

Policy Title: International Special Student

Definition

International nondegree-seeking students must meet all requirements for international students for the School of Nursing.

Application Process

To be a nondegree-seeking student, the international nurse must provide the following materials to the Registrar's Office:

- A. Completed application.
- B. Official transcripts of all course work completed since high school and a course-by-course transcript evaluation by Educational Credential Evaluators (ECE)
- C. Evidence of certification to practice nursing in the country of origin (if graduate student or RN-BSN).
- D. Documentation from the Texas Board of Nurses (TBN) of the need for specific course(s). Need for courses is determined for the TBN by the Commission of Graduates of Foreign Nursing Exam (CGFNS) which specifies for the TBN which courses are needed in order to write the NCLEX (if graduate student or RN-BSN).
- E. Students from countries where English is not the native language must take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) given by the Educational Testing Service (Princeton, New Jersey 08540). A minimum score of 550 (on the paper exam) or a minimum score of 213 (on the computer-based test) on the TOEFL is required within the last two years.
- F. International applicants and students should contact the Office of International Affairs for further information at: www.uth.tmc.edu/intlaffairs or telephone 713-500-3176.

Admission Process

- A. If the applicant is accepted, the Office of the Registrar will forward copies of the acceptance letter and application to the Office of International affairs (OIA).
- B. The OIA will be responsible for obtaining financial verification and provide information on visa.
- C. The applicant must obtain visa clearance from the OIA office prior to actual enrollment.

Overall Guidelines

- A. As special students, international nurses are limited to enrolling in those courses designed by the CGFNS as preparation for their qualifying exam.
- B. Special students are subject to the same academic guidelines governing evaluation procedures as all other students.
- C. Because the F-1 student visa can only be issued to degree-seeking students, the nondegree-seeking student will enter on the B-1/B-2 visitor visa. Students on the F-1 visa presently in the United States cannot switch to a nondegree-seeking status.