INTERNATIONAL ADMISSIONS
For International Freshmen and Transfer Students

http://admissions.tc.umn.edu

Take a virtual tour of our beautiful campus at http://z.umn.edu/virtual.
About the University of Minnesota Twin Cities

The University of Minnesota, established in 1851, is one of the top public research universities in the United States. Our campus is located in the beautiful and exciting cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul (the “Twin Cities”) in Minnesota.

About 30,500 undergraduate students are enrolled at the University each school year, but our academic community is much larger. About 70,000 undergraduate students, graduate students, and professors gather at the University of Minnesota to teach and learn every day.

Students at the University of Minnesota learn from some of the world’s top scholars. They choose from more than 140 fields of study, ranging from engineering to business to the liberal arts.

At the University of Minnesota, we have a vibrant multicultural community. We support an international population of more than 7,000 people from more than 135 countries. We also have more than 300 exchange agreements with institutions around the world in more than 70 countries. We believe that having a diverse community on campus helps our students prepare to thrive in a global, multiracial, and multicultural world.

What does it mean to be a public research university?

This means your college experience will be enhanced by world-renowned faculty, state-of-the-art learning facilities, and an unprecedented variety of options (such as 140+ majors). Eighty percent of our classes have fewer than 50 students.

Hands-on courses, volunteer opportunities, internships, study abroad, and undergraduate research are part of the U of M experience. Students benefit from programs and traditions designed to support their success, like Welcome Week, where freshmen explore campus, meet their classmates, and connect with faculty and staff before the school year begins. Our campus is located in the heart of the vibrant Twin Cities. Just minutes away, intern at a Fortune 500 company, volunteer at a major hospital, or relax at the beautiful Chain of Lakes. With a wealth of cultural, career, and recreational opportunities, there’s no better place to earn your degree.
Overview

International students who come to the United States may wonder about their American classmates’ prior education. This is a brief overview of the American school and university systems.

Students in grades 1-12 do not pay tuition to attend public schools. College and university students do pay tuition, but some may earn scholarships or receive loans.

High school students are required to take a wide variety of courses in English, mathematics, science, and social science. They may also be required to take foreign language or physical education, and they may elect to take music, art, or theatre courses. Many high schools also offer vocational training courses. A course can be one semester or two semesters in length. The academic year generally begins in mid-August and ends in early June.

Most high school students graduate at the age of seventeen or eighteen years old. A student graduates after he or she has successfully passed all of the required courses. Grades are given to students for each course at the end of each semester. The grading scale is A (excellent), B (above average), C (average), D (below average), and F (failing). A student who fails a required course must repeat the course.

There are more than 124,000 public and private schools in the United States; more than 2,000 postsecondary non-degree career and technical schools; and more than 4,000 degree-granting institutions of higher education. Of the higher education institutions, more than 1,600 award associate degrees and some 2,400 award bachelor’s or higher degrees. More than 400 higher education institutions award research doctorates.

At the University Level:

University students pursuing a bachelor’s degree are called “undergraduates,” whereas students pursuing a master’s or doctoral degree are called “graduate students.” American undergraduate students will say they are “going to school” or “going to college,” which means they are attending university. A common question one student asks another is, “What is your major?” This means, “What is your major field of study?” Postsecondary education includes non-degree programs that lead to certificates and diplomas plus six degree levels: associate, bachelor, first professional, master, advanced intermediate, and research doctorate. The U.S. system does not offer a second or higher doctorate, but does offer post-doctorate research programs.

Most universities give undergraduate students a “liberal education,” which means students are required to take courses across several disciplines before they specialize in a major field of study. Graduate and professional (such as medicine or law) programs are specialized.

At the university level, most courses are only one semester long. Each course is assigned a number of credit hours. Credit hours are usually based on how much time is spent in class each week. Most courses are 3 credits. However, some courses may be 1, 2, 4, or 5 credits. All degree programs require students to complete a minimum number of credit hours before graduation. Most bachelor’s degree programs in the United States do not require students to write a final thesis.


