for classes. Tuition and campus housing can be paid in four installments throughout the semester.

When should I apply?

You should apply one year before you plan to start your studies here. Application deadlines are April 1 for a graduate applicant (May 31 for an undergraduate applicant) for a fall term, October 1 for a spring term, and March 1 for a summer term. We would like to have your application much earlier, though, especially if you are applying for a scholarship or graduate assistantship. We have "rolling admissions," that is, you can be admitted for fall (August), spring (January), or summer (May or July) for most majors. We will process your application as soon as it is received. If we need additional information or documents, we will notify you immediately. You should register to take the TOEFL exam as soon as you decide to study in the United States unless English is your native language.

These documents are needed to consider you for admission:

- A graduate or undergraduate application form
- US \$50 application fee
- Supplemental and Financial Information form
- Summary of Educational Experience form
- Official translated and untranslated academic records
- Official TOEFL score or IELTS score report
- Official SAT and TSE scores (undergraduates applying to Electrical or Computer Engineering, Architecture, or for scholarships)
- TSE score (graduate applicants for teaching assistantships)
- GRE scores (for those departments requiring them)
- GMAT scores (graduate business applicants)
- Letters of recommendation (scholarship or assistantship applicants)
- Graduate assistantship application (if applying)

What are the requirements for freshman undergraduate admission?

We will need the completed application forms, a US \$50 application fee, and an official minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper test) or 213 (computer test) or 80 (iBT), or official IELTS overall score of 6.5, not over two years old at the time of enrollment. We need official secondary school academic records and diploma or exam certificates showing above average performance and a financial statement showing adequate funding.

What are the requirements for transfer undergraduate admission?

We need the completed application forms, a US \$50 application fee, and an official minimum TOEFL score of 550 (paper test) or 213 (computer test) or 80 (iBT), or official overall IELTS score of 6.5, not over two years old at the time of your enrollment here. In addition, we need official transcripts of all university work completed to date, showing a minimum overall grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale, and a financial statement showing adequate funding. **We will need course descriptions/syllabi for a transfer of credit evaluation.**

I have completed two years of undergraduate work in my home country. How long will it take me to complete a bachelor's degree at the U of A?

If the two years of work were in the same discipline as the bachelor's degree you will complete here, and if the course content is similar, it will probably take you 2 to 2.5 years, but it's hard to say for sure. We would urge you to apply as soon as you can, have official transcripts sent, and provide us with course descriptions/syllabi. As soon as the admission decision is made, an evaluation of transfer credit will be done. The evaluation will be sent to the appropriate advisor in the college of your major for further evaluation. When you arrive, you and your academic advisor will sit down and go through the evaluation together, seeing what credits you have satisfied and what credits you still must earn. If you are coming from one of the American pattern colleges in Malaysia, your in-country academic advisor can probably help you plan your course of study.

Special notes for undergraduate students:

Students who wish to major in Computer Engineering or Electrical Engineering must submit a Test of Spoken English (TSE) score of 50 or better, a 7.0 on the speaking portion of the IELTS, or a 26 on the iBT speaking portion, and Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) score of at least 1140.

Are there scholarships for international undergraduate students?

Scholarships are highly competitive. Consideration is available only for students entering in Fall terms and is not available for students planning to enter in Spring terms.

The deadline to apply for scholarships is **February 1, but applying early is critical in order to have maximum consideration.** Scholarships are awarded only to students who have been **admitted** before the scholarship deadline. It is important to submit your application for admission to the University, all supporting documents and official test scores (especially SAT) far in advance of the scholarship deadline (even October or November of 2006 would not be too early for Fall 2007 consideration) so that the admission decision can be made in a timely manner. **You must apply separately for scholarships at the Office of Scholarships website at <http://scholarships.uark.edu/>.**

International students are eligible to apply for the:

- Chancellor's Scholarship
 - Silas Hunt Scholarship
 - University Scholarship
 - John and Marie Lavallard Scholarship
 - Jack Kent Cooke Transfer Scholarship
 - Margaret McNamara Memorial Fund
 - Alumni Scholarships
- (must apply through the Alumni Association web page at <http://arkalum.org/>)

Scholarship applications are not held until February 1; they are awarded at periodic intervals to qualifying candidates upon review and approval by the Scholarship Committee. Not all qualifying students who apply by February 1 may be awarded a scholarship if funding runs out. If you are an outstanding student with high test scores and excellent grades, we encourage you to apply early.

