

Admissions

Converse College seeks to enroll, in its undergraduate programs, academically well-prepared students who have demonstrated their potential to complete the requirements for graduation with reasonable success. Admission to Converse is based on the applicant's academic and personal qualifications as judged by high school or college GPA, SAT or ACT scores, and qualitative information gleaned from extracurricular records, a graded writing sample, staff insights from counseling interactions or a personal interview and a teacher recommendation. Freshman applicants with a high school GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 system and a SAT score of 1000 or an ACT score of 21 and favorable qualitative credentials are normally approved for admission. Transfer students should have a college GPA of at least a 2.5 and favorable qualitative credentials. The Converse College Admissions Committee meets regularly to consider for admission those students who because of mitigating circumstances do not meet these minimum admission standards.

Detailed admissions information and application forms are available from the Office of Admissions. The priority deadline for submitting an application for regular admission is March 1. Early decision/early action admission deadlines are November 15 and December 1, respectively. More information on these programs are available from the Office of Admissions. The Admissions Committee will begin to review completed applications in September, and applicants can expect to receive admissions notification within two weeks after their applications have been made complete. All applicants accepted for admission are expected to complete satisfactorily their senior year in high school work and are required to present a satisfactory medical report prior to enrollment.

Although a personal interview is not specifically required, interested students are encouraged to visit the campus and talk with

an admissions counselor. Contact the Admissions Office to make arrangements for campus visits. Appointments are available Monday-Friday from 9:00 am - 4:00 pm. Saturday appointments are available from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, except during holiday weekends and the summer months.

SECONDARY SCHOOL PREPARATION

The Admissions Committee believes that students who present a strong academic program of at least 20 solid high school units have a greater chance for success in meeting the requirements of the Converse College curriculum. Accordingly, the pattern of courses offered by each applicant is important in consideration of the application. The Admissions Committee will calculate the applicant's grade point average based on grades earned in college-prep academic courses taken in high school. The secondary school program should include at least four academic courses each year. Because course offerings vary within the secondary schools, the committee does not attempt to specify all courses but recommends that the following 12 units be included in the high school program for each applicant:

English	4
Foreign language	2
<i>(in one language)</i>	
Algebra	2
Geometry	1
History	1
Science	2

Additional units should be elected from the above areas of study.

Applicants whose secondary school program is somewhat irregular will not be denied consideration for admission. Records of such students, however, should reflect high achievement and aptitude.

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CREENTIALS REQUIRED

1. A completed application for admission form and a non-refundable application fee of \$35.
2. An official secondary school transcript or a copy of the General Education Development (GED) transcript showing satisfactory completion of that program must be presented.
3. An official record of scores on the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) or the American College Testing (ACT) Program. Each applicant is responsible for arranging to take the tests and for requesting CEEB or ACT offices to send to Converse College the results of all tests taken. Students whose first language is one other than English should submit scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). A minimum score of 550 (paper) and 213 (web) is required.
4. A graded writing sample.
5. A teacher recommendation.
6. Before registering for classes, an official secondary school transcript showing that the student has graduated from high school.

Note: International students must also submit a Declaration and Certification of Finances form.

CREDIT BY EXAMINATION

Converse gives credit for the nationally standardized Advanced Placement Tests of the College Entrance Examination Board. Credit will usually be given for a score of 3 or better on these tests. For specific information about the relationship of these tests to required courses, you should consult the respective department, the Registrar of the College, or the Director of Advising.

In addition, Converse recognizes the International Baccalaureate program and awards credit to Diploma holders. Students who score 24 total points on the examination will be given general education credit in subject areas in which the individual scores 4 or above.

HEALTH FORMS

Entering students are required by state law to submit a completed health form prior to enrollment in the College. These forms must be received by the Campus Life office at least one month before the student arrives on the campus. Students will not be allowed to register without a health form on file.

ADMISSION OF TRANSFER STUDENTS

For admission by transfer from another institution, students must submit a completed application for admission form, a non-refundable \$35 application fee, and credentials as indicated below:

1. Applicants who have not completed 30 hours of college work must submit official transcripts of college records and an official transcript of high school record including SAT or ACT scores.
2. Applicants who have completed 30 or more hours of college work must submit official transcripts of college records.

The transcript of courses taken at another college should reflect a high quality of work. No credit is transferable for work below C–grade. In general, the applicant should present an average of C or better. A 2.5 *cumulative* grade-point average is required for admission to a teacher education program.

