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# Admission

Students may apply for admission to graduate study under one of the following classifications:

1. Degree Seeking
  - a. Regular Status
  - b. Conditional Status
2. Graduate Certificate Seeking
3. Transient
4. Non-Degree Seeking

See “Graduate Student Admission Classifications” below for an explanation of these classifications.

**NOTE:** A student holding a baccalaureate or higher degree who intends to seek an additional bachelor’s degree or an additional undergraduate major or minor, or who intends to take undergraduate course work required for Texas public school teacher certification, should seek admission as a **postbaccalaureate student**. Postbaccalaureate students are exempt from graduate admission requirements and may enroll in undergraduate-level courses (numbered below 5000) only. For information on postbaccalaureate admission requirements, see the “Admission” section of the Undergraduate Catalog.

## MINIMUM REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

Students seeking admission to the University for graduate study must forward all relevant application materials to:

Office of Graduate Studies and Research  
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
6300 Ocean Drive Unit 5843  
Corpus Christi, TX 78412-5843

Telephone: (361) 825-2177

The following documents are required as part of the application process:

1. A completed application for admission. (The application may be obtained from the Office of Graduate Studies and Research or online through the following website: <http://gradschool.tamucc.edu>.) The completed application must include the applicant’s statement of educational and professional goals.
2. A \$50, nonrefundable, application fee. (For international applicants, the nonrefundable application fee is \$70, paid in U.S. currency.)
3. Official transcripts documenting all undergraduate and graduate course work taken at any Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recognized institution attended. Official transcripts must be sent directly to Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi from the granting institutions. Hand carried or unofficial transcripts cannot be accepted.
4. Additional materials as required by the degree program to which the student is applying. Please consult the section of the catalog pertaining to the specific degree program for a listing of additional requirements. Specific programs may require letters of recommendation, writing samples, portfolios, official test scores for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT), or other materials. If GRE or GMAT scores are required, they generally must be from a test date within five years of the date on which the application form was received at the Office of Graduate Studies and Research. This recency requirement may be waived, e.g., if GRE records are on file from an earlier application, with the approval of the Graduate Dean.

## ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

In addition to the documents listed above, international students must also submit the following as part of their applications:

1. Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) official score (unless the student has earned a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education in the United States or from an institution in another English-only speaking country). A minimum paper-based score of 550, the equivalent computer-based score of 213, or the equivalent internet-based score of 79-80, is required. This requirement may be waived with the approval of the Graduate Dean.
2. Official scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or General Management Admission Test (GMAT), depending upon the program to which the student is applying. (Students seeking admission to the Master of Business Administration program or the Master of Accountancy program must submit GMAT scores. All other international students must submit GRE scores.) Generally, GRE and GMAT scores will not be accepted if more than five years old. This recency requirement may be waived, e.g., if GRE records are on file from an earlier application, with the approval of the Graduate Dean.
3. Notarized Affidavit of Support (or I-34 form) certifying ability to finance study in the U.S. The Affidavit of Support must be completed with U.S. currency figures only.
4. Copy of current visa. (For international applicants residing in the U. S.)
5. Official transcripts and diplomas from international colleges and universities with either an original signature of a school official or an original school seal. If these are not provided in English by the institutions, official translations must be provided.

In addition, all international students are required to be covered by The Texas A&M University System's Student Health Insurance Plan or to have equivalent insurance coverage. Students without insurance will not be permitted to register for classes. For information, contact the Coordinator, International Student Admissions in the Office of Admissions.

International students are required prior to the first day of classes or move-in to campus housing, whichever occurs first, to provide documentation from a U.S. health care provider of a negative TB skin test (Mantoux tuberculin test) or negative chest X-ray. The report should be submitted directly to the University Health Center. In accordance with the guidelines from the Center for Disease Control, USA, a skin test is required even if the student has had a BCG (Bacille Calmette-Guerin) vaccine. A chest x-ray is recommended for persons with a history of positive TB skin tests.

### UNIVERSITY GRADUATE ADMISSION CRITERIA

The following guidelines apply to degree seeking and certificate seeking applicants to graduate study.

To be admitted to graduate studies, an applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from a Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recognized institution of higher education in the United States (or an equivalent foreign institution).\* The applicant must show promise of success in graduate studies. Decisions regarding admission to graduate study will be based on a review of all application materials. Factors that may be considered include the student's grade point average (GPA), the relevancy of previous course work, the applicant's demonstrated commitment to the field of study, and other criteria identified by the degree program. The overall strength of the record will be used to accept or deny an individual.

\* The requirement to hold a bachelor's degree does not apply to students enrolled in the RN-MSN option in Nursing.

