



UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bridgewater State University, enrolling approximately 8,500 full-time undergraduate students, is located 30 miles south of Boston, Massachusetts in the rural/suburban town of Bridgewater, population 26,563. Commuter rail service offers easy access to Boston direct from the on-campus train station.

The university provides the individual attention so important to the academic and cultural adjustment of international students. ESL courses are offered on a limited basis. There are also special classes in reading, writing and study skills available. Approximately 130 international students are enrolled at the university representing more than 29 different countries.

In general, students must depend on their own resources to finance their entire education. Permission to work is difficult to obtain because of immigration regulations and work opportunities are increasingly scarce. Campus employment is available to international students on a limited basis. Reliable arrangements for expenses for the entire length of the intended program of study must be made in advance of arrival in the United States. **BRIDGEWATER STATE UNIVERSITY DOES NOT HAVE FUNDS TO OFFER FINANCIAL AID TO INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS.** The annual cost of an international student attending Bridgewater State University is listed under the section entitled "Estimate of Yearly Expenses" and students are cautioned that these costs are approximate and are subject to change without notice. **All bills must be paid within 30 days of receipt.**

Majors are offered in:

Accounting & Finance	Early Childhood Education	Philosophy
Anthropology	Earth Sciences	Physical Education
Art	Economics	Physics
Athletic Training	Elementary Education	Political Science
Aviation Science (<i>not available to international students</i>)	English	Psychology
Biology	Geography	Social Work
Chemistry	Health Studies	Sociology
Chemistry/Geology	History	Spanish
Communication Studies	Management	Special Education
Computer Science	Mathematics	Theater & Dance
Criminal Justice	Music	

MINIMUM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Undergraduate applicants must have completed the approximate equivalent of 12 years of elementary and secondary schooling and be able to present such school records with certificates of government examination results and with the equivalent of a B average on an A, B, C, D, and F scale, as would qualify them for university admission in their home country. Applicants with university work in their home country must present official records showing above-average scholastic performance. Upper division students who have college work at other institutions in the U.S. must have at least a 2.20 average in that work.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION

Applicants should study the minimum requirements outlined above carefully and should determine, before applying, that Bridgewater offers the program they seek. The completion of the file of official documents including the SAT (freshmen), TOEFL scores and the determination of academic standing is a lengthy process; therefore, overseas students are advised to seek admission **at least six months** before the fall deadline. Bridgewater will determine admissibility of international students not currently in the U.S. only on the basis of complete and final records of their prior schooling including Final Degree Certificates. Provisional Certificates are not acceptable.

All documentation to meet admission requirements should be submitted according to the application deadlines below:

FALL SEMESTER DEADLINE: February 15 (all applicants)

SPRING SEMESTER DEADLINE: November 1 (available for direct transfer from U.S. institution only)

1. Official secondary school records with certificate and/or examination results
2. College or university transcripts and/or certificates and/or examination results with external credit evaluation, if required
3. Copies of certificates, diplomas and degrees earned
4. Official TOEFL and SAT score reports
5. Affidavit of Financial Support
6. Copy of Passport, Visa, DS-2019 (replaced IAP-66) or I-20A-B, I-94 (if currently in the U.S.)

EXPLANATION OF ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Application with Essay: Applicants should complete all items on the application for admission. International students must apply on-line. The application fee is \$40.00. An Essay should be included with the application.

Academic Credentials: Applicants whose schools and universities maintain a record of courses with hours of credit and grade shown on the record (The Philippines, Taiwan, Japan, Mexico, Hong Kong, etc.) should request that official transcripts of records be sent directly from the issuing institution to Bridgewater State University. Transcripts must show courses taken by years and/or semester in chronological order, the hours per week and/or unit value of each course and the final grade received in each course. Records attesting to the completion of a degree program must indicate the title of the degree in the native language as well as a literal translation of the title and the date the degree was granted. Applicants from countries in which detailed records of course hours and grades are not kept, but where certificates or diplomas are earned on completion of examination given by government examining bodies (GCE Certificates, Secondary School Leaving or Maturity Certificates, Baccalaureate II, Bachillerato, Indian and Pakistan BA or BSc Certificates) should submit facsimile copies of the certificates. The copies must have been compared with and certified as a true copy of the original document by a notary public, or by an appropriate school or government official.

A translation must be submitted accompanying any documents supplied in a language other than English. Applicants from India and Pakistan must supply a detailed marks sheet and certificate for each examination, properly certified. Applicants from the Middle East must submit translations of their records which have been certified by the AFME, or by the American Embassy or consulate. Applicants from the Middle East who are presently in the U.S. may submit translations which have been certified by the American Consulate, or an embassy or consulate of their home country.

Applicants should also submit any explanatory materials available, such as syllabi, with descriptive titles of course studies, the lecture and laboratory hours devoted to each course and an explanation of the marking system, indicating the minimum and maximum marks given. All records submitted become the property of the university and will not be returned to the student. No applicant will be considered for admission until all relevant materials and official documents are on file, nor will an evaluation or estimate of academic standing be made. **The university requires an external credit evaluation of selected documents if seeking college level credit from a non-U.S. institution. A list of credential evaluation services is included.**

English Language Proficiency: Residents of Canada, Great Britain, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand whose native language is English, or students who have completed 30 semester hours in the U.S. need not take an English examination. All other international applicants must take the TOEFL examination and file the scores with Bridgewater State University. If a student meets all admission requirements except those in English language, the university will recommend an intensive English language training center in the Boston area.

