

International Applicants Requiring F1 Student Visas

Wingate is a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified school and is required to comply with federal regulations when admitting international students. All F and M visa students that study in the United States require a Form I-20, "Certificate for Eligibility for Nonimmigrant Student Status." This policy applies to both first-year international students and international students transferring from an international institution or another school in the United States.

International students requiring an F1 student visa must submit the following to be eligible for an I-20:

1. Fall semester applications must be received no later than June 1st. Spring semester application must be received by November 1st.
2. A color copy of the biography page of the student's passport
3. Secondary school transcripts: original transcript required and certified English translations of transcripts for documents not issued in English.
 - Wingate recommends World Education Services, Inc. (WES) for evaluation and University Language Services for translation.
 - Note that translated and evaluated official final transcripts are also required for enrollment.
4. Secondary school diploma (if already earned)
5. Evidence of English proficiency - see English Proficiency Requirements (for the I-20).
6. Financial responsibility form and evidence of funding (e.g. bank statements or letters less than 6 months old) required for issuance of the I-20.

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS

Wingate is a Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP)-certified school and must comply with federal regulations when admitting international students. As part of these requirements, Wingate requires international students to demonstrate English proficiency as part of the admissions process prior to the issuance of an I-20 immigration document.

International first-year students may demonstrate English proficiency in the following ways:

1. Have citizenship in a country where English is the official language and the language of instruction in higher education. *Please see our list of exempt countries.*
2. Graduation from a high school, attending for a minimum of 3 years, at an international institution or American school where the primary language of instruction was completed in English. The institution must provide a signed letter or official transcript verifying courses were taught in English.
3. All other international students seeking F1 visas must achieve a minimum required test score on at least one approved language proficiency exam/test. The scores must be

from within the past 24 months at the time of application to Wingate. The approved exams/tests are as follows:

- a. Minimum SAT score of 450 on the Evidence-based Reading and Writing section
- b. Minimum ACT score of 17 on both the Reading and English sections
- c. Minimum TOEFL IBT score of 70 or 550 on the paper based test
- d. Minimum IELTS score of 5.5 - academic module
- e. Minimum Level 112 for ELS
- f. Minimum Level 6 completed at ELTI at UNC Charlotte

International transfer students from US or international institutions may demonstrate English proficiency in the following ways:

1. Have citizenship in a country where English is the official language and the language of instruction in higher education. *Please see our list of exempt countries.*
2. Successfully complete 24 transferable hours at a US university or community college with a grade of C or better in English composition (e.g. English 100).
3. All other international students seeking F1 visas must achieve a minimum required test score on at least one approved language proficiency exam/test. The scores must be from within the past 24 months at the time of application to Wingate unless the applicant is currently enrolled in a US institution. The approved exams/tests are as follows:
 - g. Minimum SAT score of 450 on the Evidence-based Reading and Writing section
 - h. Minimum ACT score of 17 on both the Reading and English sections
 - i. Minimum TOEFL IBT score of 70 or 550 on the paper based test
 - j. Minimum IELTS score of 5.5
 - k. Minimum Level 112 for ELS
 - l. Minimum Level 6 completed at ELTI at UNC Charlotte

Admission of an international student who requires an F-1 visa is only final when the visa is obtained. A student must be fully admitted to the undergraduate program to receive an I-20. International students holding current tourist (B1/B2) visas are not allowed to enroll in a degree program. Questions about F1 visa requirements can be addressed to international@wingate.edu. All other international admissions questions should be directed to the Undergraduate Admissions Office at v.best@wingate.edu.

Countries exempt from English Proficiency Exam Score Requirements

Anguilla*
Antigua and Barbuda*
Australia
Bahamas*

Barbados*
Belize*
Bermuda
British Indian Ocean Territory
British Virgin Islands
Canada (except Quebec)
Cayman Islands
Dominica*
Falkland Islands
Fiji
Gibraltar
Grenada
Guyana*
Guinea (British)
Ireland
Jamaica*
Marshall Islands
Mauritius
Micronesia
Montserrat
Nauru
New Zealand
Palau
Papua New Guinea
Solomon Islands
St. Kitts and Nevis*
St. Lucia
St. Vincent and the Grenadines*
Tonga
Trinidad and Tobago*
Turks and Caicos Islands
Tuvalu
United Kingdom (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland & Wales)
U.S. Virgin Islands
Vanuatu
Western Samoa

*With CXC or CAPE examination.

Since English is the official first language at the countries listed above, students from those countries are NOT required to submit a proof of English proficiency.