See the "Scholarships" link at www.uark.edu/ua/iao for details on these scholarships and tuition advantage programs.

Tuition Advantage Programs

The University of Arkansas is pleased to offer a tuition advantage (typically an out-of-state tuition waiver) for qualifying students from selected countries, U.S. regions, or institutions based upon UofA partnership agreements. These include tuition advantages for students from:

- Bolivia
- Caribbean (selected nations)
- Dimitris Perrotis College of Agricultural Studies
- Contiguous States (states bordering Arkansas)

Each of these tuition advantage programs has qualification and renewal requirements.

Will I receive a discount in tuition if one of my parents or siblings graduated from the University of Arkansas?

Possibly! To receive a 100% out-of-state tuition waiver, students must meet the admission criteria - a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on the 4.0 scale plus a score of 20 ACT (or 950 SAT). To renew it yearly, the student must maintain a 3.0 gpa on 24 hours completed at the end of each academic year. See the Alumni Association website at <http://alumni.uark.edu/> for information on how to apply.

Is there financial assistance for graduate students?

Most departments on campus offer graduate assistantships for qualified graduate students. Assistantships often pay full tuition plus a monthly stipend in exchange for teaching or research for your department. This form is available at www.uark.edu/grad/, by clicking on the “Forms” link.

Is the TOEFL or IELTS always required?

Yes — unless your **native** language is English or if you have a conferred U.S. master’s degree. Please give the UA institution code to have your TOEFL score sent directly to us: **6866**. When you take the IELTS, have the scores sent directly to the UA. TOEFL and IELTS scores must be less than two years old at the time of enrollment.

What if my TOEFL or IELTS score is too low?

We have an excellent intensive English program on campus. If you are academically admissible but your TOEFL or IELTS is below our required score, we can offer you admission to Spring International Language Center (SILC). Once you have achieved the required English proficiency, you will be allowed to enroll in academic courses in the next available term. We can issue a dual I-20 for you showing admission into both the UA and SILC. For more information, contact:

**Spring International Language Center
300 Hotz Hall • 1 University of Arkansas
Fayetteville AR 72701 USA
1-479-575-7600 • 1-479-575-7673 (fax)
silc@uark.edu**

Is there a separate writing requirement?

Yes. In addition to the basic TOEFL/IELTS requirement to demonstrate English language proficiency, the UA requires that applicants submit an acceptable **writing** score on one of the following tests: TOEFL Test of Written English (TWE), GRE Writing (for graduate students), IELTS writing, or the UA’s English Language Placement Test (ELPT). The ELPT is a 50-minute essay exam and is given during International Student Orientation. Students who score a 5.0 or above on the TWE, 7.0 on the IELTS Writing, or 81 on the ELPT will not be required to take additional language instruction. Students with lower scores must enroll in prescribed English as a Second Language (EASL) courses in addition to their regular academic courses. If a student takes more than one test, the higher score determines EASL placement. See our website (click

on “English Proficiency” for the table of specific EASL course requirements as determined by writing scores.

What are the requirements for graduate admission?

Please submit the application forms and US \$50 application fee. You should have a four-year bachelor’s degree with at least a 3.0 GPA on the last 60 hours of your bachelor’s (about the last two years of a four-year degree program). Official transcripts or individual marksheets with confirmation of your bachelor’s degree are required; additionally, an official TOEFL score of at least 550 (paper), 213 (computer) or 80 (iBT), or IELTS of 6.5, less than two years old at the time of enrollment. Even if you are applying for an assistantship, please send in the completed financial statement. The Test of Spoken English (TSE) or IELTS is required for teaching assistantships. Some programs require the GRE; some require the GMAT.