TOEFL: To register to take the TOEFL examination, applicants must obtain the Information Bulletin which includes a registration form. Bulletins are available at American embassies and consulates or at the office of the USIS, at U.S. educational commissions and foundations and at bi-national centers. Candidates not able to obtain a copy locally should write to TOEFL/TSE Publications, P.O. Box 6154, Princeton, NJ 08541-6154, USA (Telephone 609.771.7100. www.toefl.org.) Applicants should have their scores sent from the Education Testing Service directly to the Office of Admission, Bridgewater State University, Bridgewater, MA 02325. In order to have your TOEFL score reported directly to Bridgewater State University, please enter the institutional code number **3517** on the answer sheet when taking the test or on the Score Request Form.

SAT: Massachusetts Board of Higher Education standards require that all graduates of non-U.S. high schools within the last three years are required to submit official SAT test scores. To register for the SAT via the Web, contact www.collegeboard.com or by mail: College Board SAT Program, P.O. Box 6200, Princeton, NJ 08541-6200.

Affidavit of Financial Support: The University requires family or sponsor information and bank documentation that shows there are sufficient exchange funds to cover the costs of attending the university. Parts 1 and 2 of the **Confidential Affidavit of Financial Support must be completed showing sufficient funds (in US dollars) to cover the costs of the first year at the university.** The University requires a Bank Statement which shows the minimum required funds to be submitted along with the Affidavit of Financial Support. The amount must be stated in U.S. dollars. Statements for checking or savings accounts only are accepted. The "Estimate of Yearly Expenses" found later in this document should be used to determine the sufficient funds required.

Passport, Visa, Non-Immigrant Form, I-94: The applicant should submit copies of these along with the application to determine which forms should be forwarded if candidate is admitted.

*Please keep in mind that the costs for living expenses are minimum estimates and that, depending on your lifestyle, these costs may be higher.

Transportation to and from the United States is **not** included in these estimates.

ALL UNIVERSITY COSTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

TUITION AND FEES ARE BASED ON FULL-TIME STATUS (12-18 credit hours, day student)

	Student Living On-Campus	Student Living Off-Campus
Tuition	\$7,050	\$7,050
Required Fees (all students)	\$7,443	\$7,443
Required Health Insurance	\$1,854	\$1,854
Room & Board (on Campus)	\$11,122	
Rent, Utilities and Food (off-campus approximation)		\$10,732
Household Needs	\$200	\$590
Books and Supplies	\$800	\$800
Clothing and Laundry	\$600	\$600
Miscellaneous Expenses	\$700	\$700
Summer Living Expenses (off campus)	\$2,500	\$2,500
Twelve-Month Total (Estimate)*	\$32,269**	\$32,269**

To be used on **Affidavit of Financial Support

OTHER FEES (In addition to those listed above)

Orientation Fee (one time)	\$160
Residence Hall Security Deposit (one time)	\$300
Parking Decal (for students parking a car on campus)	\$195

Important Notice

Checks submitted for payment of all fees and tuition, are required to be either:

1. In U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank with a branch in the applicant's country,
- or*
2. In U.S. dollars drawn on a foreign bank which has a New York branch.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

I-20A-B Form: The Certificate of Eligibility Form (I-20A-B) is provided only to applicants who have: 1) submitted all required credentials (including a **Confidential Affidavit of Financial Support**), 2) been admitted to the university, and 3) submitted their nonrefundable deposit indicating their intent to enroll. Students who have received an I-20A-B form should note that immigration

regulations are being rigorously followed. Students should not plan to attend Bridgewater unless they have prior permission from the Department of Immigration and Naturalization to do so.

Transfer Students: If the accepted student has an F-1 student visa from another U.S. institution, the student's previous international student advisor should be notified of his/her intent to transfer. The transfer student has 15 days after school begins to present both the current and new Form I-20A-B to the Bridgewater State University international student advisor.

Health Records and Insurance: Candidates who are accepted are required to present complete health records, including an immunization record translated into English, or must take a physical examination by a private physician upon arrival. (Approximate cost: \$75). Failure to do so will jeopardize enrollment. Accepted candidates are required to purchase the university student health insurance plan to cover the duration of their enrollment. J-1 students are required to carry additional benefits at an additional charge. Information concerning coverage benefits is mailed along with other orientation materials in advance of the student's arrival in the United States. Failure to maintain proper insurance coverage will jeopardize enrollment.

International Student Orientation: Students who enroll at the university for the first time are required to participate in an international student orientation. This is scheduled approximately five to seven days prior to the beginning of each semester. During this orientation, students will have the opportunity to meet the international student advisor, learn about customs in the United States, and register for courses.

Housing: International students may request to live in university residence halls or they may choose to live in off-campus accommodations within walking distance. The Office of Commuter Services may assist students who are interested in locating an off-campus room or apartment.

Special Note: International students who will be living in university residence halls are required to make other arrangements for housing accommodations during semester break and March break. There will be limited on-campus housing available for a fee during those periods. If students plan to remain at the university during the summer to enroll in classes, housing arrangements on-campus may be made for the months of June, July and August.

U.S. CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS

Much of the information provided above is also applicable to citizens or permanent residents who completed some or all of their previous schooling outside the U.S. Particular attention should be given to the paragraphs on English Language Proficiency, Minimum Admission Requirements and Materials and Records to be submitted.

Important: For prompt handling, please send all correspondence to:



Office of Admission
Gates House
Bridgewater, MA 02325 USA

Telephone Number: 508.531.1237

Fax Number: 508.531.1746

E-mail: admission@bridgew.edu

www.bridgew.edu