At the University of Minnesota, most undergraduate degrees (bachelor’s) take four years (eight semesters) to complete and require 120 completed credits.

Educational Ladder

From: United States Department of Education (ies.ed.gov)
International Application

For admissions purposes, you are considered as an international student if:

- You are not a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or refugee
- You are on a temporary visa or require visa to study in the United States

To apply for admission to the University of Minnesota Twin Cities campus, both international freshmen and transfer students should begin their application at z.umn.edu/studentapps and complete the online application by the appropriate deadline.

The University of Minnesota Twin Cities is now a member of the Common Application. International freshmen and transfer students can apply using the Common Application. For more information, please visit “Undergraduate Application Options” at https://admissions.tc.umn.edu/apply/index.html.

Freshman or Transfer Student?

You are considered an International Freshman if:

- You will graduate from secondary/high school prior to start of our fall semester OR
- You have graduated from secondary/high school but have not enrolled at a college, university, or any other school after high school OR
- You are enrolled in the Global Assessment Certificate (GAC) Program through the ACT Corporation, a U.S. dual high school diploma/A.A. degree program, an English as a Second Language program, a non-transferrable foundation program, or an A-level curriculum.

You are considered an International Transfer Student if:

- You have graduated from secondary/high school and have registered or enrolled at a college, university, or other postsecondary school after graduating from high school.

NOTE: In general, Transfer Applicants must have completed (or be completing) at least 26 semester credits at the time of application.
Application Deadlines

Please be aware that application deadlines are subject to change. For the most up-to-date information regarding transfer deadlines, please visit http://z.umn.edu/intlappdeadlines.

Freshman:
The University of Minnesota only admits freshmen for fall semester according to the following deadlines:

First Deadline: November 1
Freshmen should complete their application, including submitting all required materials, before the first deadline of November 1 in order to be considered for admission, honors, and scholarships. Admission decisions will be provided by January 31. Scholarship and honors decisions will be provided by March 31.

Second Deadline: January 1
Freshmen who submit complete applications before the January 1 second deadline will be given full consideration for admission, honors, and scholarships. Admissions decisions will be provided by March 31.

Transfer Student:
Each college specifies a date by which the application for admission and all other materials—including English proficiency test results—must be received. In order to be considered for more than one program where the program deadlines differ, you must meet the deadline for each individual program. To find each college’s specific application deadline, please visit “Transfer Application Deadlines” at https://z.umn.edu/transferdeadlines.

Fall Semester Priority Deadline:
Most programs have a priority deadline of February 1. The Medical Laboratory Sciences, Dental Hygiene, and Mortuary Science programs may have earlier deadlines. Please visit https://z.umn.edu/transferdeadlines to verify. Colleges with priority deadlines will give full consideration to all applications received by that date.

Fall Semester Final Deadline:
Applications received or completed after the priority deadline will be reviewed on a space-available basis. The final deadlines vary for each college. Some programs may close their admissions before the final deadline.

Spring Semester Priority Deadline:
Most programs have a priority deadline of October 1. Colleges with priority deadlines will give full consideration to all applications received and completed by that date.

Spring Semester Final Deadline:
Applications received or completed after the priority deadline will be reviewed on a space-available basis. Most programs have a priority deadline of December 1; however, some programs may close their admissions before the final deadline.

NOTE: Some programs and colleges, such as the Undergraduate Health Sciences Programs, Carlson School of Management, College of Science and Engineering, and the College of Biological Sciences admit transfer students only for fall. If you cannot begin your studies in the term for which you are admitted, you will need to reapply for admission to a later term.
Freshman Applicants
A complete international freshman admission application includes the items listed below. Applications cannot be reviewed until all of these items are received. (View application deadlines at http://z.umn.edu/intlappdeadlines.)

- **Completed application for admission**
  (z.umn.edu/apply)

- **Nonrefundable application fee.**
  If you apply online, you may pay the fee online using a credit card.