Please send all application materials to the International Admissions Office, not the department. The International Admissions Office will process your application, and when your file is complete, we will forward it to the department for the admission decision. When the decision is made, your file will come back to us for issuing the I-20. While you can certainly address questions to the department about areas of faculty research, availability of assistantships, etc., your application documents must come to the International Admission Office first to avoid delays in processing. *(The exception: If applying to the Law School or a graduate program in Business, send all materials there instead. These programs process their own applications.)* **Please apply early!** Most departments begin making their assistantship decisions in February for the coming fall term!

I’m interested in the MBA program. Are the admission requirements different?

The new program is designed to provide a rigorous theoretical background in the core disciplines and is balanced by professionally relevant career track courses in marketing, supply chain management, finance, and entrepreneurship. Additionally, the professional development seminars will give students the opportunity to customize their degree with skill sets that are the pre-requisite to many of the career paths in the consumer packaged goods (CPG) and retail industries. Summer internships with CPG companies and study abroad programs give students additional hands-on learning experiences that strengthen their resume. The MBA program is a 3-semester, 48 credit hours program, beginning each Spring semester.

Successful applicants are expected to rank in the 80th percentile on the GMAT, possess a cumulative grade point average of 3.4 on a 4.0 scale, and have several years of post bachelor work experience. International applicants must score a minimum **TOEFL** of 550 (213 on the computer test or 80 on the internet-based test) or **IELTS** of 6.5. **Completed application materials should be submitted by April 1.** All applications received after September 15 will be processed will be processed on a space-available basis. All application materials should be sent to the Sam M. Walton College of Business, Graduate School of Business. You may contact gsb@walton.uark.edu for more information.

What if I am a government or agency sponsored student?

To accommodate the special needs of sponsored students, we have a special office. Please direct all inquiries to:

Sponsored Student Programs
747 W. Dickson Street #8
1 University of Arkansas
Fayetteville AR 72701 USA
1-479-575-6857 • 1-479-575-5055 (fax)
uassp@uark.edu

This office will facilitate your admission process, your acclimation to campus, and act as liaison between you and your sponsoring agency. There is a management fee which will be charged to your sponsoring agency.

Deadlines! Deadlines! Deadlines!

Yes, we have them, but please don't wait until the deadline to apply! The proverb "The early bird catches the worm" definitely applies to college admissions, especially if you want a scholarship or assistantship. For admission without a scholarship or assistantship, we must have a complete file for you by April 1 (graduate students) or May 31 (undergraduates) if you want to be considered for a fall term, October 1 for a spring term, and March 1 for a summer term. After these deadlines, we will try—but cannot guarantee an admission decision in time for the term you desire.

How much does it cost to attend the University of Arkansas?

The figures quoted here are valid for the 2006-2007 academic year, an academic year being a fall and spring term. Only the MBA program includes summer terms.

Undergraduate	Tuition/Fees	Living	TOTAL
AFLS	\$12,311	\$9077	\$21,388
ARCH	\$13,003	\$9077	\$22,080
ARSC	\$12,369	\$9077	\$21,446
WCOB	\$13,952	\$9077	\$23,029
EDUC	\$12,317	\$9077	\$21,394
ENGR	\$12,724	\$9077	\$22,801

Graduate	Tuition/Fees	Living	TOTAL
AFLS	\$13,388	\$8977	\$22,365
ARSC	\$13,388	\$8977	\$22,365
WCOB	\$16,994	\$8977	\$25,971
EDUC	\$13,345	\$8977	\$22,322
ENGR	\$13,753	\$8977	\$22,730
MBA	\$27,883	\$13,190	\$41,073

AFLS=Dale Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences; ARCH=School of Architecture; ARSC=J. William Fulbright College of Arts & Sciences; WCOB=Sam M. Walton College of Business; EDUC=College of Education & Health Professions; ENGR=College of Engineering

If you are bringing family members with you, you will need to show additional funding available: \$5000 for a spouse and \$3800 for each additional dependent.

How much money will I spend on textbooks?

Depending on your courses, textbooks may cost from \$300 to \$950 per semester. Textbooks are expensive, but the local textbook stores often have used copies available at a reduced cost. We have a fully-stocked bookstore on our campus for your convenience. There are other textbook stores close to campus, as well as online sources.

Can I find a part-time job to help support myself?

International students holding F-1 or J-1 visas are permitted to work up to 20 hours per week on campus only. These campus jobs are usually in residence halls or dining services and pay minimum wage. Jobs are not always available. Off-campus employment is restricted by the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS).

