

Graduate Admission

Original Implementation: April 18, 2020

Last Revision: July 27, 2021

Admission Requirements

Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) encourages qualified students to apply for admission to Graduate Studies by using the electronic version of the ApplyTexas application, which is available at www.applytexas.org.

Evaluation of transcripts is done by the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and the departments. All new and returning graduate applicants for admission are required to submit a nonrefundable application fee. Applicants for clear admission to SFA will be required to meet or exceed an overall GPA of 2.5. Applicants must have proof of bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited college/university as indicated on an official transcript. However, SFA seniors with at least 110 semester credit hours and a 3.0 GPA may apply and be considered for graduate admission. SFA seniors must receive proof of a bachelor's degree within the first semester or part of term of their graduate academic program to continue graduate studies.

Admission to Graduate Studies is under the discretion of the Dean of Research and Graduate Studies and the programs. Admission to the university does not automatically guarantee admission to a particular college, school, or program. An applicant admitted to a graduate program must enroll within one year of admission. When a graduate student, new or returning, does not register for courses in one year, that student must re-apply to the program to continue studies. Further rules and requirements regarding graduate admission may be found in the Graduate Bulletin.

Admission Criteria

All students seeking admission to a graduate program should consult criteria directly with the graduate program advisor of the department in which they wish to study for specific additional requirements. Each department has the authority to set admission standards higher than the general criteria set by the university. Some graduate programs have higher GPA standards and require additional documentation such as the Graduate Record Examination, the Graduate Management Admission Test, essays, and letters of recommendations or resumes.

Transfer Credits

The university accepts transfer credits from accredited institutions as determined appropriate by the major department's program. Any course accepted by transfer will carry credit but no grade point value. Moreover, to transfer credit, the student must have earned a grade of B or better on the course.

Degree Plan

Following admission to a graduate degree program, a student must confer with the graduate advisor in the major department. As soon as possible and preferably during the first semester or summer session of enrollment, a student should have a degree plan made by the graduate advisor in the major department. Hours earned in an SFA certificate program can be considered for a graduate degree program.

Resident Status

The student who has not resided in Texas for 12 months immediately preceding the student's registration into the university will be classified as non-resident. A non-resident teaching assistant employed at least half-time in a position which relates to her or his degree program shall be entitled to pay the tuition and fees of a resident student. A non-resident student holding a competitive scholarship of at least \$1,000 for the academic year awarded by a scholarship committee of SFA qualifies for resident tuition and fees.

Meningitis Vaccination

State law requires all entering or re-entering students to provide evidence of vaccination against bacterial meningitis or the appropriate documentation for exemption. Students are exempt if they are 22 years old or older by the first day of the semester in which they intend to enroll or if they are enrolled in online or distance-education courses only.

Cross Reference: General Bulletin; Graduate Bulletin; Course Grades (5.5)

Responsible for Implementation: Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Contact for Revision: Dean of Research and Graduate Studies

Forms: None

Board Committee Assignment: Academic and Student Affairs Committee

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