- **Secondary school transcript from each secondary school/high school attended.**
  Submit transcript(s) online at http://z.umn.edu/transcript. If you have graduated from high school/secondary school, the final school transcript must include grades through the end of the last year in school (equivalent to the 12th year of high school in the U.S.) and the year of graduation. If you were also issued a graduation certificate or leaving examination results, we must also receive a copy of this document.

- **English proficiency test scores.**
  If your native language is not English, a TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language), IELTS (International English Language Testing System), or MELAB (Michigan English Language Assessment Battery) score is required. Official test scores must be sent directly to the University of Minnesota by the testing agency.

We will request any additional information that may be required. If your application file is missing one of the items above, use our International Missing Information Guide at http://z.umn.edu/missinginfo for instructions on how to complete your application.
Transfer Applicants

A complete international transfer admission application includes the items listed below. Applications cannot be reviewed until all of these items are received. (View application deadlines at http://z.umn.edu/intlappdeadlines.)

- **Completed application for admission** (z.umn.edu/apply)
- **U.S. nonrefundable application fee.**
  If you apply online, you may pay the fee online using a credit card. (If you apply as a non-degree seeking student, you do not need to submit the application fee.)
- **Official secondary and postsecondary school transcript(s).**
  Official transcript(s) and official English translations of transcript(s) from all secondary and postsecondary schools attended are required, even if no credit was earned.
  *NOTE: In order to avoid potential actions such as denial or cancellation of admission, denial of transfer credit for courses completed, and/or other sanctions described under the student conduct code, all secondary and postsecondary schools that you have attended must be reported.*
- **University:** Arrange to have your official university transcript(s) submitted directly to the Office of Admissions. If you are applying for fall semester and are currently attending school, your transcript(s) must include grades for the requested fall term and a list of your spring courses in progress. If you are applying for spring semester and are currently attending school, your transcript(s) must include grades for the requested spring term and a list of your fall courses in progress. (If grades are not yet available, please send them as soon as they are available.)
- **Secondary school:** Final secondary school transcript(s) must include your grades through the end of your last year in school (equivalent to the 12th year of high school in the U.S.) and your year of graduation. If you were also issued a graduation certificate or leaving examination results, an official copy of this document is also required.

Official documents are those that are original or attested copies of original academic documents that are mailed in a sealed, stamped envelope directly from the secondary school, college, or university, and they must have been issued within the past year.

All documents not issued in English must be in the original language and include a certified true English translation. If you complete secondary school in a country where a secondary leaving examination is required for university entry, you must also provide us with the results of this examination.

- **Supplemental application(s)**
  If you are applying to the Carlson School of Management, Center for Allied Health (Clinical Laboratory Sciences), College of Education and Human Development, Dental Hygiene, Mortuary Science, or Nursing, a supplemental application is required. Supplemental applications are available on our forms page at http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/PDFs/. Please note that some supplemental applications require an additional fee.

- **English proficiency test scores**
  Applicants are required to submit results from the TOEFL, IELTS, or MELAB English language proficiency tests. (Note: Transfer applicants may be exempt from the total score requirement if they have successfully completed 26 or more transferable semester credits at a two- or four-year postsecondary institution in the United States AND have completed the equivalent of the U of M freshman English writing requirement with a grade of C or better; successfully completed 60 or more transferable semester credits at a two- or four-year postsecondary institution in the United States.) For information on minimum required scores for English proficiency exams please visit http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/admissioninfo/intl_english.html.

If you have completed less than one year of postsecondary studies, the SAT or ACT examination is recommended (and required for student athletes). We will request any additional information that may be required. If your application file is missing one of the items above, use our International Missing Information Guide at http://z.umn.edu/missinginfo for instructions on how to complete your application.
English Proficiency Information for International Students

English Language Proficiency Requirements
The University of Minnesota requires all non-native English speakers to demonstrate a command of the English language that is necessary for success in college level classes taught in English. Applicants are required to submit results from one of the following English language proficiency tests. An official score report must be sent to the Office of Admissions directly from the testing agency. Registration information is available at the websites listed below.

