

Graduate Admissions Information

Standards for Admissions

The graduate programs are intended for individuals with bachelor's degrees or higher for master's programs and a master's degree for PhD programs from an accredited or recognized institution. Please refer to individual program descriptions in the catalog for specific admissions requirements.

General Application Procedure

- Submit a complete application online at carolinau.edu/apply.
- Request transcripts from all colleges and universities attended since high school be mailed or submitted via secure electronic transfer from the institutions to the CU Office of Admissions at admissions@carolinau.edu.
- Submit any additional documentation required based on a specified degree of interest.

Provisional Admission

Applicants who have submitted evidence of satisfactory academic qualification (official or unofficial) but lack one or more additional items required for admission may receive provisional acceptance. Provisionally admitted students may register for upcoming courses after paying their enrollment deposit. Additionally, they may work with the financial services office to have a financial package established. However, all admission requirements must be resolved, and full admission must be obtained before financial aid is disbursed. Students may remain in provisional acceptance for up to 10 calendar days after the first day of class. If provisional admission status is not resolved within those 10 calendar days, students will be administratively withdrawn from their courses.

Probationary Admission

Students who do not meet the university's grade point requirements for regular admission may be considered for probationary admission, subject to the Director of Admissions approval.

To be considered for probationary admission to a master's program, a student must possess a minimum 2.5 undergraduate GPA. If a student is admitted on probationary status, they may enroll for up to 9 credits of graduate-level coursework approved by an advisor in the proposed field of study. Any request for more than 9 credits of graduate-level coursework while a probationary student must be approved in writing by the advisor and school dean.

To be considered for probationary admission to a PhD program, a student must possess a minimum 2.5 graduate GPA. If a student is admitted on probationary status, they may enroll for up to 6 credits of PhD-level coursework approved by an advisor in the proposed field of study. Any request for more than 6 credits of PhD-level coursework while a probationary student must be approved in writing by the advisor and school dean.

Upon completion of at least 9 credit hours of master's-level work or at least 6 credit hours of PhD-level work at Carolina University with at least a B average, probationary students may be removed from probationary status by the Registrar's Office. Probationary students who do not meet that objective will be placed on academic suspension.

The hours earned while a probationary graduate student may be used to satisfy the requirements for the degree.

In accordance with U.S. government regulations, international students admitted on probationary status are not eligible for F-1 (student) visa status but can complete courses online to become eligible for full admission.

Non-Discrimination Policy

Carolina University is committed to maintaining a loving and welcoming environment. Consistent with this goal and applicable laws, it is the university's policy not to discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, age, disability, veteran status, national and ethnic origin, or pregnancy or childbirth. Therefore, all educational and employment decisions are based on an individual's abilities, qualifications, and agreement with CU's mission and conduct policies.

Transfer Policy

Carolina University grants transfer credit for previous college work from colleges or universities that are accredited by agencies approved by the Department of Education. Reference the [Academic Information](#) section of the catalog for specific transfer guidelines.

Visiting Students

A visiting student is a non-resident, non-degree-seeking student currently enrolled in a degree program at another institution who wishes to take a limited number of classes at Carolina University for transfer credit to his/her present institution.

Eligibility

1. Satisfactory Academic Progress at the present institution as indicated by a current in-progress transcript
2. Written approval from the Registrar, dean, or student's Academic Advisor at the present institution
3. Approval of the Visiting Student Application
4. Payment of tuition and fees

Nonprogram Students

Students are expected to declare a degree objective prior to enrolling in classes. Those who enroll with no degree objectives are classified as nonprogram students. Nonprogram students who meet the admissions requirements but have chosen not to pursue a degree are under no credit hour limit or language concurrence policy requirements. Deficiency courses may be taken concurrently or consecutively. Nonprogram students are not eligible for federal financial aid.

Returning Students

Previously enrolled students who are classified as withdrawn should submit an application online at carolinau.edu/apply and meet all additional admissions requirements. The applicant should request that all official transcripts from institutions attended since withdrawing from Carolina University be submitted by mail or electronic transfer to the Admissions Office. Students returning with a GPA less than the program entry requirement or after Academic Suspension must submit an action plan, explanation of accountability, and changes to circumstances that now support academic success. Access to documents submitted in previous

applications at the university is not guaranteed. The Office of Admissions may request any unarchived documentation necessary for readmission purposes. This entire process will require approval from the Director of Admissions.

International Students

Carolina University is authorized to enroll international students under the Department of Homeland Security's Student and Exchange Visitor Program (SEVP) for those holding approved F-1 visa status.

International students must provide proof of completion of a Bachelor's and Master's degree from their country of origin. All transcripts must be evaluated by an approved transcript evaluation service.

Transcript Evaluation Requirement: For Graduate, Master's, and PhD applicants, a detailed course-by-course evaluation, including GPA, is required. A list of approved Transcript Evaluation Service Providers is available at <https://carolinau.edu/admissions/international-students>.

English Proficiency Requirement: International students whose first language is not English must submit satisfactory scores from one of the approved test providers listed at <https://carolinau.edu/admissions/international-students>.

English proficiency examinations may be waived for students who have completed a secondary-level program at a recognized school with English as the medium of instruction after transcript evaluation.

Financial responsibility must be demonstrated before the Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F1) Student Status can be issued. The university must receive the funds in United States dollars on deposit to cover the cost of the first year's education. Financial information may be obtained from the Admissions Office, including amounts for all fees and tuition. The I-20 Form will not be sent to the applicant until all of the admissions requirements have been met. International students are encouraged to submit all admissions materials at least six months prior to projected enrollment and obtain an acceptance letter at least three months before starting their first course.

International Online Students

Online international applicants are encouraged to complete the admissions process no less than three months prior to the expected start date. Financial information may be obtained from the Admissions Office, including amounts for all fees and tuition.