Where will I live while attending the U of A?

Single students can find residence hall accommodations readily available in a variety of settings. Meals are available on campus for all meals except the Sunday evening meal. The cost for housing for an academic year (fall and spring semesters) with the full meal plan is about \$6,127, though it varies by residence hall. Off-campus housing is available, but you must make your own arrangements and some restrictions apply (freshman under 21 must live on campus unless special permission has been obtained from University Housing).

Off-campus living quarters can cost as little as \$300 per month for a furnished sleeping room with kitchen privileges in a private home or rooming house, or over \$600 a month for a spacious modern apartment in a complex of apartments with swimming pool and other facilities. However, unless utilities are part of the rental fee, you will be paying separately for electricity, gas, water, and trash service. This can be difficult when you first arrive in Fayetteville. We recommend on-campus housing, especially at first. This will give you time to seek out alternatives at your leisure. It will also give you a chance to meet others who may want to live off campus and might want to share an apartment with you to cut expenses.

Our University Housing office will assist you in securing on-campus housing. For more information, contact:

University Housing
Hotz Hall
1 University of Arkansas
Fayetteville AR 72701 USA
1-479-575-3951 • 1-479-575-8450 (fax)
<http://housing.uark.edu/>

Will I be the only student from my country at the U of A?

Probably not! We have over 900 international scholars representing over 100 countries, and we have an excellent Office of International Students and Scholars (ISS) which will assist you in getting comfortable on campus and making friends. Our cultural organizations include:

- African Student Association
- Arab Student Association
- Buddhist Value Creation Society
- Chinese Student & Scholar Association
- Friends of India
- Hmong Student Organization of Arkansas
- International Students Christian Association
- International Christian Fellowship
- International Students Organization
- Korean Student Association
- Latinos Unidos
- Muslim Student Association
- Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers
- Study Abroad Student Association
- United Europe

There are over 200 general campus organizations and lots of campus activities for your entertainment. We have an excellent recreation facility complete with racquetball courts, swimming pool, weight room, volleyball courts, and more. You can also participate in intramural sports.

A thorough orientation is offered to you upon arrival to campus by the ISS. You will learn everything there is to know about the U of A, make new friends, learn your way around, and even register for your classes during the ISS orientation sessions. The first day of classes will find you well prepared for your college experience. A variety of other services especially for international students is available through the ISS. If you would like more information about the ISS, or if you would like to find out if there are students here from your home country, contact:

Office of International Students and Scholars
104 Holcombe Hall
1 University of Arkansas
Fayetteville AR 72701 USA
1-479-575-5003 • 1-479-575-7084 (fax)
iss@uark.edu

Do I have to have a car to “get around”?

The University of Arkansas has bus routes all around campus. The buses run on time and often. We also have bus service to all major shopping areas in Fayetteville. There are grocery stores, restaurants, banks, and bookstores within walking distance. Several restaurants deliver to campus.

The Office of International Students and Scholars also plans fun trips to area attractions. A variety of medical services is available on campus at the Student Health Center. Many off-campus apartment complexes are on University bus routes. If you live in an off-campus apartment which is not on any UA bus routes, however, transportation will be difficult without a car or bicycle.

Is Fayetteville accessible by air?

The University of Arkansas is serviced by the Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport (XNA). If you let International Programs know your correct arrival information, they will arrange transportation for you from the airport to campus.

Be sure your travel agent understands that we are in Fayetteville, **ARKANSAS**. There is also a city named Fayetteville in the state of North Carolina!

How big is Fayetteville?

Fayetteville, Arkansas, is a town of about 70,000 people, not counting the student population of about 18,000. While of this size might seem small to some, every convenience is here. Some of the best things about Fayetteville include its low crime rate and good climate. We have all four seasons here, with no long dry or rainy season. It will snow at least twice in the winter and get hot in the summer, but rarely over 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

The greater Northwest Arkansas area includes Springdale, Rogers (famous poultry production towns), Bentonville (headquarters of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.), Beaver Lake, Devil’s Den State Park, and scenic White Rock Mountain. Other recreation areas are nearby for camping, hiking, canoeing, and other outdoor sports. Our campus recreation facility offers outdoor equipment for rent at a nominal cost.