- **TOEFL** - Test of English as a Foreign Language
  
  
  U of M test code: 6874

- **IELTS Academic** - International English Language Testing System
  

- **MELAB** - Michigan English Language Assessment Battery
  

- **PTE Academic** - Pearson’s Test of Academic English
  

- **CAE** - Cambridge English: Advanced
  

Minimum Required Scores for Admission Consideration
All undergraduate colleges and programs at the University of Minnesota require a specific minimum score for admission.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
<th>Writing Subscore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internet-based TOEFL</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IELTS Academic</td>
<td>6.5</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELAB</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTE Academic</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAE</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>180</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These are not minimum scores for acceptance. Some students meeting these scores may not be admitted, or some undergraduate programs may admit students with lower scores. Based on English proficiency exam results and/or placement examinations taken on campus, admitted students may be required to take additional English courses when they enroll.

Other ways to meet English Proficiency Requirements*

Freshman applicants may be exempt from the total score requirement if they have:
- Scored 500 or greater on the SAT test section critical reading (verbal) section (for test prior to March 2016);
- Scored 500 or greater on the SAT test section evidence based reading and writing; OR
- Scored 21 or higher on the ACT exam on the English AND Reading sections.

Additionally, Freshman applicants may be exempt from the writing subscore requirement, if they have:
- Scored 28 or greater on the new SAT Writing and Language test; OR
- Scored 8 (2-12 score)/21 (1-36 score) or greater on the ACT writing.

Transfer applicants *may* be exempt from this requirement if they have:
- Successfully completed 26 or more transferable semester credits at a two- or four-year postsecondary institution in the United States AND have completed the equivalent of the U of M freshman English writing requirement with a grade of C or better; OR
- Successfully completed 60 or more transferable semester credits at a two- or four-year postsecondary institution in the United States.

*Requirements as of January 2017

What if my English proficiency score does not meet the minimum requirement?

The University of Minnesota has an intensive English program for international students wishing to improve their English skills before applying for admission to the University. Students who take English as a second language courses at the University of Minnesota have access to the University’s many resources and facilities. For more information, contact the Minnesota English Language Program (MELP) at esl@umn.edu, 612-624-1503 or 1-800-234-6564, or visit the MELP website: [z.umn.edu/melp](http://www.z.umn.edu/melp)
Conditional Admission for International Freshman

What is Conditional Admission?
The University of Minnesota Twin Cities offers conditional admission to a limited number of academically qualified fall term freshman applicants who require additional English language instruction in order to be successful degree-seeking students at the University of Minnesota. Students accepted to this program complete one year of intensive English language study at the Minnesota English Language Program (MELP: z.umn.edu/melp). After one year, program participants who have demonstrated high enough English proficiency are admitted for the following fall semester as a degree seeking students.

How do I apply for Conditional Admission?
To be considered for Conditional Admission, simply submit the International Application at https://admissions.tc.umn.edu/apply. There is no separate application. Fall term Freshman applicants whose English proficiency test scores do not meet the University’s minimum requirements noted above are automatically considered for conditional admission to the University of Minnesota based on a review of their completed international application for admission.

What English language score do I need to be considered for Conditional Admission?
The minimum scores have been determined by experience ESL instructors and researchers within the Minnesota English Language Program (MELP: z.umn.edu/melp), and they reflect how much progress can be expected in one year of intensive English language study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test</th>
<th>Minimum Total Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Internet-based TOEFL</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IELTS Academic</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MELAB</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PTE Academic</td>
<td>42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAE</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Transferring Credit to the University of Minnesota

Transfer credit review criteria
Credit for coursework taken at other institutions will be transferred subject to the following considerations:

- The mission of the institution from which credits would be transferred,
- The comparability of the coursework the University of Minnesota coursework, and
- The appropriateness of the coursework for meeting baccalaureate degree requirements at the University of Minnesota.

