



## Highland Community College International Student Packet of Information & Application



Email completed application and required documents to:

[registration@highland.edu](mailto:registration@highland.edu)

Review all application information prior to contacting Highland Community College

Questions? Email: [registration@highland.edu](mailto:registration@highland.edu)

Call: 815-599-3414

Application & Document Deadlines

Fall Semester: Due June 15

Spring Semester: Due November 15



## International Admission Information

An International student is a citizen of a country other than the United States who is authorized to remain in the United States for a temporary period of time, for educational purposes only as a non-immigrant (F1 or M-1 visa). He or she intends to return to his or her own country.

### Admission

To be considered for admission to Highland Community College as an international student the following steps must be completed. Only after an admission has been granted will an I-20 be issued.

1. Complete, sign and submit the entire international student application packet.
2. Financial sponsor must complete and sign the Affidavit of Support. This affidavit must be signed and stamped by a bank official and must verify a current account balance with a minimum balance equal to one year of expenses in US dollars.
3. Submit authorized English translations and official certified copies of high school and college transcripts. The documents must indicate completion of the equivalent of secondary school.
4. For consideration into degree programs: Submit TOEFL test scores (with a minimum score of 500 on paper based, 173 on computer based, 61 on internet-based exams). Highland does not accept DuoLingo or any other language test at this time. Documentation of successful completion of another English language program in the United States may be considered on an individual basis.
5. Transfer students (F-1) must submit a copy of current I-20 form, transcripts and a letter from the current school showing dates of enrollment and eligibility to transfer.
6. All documents must be submitted to:

Email: [registration@highland.edu](mailto:registration@highland.edu)

Mail:  
Highland Community College  
Attn: Admissions  
2998 West Pearl City Road  
Freeport, IL 61032

All transcripts, letters and other admission materials become the property of Highland Community College. Late applications cannot be considered for admission. Completed applications will be reviewed on the above deadline and, if approved, Highland Community College will issue an I-20 form. The prospective student should follow instructions listed on the I-20 form and make an appointment at the nearest United States Embassy or Consulate to seek approval for an F-1 student visa.

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Use the following list to help you prepare your application for admission to Highland Community College.

- International Student Application Form
  - This form must be filled in completely. Do not leave any spaces blank.
  - Be sure to sign the form yourself and date it.
  - The completed form must reach Highland Community College prior to the deadline.
- On-line student application.
  - Can be found on-line at highland.edu
    - <https://highland.edu/admissions/new-students/apply-online/>
- School Records
  - You need to submit official, certified school records, not photocopies. The school, ministry of education, the government, or the official office responsible for issuing school records must issue these documents. They must also either be in English or include an official English translation.
  - Documentation of secondary school completion is required. Submit grade report, diploma or exam certificate results. Secondary school completion typically means at least 12 years of education.
- Proof of Financial Eligibility
  - Submit an original bank letter from you or your sponsor's bank or financial institution, which includes the location of the account information and is signed by a bank official. This document must show evidence of a minimum balance equal or greater than the cost of one academic year at Highland Community College (see page 7).
  - Submit the sponsor's financial affidavit of support. The form provided must be completed and signed by the sponsor as verification of intent to cover all student expenses for the duration of study at Highland Community College.
- English Language Ability

Official proof of one of the following is required for college degree programs:

  - TOEFL
    - Paper based – minimum score of 500
    - Computer based – minimum score of 173
    - Internet based (IBT) – minimum score of 61



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT APPLICATION

Please print all information. I plan to enroll:

- FALL (August)
- SPRING (January)

Year: \_\_\_\_\_

### BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Last/Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Middle: \_\_\_\_\_

Maiden name (if married): \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Social Security Number (if you have one): \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Gender:

- Male
- Female

City of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Country of Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_

Is English your native language?

- Yes
- No

If no, what is your first or native language? \_\_\_\_\_

I am currently (check one):

- Present in the USA with a visa.
- Planning to enter the USA with a visa.

### ADDRESS INFORMATION

Legal/Permanent Address Street Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Country Code: \_\_\_\_\_ City Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

I am a:

- First time college student
- Transfer student

I am a student athlete wanting to play a sport at Highland Community College:  Yes  No

If Yes: What sport(s) do you play? \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in an athletic scholarship:  Yes  No

Academic Intent

Field of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

I am planning to pursue the following program at Highland Community College:

- Associate in Arts or Science (University Transfer)
- Associate in General Studies

Education (secondary/post-secondary)

High School Graduate:  Yes  No

If yes, year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_

If no, did you receive a GED?  Yes  No                      If yes, year received: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of high school last attended: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_

From (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_ To (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Attended since High School:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree earned: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

From (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_ To (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution Attended since High School:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Degree earned: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Country: \_\_\_\_\_

From (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_ To (Month/Year): \_\_\_\_\_



**ACADEMIC INFORMATION (continued)**

Academic Testing

- TOEFL Score: \_\_\_\_\_
- SAT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Taken: \_\_\_\_\_
- ACT Score: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Taken: \_\_\_\_\_

**STATEMENT OF INTENT**

In English, please explain why you are choosing your particular field of study and how you intend to make use of your education.

