WELCOME

Alamance Community College (ACC) welcomes F-1 international students. Studying in the United States is a challenging and exciting experience. We understand that choosing ACC is one of many options. We are here to assist you in making your academic experience in the United States a success.
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Greetings to prospective students of Alamance Community College. Going to college away from your home country can be a great learning experience. Regardless from where you come, or how familiar you are with the United States and North Carolina, you are likely to come across new and exciting experiences that will help you learn and grow and be better able to work in a global society.

Our college offers associate degree programs, certificates and diplomas in more than 40 curricula including business, the life and physical sciences, industrial technologies and the arts and humanities. You and your family have already made an excellent decision to explore Alamance Community College (ACC), a member of the prestigious Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

This brochure will help you navigate some of the vast opportunities that our campus offers. We understand that visiting us may not be an option, so we hope that the information contained here (as well as a visit to our website www.alamancecc.edu) will help facilitate your college search.

Our admissions and financial aid staffs are eager to assist you. Once again, I hope that learning more about our college will persuade you that Alamance Community College is an excellent investment for your future.

Dr. Algie Gatewood

President, Alamance Community College
Alamance Community College is committed to helping you achieve your academic goals. Our personalized attention gives you the opportunity to master English speaking and comprehension skills and provides an easier transition to academics in the United States.

ACC offers international students a less expensive entry point into their higher education pursuits via low tuition rates on freshman and sophomore level classes. After completing studies at ACC, students can transfer to a four-year university to complete a bachelor’s degree. As long as specific requirements are met, students who graduate ACC with a two year Associates in Arts/Science degree are guaranteed admission into one of the 16 public universities in the University of North Carolina system.

**ACC QUICK FACTS**

- 35 associate degree, diploma & certificate programs
- Transfer agreements with the University of North Carolina System and Guilford College
- Diverse student population
- Personal enrichment classes for life-long learning
- Best-value in post-secondary education among colleges and universities throughout NC
- Low cost of attendance
- Regionally accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
- Over 50 years of serving students
Alamance Community College offers the following programs of study:

**BUSINESS, ARTS AND SCIENCES DIVISION**

- Accounting
- Advertising and Graphic Design
- Associate in Arts—University Transfer
- Associate in Science—University Transfer
- Business Administration
- Business Administration, Marketing and Retailing Concentration
- Computer Information Technology
- Medical Office Administration
- Networking Technology
- Office Administration
- Office Administration/Legal
- Spanish Language Certificate*
- Web Technologies

**HEALTH AND PUBLIC SERVICES DIVISION**

- Animal Care and Management Technology
- Basic Laboratory Techniques Certificate*
- Biomanufacturing Technology*
- Biotechnology
- Cosmetology
- Criminal Justice Technology
- Dental Assisting*
- Early Childhood Associate
- Fire Protection Technology*
- Medical Assisting
- Medical Laboratory Technology
- Nursing
- Nursing Assistant*

**INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGIES DIVISION**

- Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Technology
- Automotive Systems Technology
- Computer-Integrated Machining
- Culinary Arts
- Horticulture Technology
- Industrial Systems Technology
- Mechanical Drafting Technology
- Welding Technology

* Certificate and diploma programs, only available to international students while working on an associate degree program.

### SEMESTER DATES, TUITION, AND OTHER EXPENSES

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<th>Weeks in Sessions</th>
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<td>Fall Semester: August—December</td>
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<td>Spring Semester: January—May</td>
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<td>Summer Semester: May—July (Optional)</td>
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### TUITION BOOKS AND SUPPLIES (PER YEAR)

- ACC estimated tuition and fees: $8,980
- Estimated cost of books and supplies: $2,000

### OTHER ESTIMATED EXPENSES

- Medical insurance: $500
- Housing, food, and transportation: $9220
- **Estimated total cost of attendance for international student per Academic Year**: $20,700

*Tuition increases subject to change by General Assembly.*
Complete the international student application. This application can be found at [http://www.alamancecc.edu/admissions/#non-us-citizen](http://www.alamancecc.edu/admissions/#non-us-citizen).