For more specific information about transferring credit to the U of M, please visit http://z.umn.edu/transfrcredit

Transfer Credit Evaluations
International transfer credit evaluations are completed after you have confirmed your enrollment and prior to your college orientation date. When the evaluation is available, you will receive an email with instructions on how to access your transfer credit report. Important items to note:

1. Your credits may not transfer as 1 to 1. Credit requirements vary between educational systems. Generally, the Office of Admissions determines the transfer ratio based on the number of credits of transferable work that you have taken in a semester/academic year.

2. You must meet the University of Minnesota Twin Cities’ Liberal Education requirements, including Writing Intensive, in order to complete your degree. For more information about LE requirements, please visit http://onestop.umn.edu/academics/education-requirements

3. You may need to supply additional information before you will know if a course you have taken will meet any Liberal Education (LE) or major requirements

4. Your courses will transfer as “T” (transfer for passing) or “F” (fail). The grades that you received in the course will not show on your TRAC report or on your transcript, nor will they be calculated into your University of Minnesota grade point average.

For more information regarding international transfer credit evaluations, please visit http://z.umn.edu/transfrcredit

Liberal Education
Liberal Education (LE) is an essential part of your undergraduate education at the University of Minnesota. LE courses help you investigate the world from new perspectives, learn ways of thinking that will be useful to you in many areas of your life, and grow as an active citizen and lifelong learner. The academic tradition in U.S. undergraduate education requires students to have a primary course of study, and also take classes in a variety of different “core” disciplines (humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, fine arts, etc.). The goal is to foster student learning earmarked by reflecting both “depth” and “breadth.” Generally, a student’s first two years are dedicated to fulfilling Liberal Education requirements and pre-requisite courses.

Generally, a student’s first two years are dedicated to fulfilling Liberal Education requirements and pre-requisite course. In the final two years, students will concentrate on their major-specific courses. In the final two years, students will concentrate on their major-specific courses. For more information about coursework that meets the Liberal Education requirement, please visit http://z.umn.edu/LErequirements.
University Honors Program
The University of Minnesota has a long-standing tradition of educating top students from Minnesota and around the world, and providing them with honors opportunities within our colleges. The University Honors Program is a place of extraordinary people and resources, shared passions, creative collaboration, and intellectual and cultural diversity. The University Honors Program is designed to help students achieve their personal, academic, and professional goals.

There is no separate application to be considered for the University Honors Program. Admitted freshmen are automatically considered for admission to the University Honors Program based on individual assessments of their admission applications. Transfer students may apply to the Honors Program. To learn more about the Honors Program, visit http://z.umn.edu/honors.

Undergraduate Research Opportunities
Professors are not the only people at the U of M who are pushing the boundaries of knowledge; you can work side-by-side with professors and play a role in our discoveries, too. Through the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP) you will be paired with a professor who can guide you on the path to discovering new knowledge and sharing it with the world. Plus, you can get paid for your work!

If you are interested in working one-on-one with a top professor, then this is your opportunity to make some discoveries of your own. Do the arts reflect society or vice versa? Is it better to manage wilderness areas or leave them alone? What is the next generation of renewable energy? Applications are accepted twice a year through the web site at http://www.urop.umn.edu/. For more information about this opportunity, click on the “Everything UROP” link to your left.

Scholarships
The University of Minnesota offers a limited number of Global Excellence Scholarships for incoming freshmen and transfer international students studying on an F-1 visa and admitted for fall semesters. The Gold Global Excellence Scholarship awards the full difference between resident and non-resident tuition (freshmen only), and the Maroon Global Excellence Scholarship awards 50% of the difference between resident and non-resident tuition (freshmen and transfer students). For fall 2016, the values of the awards were $4,832 or $9,664. All admitted students are automatically reviewed for this scholarship, so no separate scholarship application is required. Students are considered for these awards based on an overall assessment of the admission application.

New international freshmen admitted to the University are also considered for the Undergraduate Research Scholarship. Recipients receive $1,400 for participation in a faculty-sponsored University of Minnesota research project and up to an additional $300 in support of supplies and expenses related to their research project.

