

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

University Procedures for International Students

Regular Undergraduate Admission (Degree Seeking)

International students are subject to the same admissions standards as all other NMSU students, but some additional requirements apply. This section addresses those additional requirements. Visit <https://iss.nmsu.edu/> for more information.

Applications for admission that include the transfer of credits earned at a non-U.S. university must include a professional Foreign Credential Evaluation (FCE) report from a member institution of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) (<http://www.naces.org/members.html>) for every transcript from a foreign secondary school and/or university attended. The ISSS department highly recommends that applicants consider using SpanTran for their FCE. NMSU has worked with SpanTran to provide applicants with clear understanding of which evaluation is needed. SpanTran provides an applicant portal to track and access evaluations. SpanTran is a long-standing member of NACES. For more information please visit <https://spantran.com/web/>

English Language Proficiency Requirements

For full undergraduate admission to the university, NMSU requires a score of 520 (paper-based) or 68 (internet-based) or better on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or a score of 6.0 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or a score of 95 on the Duolingo English test for all international students both non-degree and degree seeking.

A waiver of the TOEFL/IELTS requirement may be considered for:

1. Students who are native speakers of English.
2. Students from the following countries will be exempt from providing a TOEFL score for admission purposes. NMSU requires all admitted international students to take the English Language Placement Test for placement purposes.
 - a. Anguilla, Antigua, Australia, Bahamas, Barbados, Barbuda, Belize, Bermuda, Botswana, Caicos Islands, Cameroon (Anglophone), Canada (except Quebec), Cayman Islands, Christmas Islands, Cook Island, Dominica, England, Eritrea, Fiji, Gambia, Ghana, Grand Cayman Islands, Grenada, Grenada and the Grenadines, Guernsey, Guyana, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Jersey, Kenya, Kiribati Islands, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Malta, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Montserrat, Namibia, Nauru, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Scotland, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, St. Christopher, St. Helena, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & Grenadines, Swaziland, Tanzania, Trinidad & Tobago, Tristan da Cunha Island, Turks & Caicos Islands, Uganda, Virgin Islands, Wales, Zambia, Zimbabwe
3. Students completing high school in the United States who (a) have attended the high school for at least two full years and (b) have scored in at least the 75th percentile in English on the ACT.
4. Students transferring from a two-year college, community college, or university in the United States who have earned a minimum of 30 acceptable semester credits (45 acceptable quarter credits) with a GPA of 2.0 or better (acceptable credit means classes that require a high proficiency in both written and oral English).

5. Students scoring a 70%—(3) or better in English with the International Baccalaureate.

The university reserves the right to require any prospective international student to meet the TOEFL or IELTS requirement.

English Language Placement Test

Placement in writing classes for international students is determined by the results of the English Language Placement Test (ELPT).

Based on the results of the ELPT, the student is either assigned to **ENGL 1105M** (a bridge course designed to ensure success in **ENGL 1110M**) or is allowed to enroll directly in ENGL 1110M (for multilingual students). Please note that these classes are only available on NMSU's Las Cruces Campus. International students excused from ENGL 1105M will be required to take ENGL 1110M. The student may then be required to complete one or more regular English classes as required for a particular degree. Completing basic English courses at other U.S. institutions does not automatically satisfy the ENGL 1110M requirement. Equivalencies for ENGL 1105M and equivalencies for ENGL 1110M or ENGL 1110G are determined by the University Student Records Office, who may refer exceptional cases to the English Department in the College of Arts and Sciences.

In cases of dramatic discrepancies between TOEFL/ IELTS scores and the ELPT, the ELPT results shall determine placement.

Proof of Financial Support

The university reserves the right to require advance deposit of funds for any period deemed reasonable before granting admission. Each prospective international student must submit a current financial support document with their application. This document must show that:

1. The person providing the financial support has the necessary funds.
2. The funds can be transferred from the student's home country to the United States.
3. Proof of adequate financial support should be sent directly to ISSS.

Admission Restrictions

International student admission may be prohibited if, Sufficient classroom-based courses are not available to maintain visa status (e.g. courses are online).

All application material, transcripts, national examination scores, transcripts from colleges or universities (with an English translation), and test scores (including the TOEFL or IELTS) should be sent directly to the NMSU Undergraduate Admissions at admissions@nmsu.edu. Please note that transcripts, test scores, and foreign credential evaluations sent directly from an applicant/student to NMSU will be considered unofficial. To be considered official, transcripts, test scores and foreign credential evaluations must come directly from the school, testing agency, or evaluation agency. All documents should be emailed to admissions@nmsu.edu.

SEVIS Check-In Course & Document Upload Portal

The SEVIS Check-In Course & Document Upload Portal is a mandatory online course for new undergraduate and graduate international students to NMSU. The SEVIS Check-In & Document Upload Portal is a Canvas Course. Students will receive an email invitation to the course once they have set up their NMSU email address. The course consists of 7 modules, and each module must be completed before proceeding to the next module. The Check-In Course covers important legal rules and

requirements students must follow to maintain their F-1 status, as well as information about acclimating to New Mexico State University and the Las Cruces community. During the Check-In Course, new international students are required to submit specific documentation and physically check in with the International Student and Scholar Services office.

New international students should activate their NMSU email address <https://myaccount.nmsu.edu/activation> and reach out to the ISSS office at iss@nmsu.edu to be enrolled in the SEVIS Check-In Course. In addition, the NMSU ISSS office will facilitate 3 Mandatory In-person SEVIS Check-In Sessions. The dates for these sessions will be found in the final module of the SEVIS Check-In Course.

For full consideration for undergraduate admission, applicants are subject to the following deadlines:

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| July 1 (application initiated) | Fall Semester |
| July 15th (all documents submitted) | Fall Semester |
| October 1st* (Study Abroad) | Spring Semester |
| November 15th (application initiated) | Spring Semester |
| December 1st (all documents submitted) | Spring Semester |

**Admissions to summer terms is not available to new undergraduate international students due to the limited number of face to face course offerings.*

**New international graduate students seeking admission to summer terms are encouraged to work closely with their department and The Graduate School to assure that the student is enrolled in a schedule that meets federal enrollment guidelines*

** Contact the Office of Education Abroad for exchange program admission deadlines.*

Graduate International Students

For more information on graduate international student procedures, please visit the Graduate School (<https://catalogs.nmsu.edu/nmsu/graduate-school/#internationaltext>) section of this catalog.