The GPA calculation is normally based on the last 60 semester credit hours (or equivalent) of undergraduate work and any previous work in a graduate or professional school. The GPA is calculated for the most recent 60 semester hours completed at the time of application. Grades for the entire semester within which the 60th hour appears on the transcript will

also be included in the calculation, even if the hours total more than 60. Some programs may also consider the overall undergraduate GPA. For more information, see the catalog section for the specific program.

Students may not be admitted to more than one graduate program unless they are near completion of the initial master's degree. Such admission will require the approval of the Graduate Dean.

### ***Right to an Academic Fresh Start Legislation***

The "Right to an Academic Fresh Start" legislation (Section 51.931 of the Texas Education Code) entitles residents of this state to seek admission to public institutions of higher education as undergraduate students without consideration of courses undertaken ten or more years prior to enrollment. If an individual has earned a baccalaureate degree under the "academic fresh start" law and applies for admission to a postgraduate or professional program, the University, in evaluating the applicant for admission to a graduate program, will consider only the applicant's grade point average established by the course work completed under this law, along with other standard admissions criteria discussed in this catalog.

(For information on the Right to an Academic Fresh Start, as it applies to undergraduates, see the "Admission" section of the Undergraduate Catalog or contact the Office of Admissions.)

### **DEGREE PROGRAM ADMISSION CRITERIA**

In addition to the University requirements described above, individual graduate degree programs may have higher or alternate requirements. See the graduate program section of the catalog for descriptions of the specific entrance requirements. Admission decisions to the various graduate programs are made by the college offering the program.

### **GRADUATE STUDENT ADMISSION CLASSIFICATIONS**

Graduate students are admitted in one of the following graduate classifications:

#### **1. Degree Seeking.**

##### **a) Regular Status (admitted without conditions)**

This classification includes students who have met all University and degree-specific admission requirements and have been unconditionally admitted to a graduate degree program by the program offering the degree.

##### **b) Conditional Status**

This classification includes students who have been admitted into a particular degree program but only conditionally since they have not yet met all admission requirements. Reasons for conditional status may include:

- (1) application not complete
- (2) preparatory or foundational coursework not yet taken
- (3) other program criteria not yet satisfied.

A student on conditional status normally can take no more than nine graduate hours in the program. The time that the student has to complete unmet admissions requirements is set by individual programs not to exceed 3 continuous long semesters. The student on conditional status will be notified of the specific conditions by the graduate-program advisor at the time of admission.

- 2. Graduate Certificate Seeking.** A certificate student may enroll in certain graduate courses that lead to licensing or certification. Students admitted under this classification may register for only those graduate courses specified by the certificate program or licensing body. A minimum of 9 credit hours at the graduate level is required for a graduate certificate.
- 3. Transient.** A student who provides proof of enrollment in good standing in a graduate degree program at another university may enroll at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi for graduate course work to be transferred to the student's home university. The student is not required to submit GRE or GMAT scores. (**International students**

**cannot be admitted in Transient status.)** Permission from the appropriate college is required.

- 4. Non-Degree Seeking.** Non-degree status is designed for the student who wants to enroll in graduate course work to meet personal or career goals that do not lead to a graduate degree or certification. The applicant must hold a bachelor's degree from a Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recognized institution (or equivalent degree from another country). The applicant is not required to submit GRE or GMAT scores.

A student may petition to apply credits earned while in Non-degree status toward a graduate degree if the student applies to and is admitted to a graduate degree program at some later date and subsequent to meeting all of the usual admissions requirements (see program-specific admissions requirements.) **However, no more than nine semester hours of courses taken in Non-degree status may be applied to any graduate degree. (International students cannot be admitted in Non-degree status.)**

### **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE INTERNATIONAL (ESLI)**

The ESLI University Language Center, a privately owned and operated program located on the campus of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, provides students intensive English training in preparation for entrance to the University. Students may enroll and begin study in ESLI courses at any time during the fall, spring, or summer terms. Tuition and fees for ESLI programs may differ from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi tuition and fees.

The ESLI program is intensive with 25 hours of instruction each week in reading, writing, speaking, listening, grammar, and intensive skills with a focus on pronunciation, vocabulary, note-taking, and test-taking. Students have the opportunity to participate in the academic, social and cultural life of the campus.

For further information and application packets, prospective students should contact ESLI at (360) 724-0547 or by email at [esli@esli-intl.com](mailto:esli@esli-intl.com) or visit the Website at [www.esli-intl.com](http://www.esli-intl.com).

### **INFORMATION ON BACTERIAL MENINGITIS**

State law requires all public institutions of higher education in Texas to notify all new students about bacterial meningitis (Chapter 51, Education Code, Section 51.9191; Chapter 38, Education Code, Section 38.0025). All students are required to confirm receipt of this information. The requirement can be completed online at [www.tamucc.edu/~hsweb](http://www.tamucc.edu/~hsweb). Failure to meet the requirement will result in a registration hold. The vaccine is not required but strongly recommended.