

International Student Application Checklist

Thank you for your interest in applying to Southwestern Michigan College. Please review this checklist carefully. If you have further questions or concerns, please contact Christine Amstutz Moore, International Student Advisor, at camstutzmoore@swmich.edu.

CHECKLIST

1. Complete the International Student Application for Admission. Type or clearly print in black or blue ink. You must print and sign the application before submitting; we cannot accept applications with electronic signatures.
2. Send your official academic records to one of the approved credential evaluation services listed below for review. SMC is *not* able to translate or evaluate international transcripts, diplomas or certificates. If you have attended a high school or college/university in the United States, you will need to contact the institution directly and request that your official transcript be sent directly to Southwestern Michigan College. We will accept international credential evaluations from the following services:

WES World Education Services | www.wes.org

Secondary (high school) records: Document-by-document evaluation required

Post-secondary (university) records: Course-by-course evaluation required

ECE Educational Credential Evaluators | www.ece.org

Secondary (high school) records: General report required

Post-secondary (university) records: Course-by-course report required

Note: If your documents are not issued in English, you are required to send precise, word-for-word translations to WES or ECE. If you do not send a copy of the translation, your records cannot be evaluated. A certified translation agency such as [University Language Services](#) is recommended.

3. If your native language is not English, send your official English language proficiency test results directly to SMC from the testing agency. We will accept test results from the following services:

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) | www.ets.org/toefl

The *TOEFL iBT* (internet-based test) is preferred, but we will accept the *TOEFL Paper-delivered Test* as well. Test scores must be dated within two years of the semester you wish to start at SMC.

Minimum score required: 71

International English Language Testing System (IELTS) | www.ielts.org

The *IELTS Academic* version is required; SMC will not accept the *IELTS General Training* version of the examination.

Minimum score required: 6

Students who have successfully completed one full academic year at a U.S. high school with a GPA of 2.0 or higher are exempt from the English language proficiency requirement.

Students who have successfully completed one full semester at a U.S. college or university with a GPA of 2.0 or higher and a minimum of 9 credits earned are exempt from the English language proficiency requirement.

Applicants from the following countries are also exempt from the English proficiency requirement:

Antigua, Australia, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Barbuda, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, British Virgin Islands, Canada (except for Quebec), Cayman Islands, Dominica, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grenada, Guyana, India, Irish Republic, Jamaica, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Montserrat, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, South Africa (unless applicant indicates that Afrikaans is his/her native language), St. Kitt and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Tanzania, Tobago, Trinidad, Uganda, United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland), U.S. Virgin Islands, Zambia, Zimbabwe

- Submit your official standardized test results. All SMC students are required to demonstrate preparation for college by achieving a minimum score in two areas: reading and writing. Reading and writing scores are required for admission; math scores will only be used for placement purposes. The math placement exam may be taken at SMC once you arrive on campus. We will accept standardized test results from the following services:

SAT | www.collegeboard.org

Minimum score required: 279 Critical Reading and Writing

ACT | www.act.org

Minimum scores required: 17 Reading, 14 English

Accuplacer | **Free, if taken at Southwestern Michigan College**

The Accuplacer is available free-of-charge at SMC’s testing center to students who currently reside in the United States. *Minimum scores required: 36 Reading, 30 Writing*

- Submit a copy of your passport identification page. If you are currently in the U.S. on a student visa, also submit copies of your student visa (even if it’s expired), I-94 record and I-20.

All application materials should be sent to:

Christine Amstutz Moore
 International Student Services
 Southwestern Michigan College
 58900 Cherry Grove Road
 Dowagiac, MI 49047
 United States

camstutzmoore@swmich.edu

Your completed application and passport may be sent via e-mail, but all other documents should be mailed to SMC directly from the testing service or credential evaluation service.

EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR F-1 STUDENTS AND DEPENDENTS

U.S. immigration regulations require nonimmigrant students seeking F-1 visa status to present proof of financial support to cover all study and living expenses for the first year of study. Privately sponsored students must submit a Declaration of Financial Support from the sponsor stating the amount that will be provided, in addition to financial documentation. We cannot issue an I-20 Certificate of Eligibility—which is required when applying for a visa—until we receive this documentation.

Estimated Costs for 2019-2020 Academic Year

Tuition and Fees.....\$7,934.00
 Room and Board.....\$9,950.00
 Miscellaneous Expenses.....\$3,906.00

Total USD \$21,790.00

Tuition and fees are based on 12 credit/contact hours of full-time enrollment per semester. Miscellaneous expenses include the estimated cost of books, supplies, transportation and health insurance.

Additional Costs for Dependents

If your legal spouse and/or children will accompany you to the United States, additional documentation of financial support in the following amounts is required.

First dependent.....\$5,500.00
 Each additional dependent.....\$3,000.00

You must also provide a passport and marriage certificate (for a spouse) and/or birth certificate (for each child).