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**Administrative Regulation**  
Chapter 5 – Student Services

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**AR 5012      INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

International students enrich the teaching and learning experience at Santa Monica College (SMC) and support its mission by contributing to a diverse learning community.

Applications will be accepted from those who wish to enter Santa Monica College as F-1 or F-2 status international students. F-1 and F-2 students will be admitted in both fall and spring semesters as well as winter and summer sessions. Applications for admission and information concerning the required English proficiency may be obtained from the International Education Center (IEC) and/or the IEC website. The application process includes submission of appropriate visa information from the country of residence, including DHS forms. The District will notify the applicant of final admission eligibility. Applications, transcripts, and test scores must be filed according to published deadlines.

F-1 international students are required to enroll in programs of 12 or more units in the fall and spring semesters. F-1 students who commence their studies in the winter or summer term must enroll in a minimum of 4 units.

F-2 students are limited to enrolling in up to 11 units of credit courses in the fall and spring semesters. F-2 students may enroll in a maximum of 3 units during winter or summer terms.

Criteria for Admission

F-1 and F-2 (except those attending high school) students must:

1. Achieve a score of 450 or more on the TOEFL Paper-Based test, 133 or more on the TOEFL Computer-Based Test, or 45 or more on the TOEFL Internet-Based Test or the equivalent proof of English proficiency as determined by the Dean of International Education or designee. A list of accepted proofs of English proficiency will be kept on file in the International Education Center. Proof of English proficiency is not required if the student's first language is English or if the student is applying to the Intensive English Program.

F-2 students attending high school must also meet eligibility requirements outlined in AR 5011 Admission and Concurrent Enrollment of High School and Other Young Students and are subject to paying all applicable nonresident fees.

2. Be at least 18 years old on the first day of the semester or be at least 16 years old by the first day of the semester, show proof of high school completion and have a guardian that lives within 75 miles of the main SMC Campus.
3. F-1 students must provide proof of financial support that demonstrates the ability to meet the minimum estimated tuition, fees and living expenses.

4. F-2 students are not required to show financial proof.
5. F-1 students must purchase mandatory medical insurance provided by the District.

#### Criteria for Denial

An F-1 or F-2 student may be denied admission if the student has:

1. Previously achieved a degree at any collegiate, technical, or business institution in the United States and the coursework they are attempting to repeat is part of the achieved degree; or
2. Achieved less than an overall GPA of 2.0 from a United States university, college, or community college. Students who are failing to make academic progress at another institution may be denied admission to SMC; or
3. Presented false documents.

#### Other Temporary Nonimmigrant Statuses

In addition to F-1 and F-2 status, students with temporary nonimmigrant status will be admitted to Santa Monica College. These students will be subject to all nonresident tuition fees. Students with Tourist status (B1, B2 or "WT" Visa waivers, C, or D) will not be admitted.

Also see AR 5010 Admissions, AR 5011 Admission and Concurrent Enrollment of High School and Other Young Students, AR 5013 Students in the Military, AR 5015 Residence Determination, and AR 5020 Nonresident Tuition.

#### References:

Education Code Sections 68130.5, 76000, 76141, 76142 and 76140 et seq  
Title 5 Section 54045  
Title 8, U.S. Code Sections 1101 et seq.  
34 CFR Section 668.16(p), 8 CFR Part 214

Revised: September 9, 2015 (for AR 4210); September 23, 2015 (for AR 4210.1)

*From former SMC AR 4210, F-1 and F-2 International Students, and AR 4210 .1, Other Temporary Nonimmigrant Statuses*

*Approved by Academic Senate: 3/5/2024*

*Approved by Senior Staff: 3/26/2024*