

Internal Governing Policies

#68 - Admission Policies, Undergraduate Students

Approved: August 8, 2007

Monitor: Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost

The University will consider admission applications, dependent upon the availability of facilities and resources, from candidates who meet the criteria approved by the Council on Academic Affairs, the University President and the Board of Trustees, and published in the Eastern Illinois University [Undergraduate Catalog](#).

Undergraduate admissions are handled by the Office of Admissions, except where otherwise noted. Acceptance of applications and granting of admissions are subject to completion of the application process. Completed applications must be on file no later than ten calendar days preceding registration for the term in which the student wishes to enroll. Some applications require special deadlines and these are outlined in the [Undergraduate Catalog](#). In all cases, earlier closing dates may be announced through the media.

The University grants admission to students whose abilities, interests, character, and background give them the greatest promise of benefiting from and contributing to the Eastern Illinois University community. Such students demonstrate strong academic ability, intellectual curiosity, open-mindedness, and a commitment to learning. Since students learn not just from faculty but also from fellow students, Eastern seeks a diverse student body with a variety of talents, interests and backgrounds.

An application for admission to the University does not constitute an application for housing or financial aid, nor does an application for housing or financial aid constitute an application for admission.

The EIU Undergraduate Catalog is the official source for specific requirements for admission in the following categories:

- Beginning Freshmen. A beginning freshman is an applicant whose initial college or university enrollment is at Eastern Illinois University. In addition to ACT or SAT scores, class rank, and cumulative grade point average, admission decisions are based on the strength of the student's academic record; by personal qualities and accomplishments; and by capacity for growth. Careful attention is paid to letters of recommendation (from

counselors and instructors of college preparatory courses), the student's personal statement, and co-curricular activities.

- Transfer Students. A transfer student is an applicant who has attended one or more other colleges or universities. To qualify for admission as a transfer student, an applicant must have earned a cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 on a 4.00 grading scale based on all college-level work attempted, and a 2.00 cumulative GPA of at least 2.00 on a 4.00 scale from the last institution attended. Transfer applicants who have completed fewer than 30 semester hours of college-level work also must satisfy one of the following criteria:

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1. The applicant must meet the admission requirements for beginning freshmen (above); or
2. The applicant must have completed 24-29 semester hours of coursework at other accredited colleges or universities with a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5.

- International Students. Applicants who are non-United States citizens or non-Permanent Resident Aliens. All processing is handled through the Office of International Programs.
- Conditional Students. A student (not a former student at EIU) who is allowed to register for courses prior to submitting official transcripts and being officially admitted to the University.
- Guest Students. A student is one who is not seeking a degree at Eastern Illinois University and is not a former regular student at EIU.
- Students in the Gateway Admissions Program. Students who do not meet regular admission requirements may be considered for admission to the Gateway Admissions program. Admission to the program is considered for beginning freshmen for the Fall Semester only.
- Readmission. Former undergraduate students who are academically eligible and wish to return to the University after a lapse of one or more semesters must make application for readmission to the Records Office.

Upon recommendation of the Director of Admissions and the Provost, the President may approve special admissions based on an applicant's academic record, extracurricular record, and evidence of special ability to contribute to the University's mission. Such admissions should be limited to less than 1% of the freshman class size for the previous year.