We are about three hours away by car from Little Rock, our state capitol and largest city in Arkansas.

Do I have to bring my own computer?

No. There are computer labs in several locations across campus, some available 24 hours a day, with state-of-the-art programs and services and international networks.

What about medical records and health insurance?

Like most U.S. universities, we require immunization against measles and rubella. Be sure to bring your immunization record in English to prove you have had these shots or we’ll have to give them to you again! Also, health insurance is required. If you already have health insurance, you should bring proof. If you do not have health insurance, you will be given information upon your arrival. When you register and pay your fees, you will be assessed a \$174

student health fee for the academic year. This fee entitles you to visit our campus clinic for free. (You will have to pay for any medicines, labwork, or x-rays obtained from the clinic.) Health insurance is estimated to cost \$1,020 per year, and it will protect you from the devastating cost of major medical care in a hospital should the need arise.

What about academics? Are all programs fully accredited and nationally recognized? What is the average class size and faculty/student ratio?

All academic programs on our campus are fully accredited by their disciplines' national accreditation organizations and many are nationally ranked.

- *Fortune* magazine listed the U of A as one of the top 66 schools in the country that produce chief executives of major American companies. Our Sam M. Walton College of Business has tied for #25 among public business schools, according to *U.S. News & World Report's* "America's Best Colleges."
- Our programs in creative writing and translation are ranked among the best five in the country.
- Our Bell Engineering Center is a world-class facility. The UA industrial engineering department is on the American Society of Engineering Educators' list of the 10 best industrial engineering programs in the U.S.
- Our Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences Honors Studies Program was highly praised in a recent edition of *How to Get an Ivy League Education at a State University*.
- Our College of Education implemented the 5-year Master of Arts in Teaching degree program—the most dynamic and innovative program in the state.
- Our School of Architecture receives national and international awards in design competitions. A UA architecture studio was the first university studio ever to win the prestigious Boston Society of Architects' Unbuilt Design Award.
- Our College of Agricultural, Food & Life Sciences features the Center of Excellence for Poultry Science offering the finest training for poultry scientists in the country.
- Our Law School has the only agricultural law master's degree (LLM) program in the U.S.

The average ratio of faculty to students is 1 to 17.

What if I don't do well at the University of Arkansas?

First of all, our admission standards are designed to admit above average students. If we didn't think you would succeed here, you wouldn't be admitted! We want you to do well and have a great American university experience. Your professors also want you to succeed. Every professor has office hours so that you can go to them for help. Campus tutors are available to you for extra help. International undergraduate students must take 12 academic credit hours during the fall and spring semesters to remain "in status" with Immigration. Often, however, our super international students will sign up for 18 semester hours (maybe more with advisor's permission) and find themselves overwhelmed. You see, for every hour spent in class, a student should expect to spend at least three hours in study and preparation for that class. That's a lot of studying! If for any reason a student starts to fall behind in a class, the student has the option of "dropping" the class within a certain period of time. For example, fall classes begin in mid-August. The last day to drop a class is early November, well beyond the midterm exam period. You will know by then if you need to drop a class. Of course, if the class is required for your degree, you will have to take it again at some point—but you will have a better idea about what is expected and can choose your classes that term around this challenging class.

The International Admissions Office and Office of International Students and Scholars, as well as your academic advisor and professors, realize what a major step you have taken in coming to our country to study. We want you to succeed and will do everything we can to help! If you find yourself unhappy with your progress here, you must reach out to the many people who are here to help!

Is the campus safe?

Yes, this is a safe campus, with very few crimes against persons. All public sidewalks are well lighted. Emergency phones are located prominently all over campus. The University Police are student-oriented persons who have met all state training requirements. Your safety and security are their number one priority. We also have a special patrol composed of police officers and community service cadets who are available on call in the evenings to escort you wherever on campus you need to go. Residence halls are monitored and guests must be accompanied by a resident of that hall.

All of these precautions are just good **proactive** measures to keep you safe! Remember, Fayetteville is a city with a very low crime rate. All it will take to secure your personal safety and property is your own good common sense.