

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AFFAIRS



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International Students

The Office of International Student Affairs provides comprehensive academic and support services for international students to enhance their educational and cultural experiences while enrolled at the college. Trained professional staff members provide personalized attention to the unique concerns and needs of international students.

International students are defined as any individual admitted into the U.S. on an F-1 student visa or students issued the Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility approved for study at Moraine Valley Community College.

International students are expected to comply with federal laws and regulations, and Department of Immigration and Naturalization Service requirements while enrolled at the college.

Application—To apply, the following must be submitted:

- the international student application form, signed by the student
- official, certified copies of secondary and post-secondary school records, translated into English. The records must show completion of secondary education.
- evidence of sufficient financial support, including the notarized affidavit of support and bank statement.

Transfer students must also submit a copy of the Form I-20 issued by the transfer school and a letter stating the student's dates of attendance or a transcript.

Admission—Upon approval of the application and documents, the college will issue the Form I-20 Certificate of Eligibility. Applicants apply for the F-1 student visa with the Form I-20 at the nearest United States embassy or consulate in the home country.

International students must enroll full-time in at least 12 credit hours per semester. Summer enrollment is optional.

For more information about international student enrollment, contact International Student Admissions at **(708) 974-5443**/Fax: (708) 974-0561 or 974-0974.

Summer Admission—International students who attend other colleges may enroll as summer students at Moraine Valley. A copy of the Form I-20 from the current school must be submitted to the director of international student admissions before registration is permitted.

Foreign Residents—Other foreign nationals who wish to enroll at the college may be required to provide passport and visa information before registration. Foreign residents are required to pay international tuition rates for credit classes.

English Testing—All new international students must be comprehensively tested in English reading, writing, listening, and speaking skills through an online and/or institutionally approved test. Placement in Intensive English Language classes is mandatory if indicated by English testing. The results of the tests are used to place students in the appropriate class level to ensure academic success. Note: The TOEFL exam is not required for application to the college.

Intensive English Language Program (IELP)—For students interested in learning to communicate effectively in English, this program teaches the English skills needed to successfully enter and complete college-level course work. The program provides beginning, intermediate and advanced levels of intensive English instruction. Students in the intermediate and advanced levels enroll in regular academic courses at the same time. The IELP provides full-time (18 hours per week) English language instruction. For more information, call **(708) 974-5317**.

International Student Orientation—All new international students at Moraine Valley are required to attend International Student Orientation. This program is scheduled the week before classes begin and helps international students become familiar with the campus, college procedures and the local community. Orientation includes academic assessment, class selection, registration, and scheduling. Orientation also provides practical information about housing, shopping, transportation, banking, social customs, and other topics helpful to daily living in the United States.

Academic Support—International students receive individual attention from professional staff to review progress in their classes. The Academic Skills Center provides free tutoring in reading, English, mathematics, chemistry, physics, biology, and accounting.

Activities—The International Student Affairs Office sponsors social activities and events for international students. These activities create opportunities for international students to make new friends, visit cultural institutions, learn about the United States and share their culture with local students. International students also participate in other student clubs and events on campus, such as theater productions, student government and sports.

Advising and Counseling—Full-time counseling and advising services are offered for international students. Students are provided assistance with visa immigration issues, educational planning, course selection, academic progress, university transfer, housing, cross-cultural adjustment, and personal concerns.



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Housing/Host Home Program—Airport arrival and housing assistance is provided to all new international students. Several convenient housing arrangements are available in the area at various prices. These options include living with a host family or renting an apartment in the community. The Host Home Program offers students the opportunity to live with a local family and enjoy the convenience of a home while practicing English with their hosts. Students may request housing assistance when applying for admission.

Standards of Academic Progress—International students must make normal progress toward completing a course of study as required by Immigration and Naturalization Service regulations. The college has established Standards of Academic Progress for international students to comply with this requirement and to provide assistance to students who experience academic difficulty.

Tuition—Tuition for international students is \$220 per credit hour and is subject to change without notice. All tuition and fees for international students must be paid in full (cash, certified check, credit card, or personal check drawn on a local bank) by the end of the first week of classes. Payment plans may be available under certain circumstances. International students are not eligible for financial assistance.