Undergraduate research at the University spans all academic disciplines and interests. The Undergraduate Research Scholarship allows students to pursue special research projects outside their regular courses. Learn more about the program.

A small number of additional need-based scholarships for international students are also available through International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS). For more information on the specific criteria and to submit an application for these scholarships, please visit http://passport.umn.edu/undergrad/costs.
Expenses (Tuition, Fees, Living Cost Estimates)

International undergraduates currently pay non-resident tuition rates. Using 2016-2017 rates as an example, the full-time tuition, fees, books, and supplies (9 months) is approximately $25,616. Total expenses for the 2016-2017 year for which a student needs to prove financial resources are approximately $42,593 which includes tuition, fees, books and supplies, mandatory health insurance, housing, food, and miscellaneous expenses.

The amount you pay for tuition will depend on the number of credits for which you register, and your living expenses will depend on the kind of housing you choose and on your personal lifestyle. For more information on costs, visit our website at http://z.umn.edu/costsaid.

Please note: If you hold a student visa or any other visa that prohibits you from establishing domicile in the U.S. (visas B, F, H (H4 visa holders who have graduated from a Minnesota high school should contact the Resident Classification Office on campus about their resident status), J, and M), you will not be eligible for Minnesota resident status. You will be admitted to the University as a non-resident and pay non-resident tuition for the duration of your studies at the University of Minnesota.

Your Financial Responsibility

The University assumes that international students will take full responsibility for financing their education. Admission to the University does not mean that you will receive financial assistance. You will need to demonstrate sufficient funding for your education in the form of loans, gifts, scholarships from your home country or a private agency, or personal or family funds.

U.S. Consuls are required to ensure that students enter the United States with sufficient funds to meet all academic and living costs, including support for family members, for at least the first year of their educational program. You may be asked to prove that you have enough funding for the entire period of your proposed study. You should be prepared to provide proof of adequate funding (as stated on the Financial Certification Statement) at the time you request your student visa. (Please do not send us your bank statements.)

Financial Certification and Deposits

You will be required to submit a Financial Certification Statement after you have confirmed your admission to the University. You will not be issued an I-20 document until you have turned in the Financial Certification form. (Please do not send us your bank statements.) Both the online form and PDF are available at http://admissions.tc.umn.edu/PDFs/.

Financial Aid

International students studying on a visa do not qualify for U.S. or Minnesota state financial aid programs. Do not plan to receive any financial assistance from the University. You would be eligible to apply for aid only if you could demonstrate severe financial hardship due to an unforeseen change in financial circumstances and if you are in the final stages of your degree program at the University. For more information on financial aid, visit our website at http://z.umn.edu/costsaid.

Employment

While some on-campus student jobs may be available, you should not depend on meeting your educational or personal living expenses through employment. Students on an F-1 visa are generally allowed to work on campus up to 20 hours per week while school is in session. Student jobs are posted at: http://z.umn.edu/ohr.

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services will not grant you permission to work off campus unless you have successfully completed at least 12 months of academic work at the University and can document an unforeseen change in your financial situation that occurred after you entered the United States.

Every type of work activity, including an exchange of services in place of paying rent, requires work permission. If you cannot assume full financial responsibility for your total proposed period of study, we urge you to delay coming to the University until you can do so. For more information about working in the U.S. while on an F-1 visa, please see http://z.umn.edu/f1work.
More about the University of Minnesota

Safety on Campus

Safety and security are among the University of Minnesota’s top priorities, and many resources are in place to monitor, promote, and ensure safety on the Twin Cities campus. The University has its own professional police force, the University of Minnesota Police Department (UMPD). The University’s 911 dispatch center operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The dispatch center monitors nearly 2,500 security cameras around the clock. There are 200 yellow phones for emergency, medical, and service-related calls, and 20 blue-light emergency call boxes located throughout the campus.

The University Security Monitor Program offers free walking and biking security escorts to and from campus locations and nearby neighborhoods for all students, staff, faculty, and visitors 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. In addition, The Gopher Chauffeur, a free transportation service, provides students safe rides home if they live on or near campus.