What are your reasons for selecting Highland Community College?

How did you first learn about Highland Community College?

**CERTIFYING STATEMENT\***

- ✓ I understand withholding information requested on this application or giving false information may make me ineligible for admission to the College or subject to dismissal. With this in mind, I certify the above statements are correct and complete.
- ✓ I have read and understand the terms of being an F1 student at Highland Community College.
- ✓ I understand that by typing my name and date, I am effectively signing this document.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Application must be completed and signed by applicant.

**AFFIRMATIVE ACTION/EQUAL OPPORTUNITY**

Highland Community College is committed to equal opportunity for all ages and does not discriminate in admissions, recruitment, access to employment, programs, and/or activities with regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, economic status, national origin, handicap, or political affiliation.



## **ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

The following is an estimate of the basic cost for an academic year (fall and spring semesters only) at Highland Community College. Remember, this is a minimum estimate. Students will need to plan for all additional expenses. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to change tuition and fees at any time.

Full time enrollment (12 credit hours or more) is required of all students on an F-1 visa (student visa) status.

The current out-of-country tuition and fee rate is \$292 per semester hour.

### **Fall and spring semesters only**

Tuition\* & Fees \$8,800 (two semesters)

Room & Board\*\* (9 Months) \$6,514

Books & Supplies\*\* \$1,100

Personal\*\* \$2,228

Approximate Total for 1 year is \$18,642

\*15 semester hours per semester is the average course load. Tuition & Fees estimation and listed rate is variable and subject to change at any time.

\*\*These costs are average estimates and may vary depending on place of residence, enrollment levels and personal needs.

### **Additional Information for Consideration (may not be applicable for all International Students)**

#### **ROOM & BOARD**

Highland Community College does not offer on-campus housing, nor does the college provide assistance in acquiring housing or room and board arrangements.

#### **CLOTHING & CLIMATE**

While living in Freeport, you will experience all four seasons. Winter days can be very cold (-18 degrees Celsius/ 0 degrees Fahrenheit or colder) and summer days are hot and humid. You will need clothing appropriate for all seasons.

#### **STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**

International students are only eligible to work part-time, on-campus jobs. Employment opportunities are limited and on-campus student employment is not guaranteed. F1 International students are not allowed to work outside of campus.

#### **TRANSPORTATION**

Freeport Illinois does not have city wide transportation. There is a small transit system that passes can be purchased at the Highland Community College book store. There is limited taxi services as well.



**Financial Verification  
Sponsor's Affidavit of Support**

\*NOTE: Attach all necessary financial documents to this form.

International students or their sponsor must provide evidence of sufficient funds available to financially support two full semesters of study at Highland Community College.

I expect to attend Highland Community College for \_\_\_\_\_ number of years.

Show amounts and sources of financial support below:

Sources	Amount (U.S. Dollars)
1. Personal and/or family savings: Please have parents sign below and attach letter of support from family bank.	\$_____ per year
2. Private Sponsor: Please have sponsor sign below and attach letter of support from sponsor's bank.	\$_____ per year
3. Government Sponsorship: Please attach appropriate letter and/or documents.	\$_____ per year
4. Other: Please attach all necessary documents.	\$_____ per year

**OFFICIAL CERTIFICATION**

I/We certify that the information given on this form is true and accurate and that the above listed funds are available and will be provided as specified.

Parent or Sponsor's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Sponsor's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print or Type Name)

Relationship of Sponsor to Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Address of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Name and address of the student/ parent/ sponsor (circle one) bank:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



**Financial Verification**  
**Sponsor's Affidavit of Support (Continued)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, certify that the amount of funds available to me for my first year at Highland Community College is \$ \_\_\_\_\_, and the amount for my second year is \$ \_\_\_\_\_. I certify that I will have adequate funds to travel to and from the United States. I further certify that the information provided is true and correct and that I shall not require financial assistance from Highland Community College.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



## **International Student Admission Frequently Asked Questions**

### ***How long will it take to receive an I-20?***

When an International Student Application is received in our office, it must be reviewed by the admissions team and documents checked for accuracy and eligibility. The admissions team will review only complete applications.

After the admissions team has reached a decision on your application you will be notified by email. It is important to understand that verification of foreign documents requires time and applicants need to plan ahead to schedule their admissions and start date accordingly.

If you are approved for admission, you will receive the Form I-20 and an acceptance letter from Highland Community College. If you are not approved you will be notified of the reason.

### ***Will you e-mail me about my application?***

We will respond to e-mail questions in a timely manner. E-mail: [registration@highland.edu](mailto:registration@highland.edu)

### ***Can I arrive early before my classes begin?***

You are allowed to arrive up to 30 days before classes begin. It is imperative you arrive by the date listed on your I-20. You may not be allowed into the United States if arriving after the date listed.

### ***What do I need to do to transfer to Highland Community College from another U.S. college or University?***

You must complete the application procedures by the stated deadline. In addition, you will need to submit a copy of your current I-20, be in good status with your current college or university, and have your current International Student Advisor complete the International Student Transfer form (available upon request). Be sure to include Official copies of all college and university transcripts as part of the application process.