



Catalog Addendum
International Students
2025, Volume X

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Located in the greater Miami area, the epicenter of cultural diversity, Miami Regional University has a diverse student body. MRU welcomes international applicants from around the world to join the MRU family. International student applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

1. Satisfy all MRU admission requirements specified in the University Catalog and complete the international student application form and fee.

Translation of official academic records

Applicants must submit ATA certified translations as follows:

- Official academic records (including, without limitation: credentials, documents, and transcripts) in languages other than English must be translated by a qualified American Translators Association (ATA) agency member. The translation must be certified.
- To satisfy this requirement, applicants may send documents for translation directly to an ATA agency of their choice, or they may be uploaded through the MRU website to be forwarded to an MRU-affiliated agency for a fee: [International Programs | Miami Regional University \(mru.edu\)](#)

Academic degree and transcript evaluations

Only official academic records from properly accredited foreign schools/universities are accepted. Foreign schools/universities may be accredited by the Ministry of Education of their country or a U.S. accrediting commission. Official documents must be evaluated by a qualified agency member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES). The evaluation must be certified and directly sent through authorized channels from the agency to MRU.

- To satisfy this requirement, applicants may send documents for translation directly to an NACES agency of their choice, or they may be uploaded through the MRU website to be forwarded to an MRU-affiliated agency for a fee: [International Programs | Miami Regional University \(mru.edu\)](#)

All credentials and documents submitted to Miami Regional University become MRU property; original documents are not returned to the applicant or forwarded to other institutions.

2. International applicants from non-English-speaking countries must demonstrate proficiency in the English language. The following is a list of acceptable methods for demonstrating English proficiency:
 - A degree from an English-speaking school (high school) or university (associate, bachelor)
 - The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) B2 Level, satisfying MRU minimum score
 - A recognized, certified standardized academic test score of the English language (e.g., TOEFL, TOEFL 80 iBT, TOIC, Duolingo, satisfying MRU minimum score)

- A college readiness standardized academic SAT or ACT satisfying MRU minimum score
 - Completion of ENC 1101, or its equivalent, with a passing score of C or better from an accredited U.S. institution
3. No Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or Graduate Management Admission Test (GMAT) testing scores are required.
 4. Applicants must submit documented evidence of means of financial support to MRU for admission purposes and issuance of the Certificate of Eligibility (I-20) form.

Declaration and Certification of Finances

Applicants must complete the Declaration and Certification of Finances or Affidavit and submit it to the Office of Admissions.

MRU cannot issue a Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20) until: the applicant has satisfied all admission requirements, the university has made an admission decision, and the student has provided the bank/sponsor letter and transfer release form (international students currently attending another U.S. institution must submit this form).

The university is required by immigration authorities to carefully check the financial resources of each applicant before issuing Form I-20. Therefore, it is important that applicants are aware of the cost of attending university and have the necessary financial support for the period of enrollment. Applicants should refer to the Annual Estimate of Cost chart in the University Catalog.

Total funds available for a student for the first academic year must equal the total estimate of institutional costs and living expenses. All items in the Declaration/Affidavit must be accurately answered. This document and proof of sufficient funds must be submitted to the Office of Admissions.

Medical Insurance

The State of Florida requires all international students to maintain health insurance coverage to help defray the costs of catastrophic medical emergencies. The policy must provide specified levels of coverage to ensure the policy is adequate. Additionally, the insurance policy must have a U.S.-based claims agent accessible to medical providers to facilitate prompt payment of claims.

The university has approved a plan which meets state requirements and the needs of most students; however, a student on F status may select alternate coverage, provided it satisfies the state requirements for minimum coverage. Information regarding these requirements is available at the Florida Health Coverage website: <https://floridahealthcoverage.org/>

Students should not purchase an insurance policy prior to verifying that the policy satisfies MRU and State of Florida requirements.

Priority Deadlines for International Admission Consideration

Due to the additional processing time required for international students, applications and supporting documents should be submitted as early as possible. We recommend the following timeframes:

- February 1 (if you are applying for the summer semester)
- May 1 (if you are applying for the fall semester)
- September 1 (if you are applying for the spring semester)

Additional information and important dates are available in the MRU Academic Calendar. Admission applications not received within an adequate timeframe may be considered for the following semester. The university cannot guarantee a specific timeframe for application processing as it varies according to each applicant's individual documents and circumstances. Applications are valid for one year.

Scholarships

International students may qualify to apply for an MRU scholarship. The university considers scholarships to international applicants and encourages qualified students to apply. Detailed scholarship information is available in the scholarship section of the University Catalog.

Tuition and Enrollment

Once in the U.S., students must comply with a series of U.S. F status required guidelines.

U.S. immigration regulations require F-1 student visa holders to be enrolled as full-time students. International students must attend school each semester and maintain full-time enrollment. At MRU, full-time enrollment is twelve (12) credit hours per semester for undergraduate students and nine (9) credit hours per semester for graduate students.

Student visa holders who do not make satisfactory progress may jeopardize their immigration status as it is the student's responsibility to comply with all visa requirements as stated under U.S. laws Section 101(a)(15)(f)(i) of the Immigration and Nationality Act and the provisions of the USA Patriot Act.

Satisfactory Progress Requirement For I-20 Students

Students on an F visa must maintain a level of satisfactory progress throughout their time at the institution. This is defined as an average of C for undergraduate students and an average of B for graduate students.

Miami Regional University is required by law to report to Immigration Services students who:

- Do not report to MRU at the scheduled time
- Do not attend classes to the minimum extent required
- Do not meet the full-time status
- Do not meet the satisfactory academic progress requirement for I-20
- Terminate their attendance at MRU

International students studying in the U.S. must comply with all their visa requirements and restrictions.

The following links provide information on different types of visas and the requirements/restrictions for each. [Student and Exchange Visitor Program | ICE](#)

International Students Internships/Externships and Work

The legal regulations governing F-1 student employment are complex, and the *Designated School Officials* (DSOs)/ International Student Coordinator advisors are available in the Office of International Student Services to explain these regulations.

International students should not rely on employment as a source of income to finance their studies. In general, however, employment is available only to students who maintain their legal status in the U.S. under three categories:

- On-campus employment: F-1 students may be employed on the MRU campus for a maximum of 20 hours per week.
- Off-campus employment: F-1 students may request off-campus employment under limited conditions and only after maintaining F-1 status for at least one full academic year.
- Optional Practical Training (OPT): F-1 students may request training employment to accept jobs related to their studies. Students usually pursue practical training employment after completion of their degrees.