Students offering transfer credit in music should refer to **page 123**. Transfer music credits for those pursuing majors in music will remain tentative until students have taken examinations in theoretical and historical studies to determine whether equivalent standards have been met.

SPECIAL STUDENTS

The Committee on Admissions will consider applications from students who wish to enroll in courses on a limited basis. Upon admission they will be classified as Special I or Special II students.

Special I: Those who are degree candidates, but who are unable to enroll on a full-time basis. To be considered for acceptance as a

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degree candidate, the applicant must submit all credentials required of regular applicants.

Special II: Those who wish to take one or two courses, not as degree candidates, but as visiting or temporary day students. Such students will ordinarily be high-school students whose capabilities have been confirmed by their principals and guidance counselors, or college-age individuals who have not qualified for admission as degree candidates.

READMISSION OF FORMER STUDENTS

A student whose enrollment at the College has been interrupted is not automatically readmitted. Students desiring to be considered for readmission should write to the Director of Admissions for an application form.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS AND REGULATIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Converse College encourages the enrollment of students from other countries. After reading this information, if you need additional information or have questions, please contact: Converse College, Office of Admissions, 580 E. Main Street, Spartanburg, South Carolina 29302. Phone: 864-596-9040, FAX 864-596-9225, or e-mail admissions@converse.edu. The priority application date for fall term is June 1.

The following information relates to international students seeking to earn either a Bachelor's or Graduate Degree from Converse College.

Admission of international students is based on academic credentials and English proficiency of the candidate. Students must also submit proof of financial means to study in the United States by completing the Declaration and Certification of Finances Form. The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service requires financial verification for international students requiring or currently holding a student visa in order for a U.S. university or college to issue the immigration document (I-20). An

I-20 is an immigration document used for the purpose of visa issuance outside the United States or for the immigration process "notification transfer" for students already in the United States.

Eligibility for admission is based on the applicant's total academic record, including grades, test results, academic courses, and overall academic performance. Converse College admission standards require the equivalent of graduation from a U.S. secondary college preparatory program and an average grade of "B" on all academic courses. Applicants who have completed university-level work overseas must have earned satisfactory grades on all such university-level work attempted and be in good standing.

Each applicant must present "official" secondary (high school) or postsecondary (college or university) credentials, certificates, or diplomas. Official documents must bear authoritative signatures, seals and/or stamps. These should be sent directly by the institution responsible for issuing such documents. In cases where it is impossible for these credentials to be sent from the institution, or if only one set of originals is available to students, applicants should forward an "attested" copy of the original. The attestation must be done by a proper institution official or by the Ministry of Education in the home country.

Converse College requires that all international academic documents (secondary or post secondary transcripts, marksheets, certificates, leaving examination results, etc.) be formally evaluated by an independent evaluation service. Applicants may choose one of the following services:

Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc., P. O. Box 17499, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53217; World Education Services, Inc., P. O. Box 745, Old Chelsea Station, New York, NY 10113; or Josef Silny & Associates, Suite 241, 1320 South Dixie Highway, Coral Gables, FL 33146-2911.

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International applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). Converse College requires a minimum score of 550 (paper) and 213 (web). SAT I results may also be submitted for consideration but are not required. Students who are proficient in English may enroll immediately in the regular courses that are offered by the College.

In addition to meeting the regular admission requirements, international applicants needing a student visa (F-1) must show ability to meet financial obligations of tuition, fees, and living expenses before an I-20 and an acceptance letter will be issued. Current (less than one year old) letters of financial support must accompany the Financial Affidavit which is included with the application for admission. Having sufficient funds for the cost of living and educational expenses is required by U.S. Immigration regulations. Undergraduate international students with (F-1) visas are required to carry a full course load (twelve

semester hours or four courses). The Declaration and Certification of Finances form must be submitted prior to an offer of admission being made.

International students on non-immigrant visas are not eligible for state or federally-funded loans or scholarships in the United States. Limited scholarships may be available from the college based on athletic ability, musical talent, and academic credentials.

Health and accident insurance is mandatory for all international students on non-immigrant visas enrolled at Converse College. Proof of insurance is required before the student can be admitted.

Converse College provides the following services for international students:

- International Student Orientation Program
- Airport pick up, from the Greenville/Spartanburg International Airport
- Confidential counseling services
- Academic advising