In the event of an emergency on campus, such as criminal activity or severe weather, the University uses multiple methods to notify the campus community and general public about the nature of the emergency, how to respond, class or event cancellations, and campus closure. These methods include the University’s home page (www.umn.edu), email, tone-alert radios, on-the-ground public safety personnel, and TXT-U. TXT-U is the University of Minnesota’s emergency notification text messaging system which all students are automatically registered for, but have the option to unsubscribe from, or opt out of if they wish.

For more information and resources on the University of Minnesota safety on the campus, please visit SAFE U at http://safe-u.umn.edu/index.html.

Housing

Residence halls are owned and operated by the University and are within walking distance of classrooms and other campus buildings. Residence halls are designed for single students or for married students who are not accompanied by their spouses or families. Approximately 88% of new freshmen live on campus. The University of Minnesota offers a very limited number of on-campus housing spaces for transfer students.

Each building has laundry facilities, recreational areas, lounges, study areas, and residential restaurants (cafeterias). Rooms have Internet connections, cable television, and are furnished with beds, study tables, lamps, and chairs. Residence hall rooms are built for one (single), two (double, the most common), or occasionally three (triple) occupants. Some apartment-style housing is available as well.

Room costs vary by residence hall. The rate includes the cost of the room and a meal plan. All residents sign nine-month contracts requiring them to live in the residence hall for the entire academic year (from September to May).

Residence halls do not serve meals during the holiday or vacation periods, but certain halls allow you to stay in your room for an additional fee. Each residential restaurant has operating hours and menus based on the needs of their community. A full menu service is offered during the breakfast, lunch, and dinner meal periods. Restaurants also offer vegan, vegetarian, and gluten free items. To view our menus go to http://z.umn.edu/menus. For a list of hours and locations, please visit www.dining.umn.edu.

Freshmen who apply for on-campus housing, confirm their enrollment, and submit a deposit before the May 1 deadline for the following fall semester are guaranteed a space; others are assigned to halls on a space-available basis. When spaces are filled, remaining applicants are put on a waiting list.

To apply for a space in a residence hall or to obtain more information about campus housing options, contact the housing office at http://www.housing.umn.edu/.
International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS)

International Student and Scholar Services (ISSS) is dedicated to serving the University of Minnesota’s international community. ISSS supports the University’s internationalization efforts by helping departments bring new foreign nationals into the community; by providing intercultural training for students, staff, and faculty; and by offering events that build links between the U.S. and international communities on campus.

ISSS advisers/counselors are professionally trained to provide information about non-immigrant visa issues for students and scholars holding F, J, H, and O visas. Our advisers/counselors are also trained to provide counseling to international students and scholars about academic, personal, and family matters, as well as issues of cross-cultural adjustment and professional integration upon returning home. In addition, ISSS offers training and programs that enhance the awareness and understanding of cross-cultural and international issues across campus and consults with University faculty and staff on issues related to international students and scholars in their departments.

To learn more about the opportunities and resources available through ISSS, please visit their website at: http://isss.umn.edu/

Sponsored Student Visas and Advising

Students whose funding comes from their home country government, employer, international organization, or other third party not related to them, are considered “sponsored.” Some sponsors require that students apply for a J-1 visa instead of an F-1 visa. The Director of Sponsored Student Programs in ISSS works to facilitate the admissions and visa process, as well as third-party billing and other sponsored student issues. Please visit the ISSS website for more information at http://isss.umn.edu/.

International Student Ambassadors

International Student Ambassadors share their own stories of transitioning, studying, living, and achieving as current U of M international students. Through their experiences, you can start to imagine pursuing your own studies at our prestigious university.

We invite you to view their blogs and ask them questions about their experiences. Through sharing their stories, they hope to help you with your own transition to the University of Minnesota!

To view their blogs, please visit: http://z.umn.edu/isaumn or connect with them on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/ISAUMN
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