



## Recruitment & Outreach

2500 Carlyle Avenue • Belleville, IL 62221-5899

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## New F-1 Student Visa Admission Requirements

Southwestern Illinois College is a community college offering associate degree programs. Our Associate in Applied Science degree programs are career oriented and designed for students who plan to begin their careers upon graduation from SWIC. Program eligibility for Applied Sciences is limited. Our Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees are designed for students who plan to transfer to four-year universities upon graduation from SWIC. **Baccalaureate degrees cannot be earned at SWIC.**

International students will be considered for admission to SWIC after all required documents are received by the Designated School Official. Class start dates are listed below with deadlines for document submission. This deadline ensures new F-1 students have sufficient time to apply for visa appointments and make travel arrangements.

Semester	Semester Start Date	I-20 Document Deadline for New F-1 Students
Fall 2024	August 17, 2024	July 1, 2024
Spring 2025	January 11, 2025	November 1, 2024

1. A completed International Student Application available on our webpage. Please complete this form first.
2. A completed SWIC New Student Information Form. Visit SWIC.edu and select **Apply Now**. Please inform the admissions representative when this is complete as some applications are auto-rejected and must be manually reviewed. Please note this form is not formatted for international addresses. Please do your best to format as closely to U.S. format as possible.
3. Official copies of all secondary school and college transcripts with notarized English translations. Those not sent from a U.S. institution must be sent through one of the following services:
  - [www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org)
  - [www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org)

\*Please note this is **required** for all non-U.S. transcripts and is often the most time-consuming part of the application process. Please begin as early as possible.

4. International applicants are required to demonstrate English language proficiency by one of the following methods:
  - a. TOEFL\* (Test of English as a Foreign Language) test results. The minimum score accepted for admission is 500 on the written exam which equates to 173 on the computer based TOEFL or 61 or above on the Internet-based TOEFL.  
\*this does not include TOEFL Essentials

- b. IELTS (International English Language Testing System). The minimum score accepted for admission is 6.0 or higher.
  - c. Demonstration of placement at ENG 101 reading and writing level through official transcripts from a U.S. high school, college or university or other qualifying test scores, such as the SAT or ACT.
5. Certification of the availability of funds to meet expenses while attending SWIC. The estimated cost for students during 2024-2025 is \$28,918 (U.S. currency). Our current tuition for international students is \$206 (U.S. currency) per semester credit waived to in-district rate of \$123 per semester credit with an additional \$9 per semester credit institutional fee. This rate is subject to change without notice. You are responsible for verifying whether these funds are transferrable to the United States. There are additional costs for dependents.

Please download the two financial forms provided on our website and fill out **completely**. Supporting bank documents are required to verify funds. Official bank statement or letter must be in **English** and **U.S. dollars**.

6. A copy of your valid passport.
7. Home country address along with address you will be living at in the United States; must be provided prior to issuance of the I-20.
8. Proof of medical and repatriation insurance is required. Please wait until you have been issued a visa to obtain insurance. For guidance, please visit [HealthCare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov).

After acceptance to Southwestern Illinois College and issuance of the I-20, the Form I-901 must be completed and a \$350 immigration fee paid to the consulate prior to seeking a visa. To pay this fee online visit [www.fmjfee.com](http://www.fmjfee.com). For detailed information on the fee, visit [www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/index](http://www.ice.gov/sevis/i901/index).

Once the above translated documents have been received and reviewed, you will be notified of your admission status. For additional information, please contact the designated school officials noted below. Please note that F-1 Student Visa Admission Requirements may change without notice.

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To Begin the Admission Process and Document Submission:  
[International Admissions at SWIC](#)

For Questions or Concerns:

**Beth Garcia, Admissions Coordinator**  
Designated School Official  
618-222-5249  
[international@swic.edu](mailto:international@swic.edu)  
(Email is preferred)