**EVIDENCE OF ENGLISH COMPETENCY**

Submit an official TOEFL test score report. Minimum TOEFL score requirements for admission to ACC are:

- 550 Paper-based test
- 17 Computer-based test
- 79 Internet-based test

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS**

Submit official transcripts from secondary school(s) and/or college(s) attended. It is the applicant’s responsibility to provide a notarized translation of all transcripts and to secure the services of an independent academic credential evaluation provider. The following credentialing agencies are recommended:

- WES (World Education Services)  
  [http://www.wes.org](http://www.wes.org)
- ECE (Educational Credential Evaluators, Inc.)  
  [http://www.ece.org](http://www.ece.org)

**EVIDENCE OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Alamance Community College is required by U.S. government regulations to check the availability of adequate funding for your tuition, fees, and living expenses for the duration of your studies. Therefore, you are required to submit a notarized ACC international student affidavit of support form with your application documents.

Note: The total funds on the affidavit(s) you submit—from personal sources, funding agencies, or both—must equal the total funds needed for the duration of your studies at ACC (at least two years). However, you only need to submit evidence (bank statements, financial awards, etc.) to support your first year of study in the United States. See estimated annual expenses in this booklet.
**ACCEPTANCE**

All students that apply to ACC and meet the international student admission requirements are accepted. The ACC International Admissions Counselor will release an official acceptance letter and I-20 form to the applicant for use in applying for the F-1 visa in his/her home country.

**F-1 VISA APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW PROCESS**

**F-1 VISA CLASSIFICATION**

The F-1 visa is reserved for academic students enrolling in colleges, universities, high schools, language training programs, and other academic institutions. Before applying for the F-1 visa, prospective students must be accepted for enrollment at an established university/college which is SEVP (Student and Exchange Visitor Program) certified.

**WHERE TO APPLY**

Students must apply for the F-1 visa at the U.S. embassy or consulate in their home country early to provide ample time for visa processing. Please note that embassies and consulates are able to issue your student visa in 120 days or less, in advance of the course of study registration date.

As part of the visa application process, an interview at the embassy’s consular section is required for visa applicants. Depending on the country where you reside, the waiting time can vary, so applying early is strongly encouraged. Students may visit [http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4638.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/temp/wait/wait_4638.html) to see visa wait time estimates for interview appointments and visa processing time information for each U.S. Embassy or Consulate worldwide.

Visit [http://www.usembassy.gov](http://www.usembassy.gov) for the address and phone number of the U.S. Consulate nearest you.
F-1 VISA APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Complete the following prior to the F-1 interview:

1. Complete the visa forms*:
   - DS-160 Online Non-immigrant Visa Application Form
   - OR
   - DS-156 Non-immigrant Visa Application Form
   - DS-158 Contact Information and Walk History for Non-immigrant, Visa Applicant Form
   - If a male between the ages of 16 and 45, DS-157 Supplemental Non-immigrant Visa Application Form

*Check the requirements of the U.S. Embassy or Consulate in your country regarding the required forms.

2. Pay the visa application fee by following instructions on your local U.S. embassy or consulate’s website.

3. Pay the applicable SEVIS fee.
   - Find the Form I-901 at [http://www.FMJfee.com](http://www.FMJfee.com)
   - Complete the form online and supply the necessary payment information.
   - Print a copy of the online receipt.
   - Be sure to make copies of your receipt and keep it with your other important immigration documents. You must bring the receipt of fee payment with you to the interview. If you have lost the receipt, the visa officer should be able to view your payment history in the database.

NOTE: If you are transferring schools, extending your program, applying for an F-2 dependent visa, or have paid this fee and been denied a visa within the last 12 months, you do not need to pay the SEVIS fee.

F-1 VISA INTERVIEW

After you receive an I-20 from ACC, follow the U.S. Embassy/Consulate’s instructions to schedule an interview for your F-1 student visa. Prepare and bring the following to the visa interview:

- A passport valid for at least six months
- Form I-20 (sign the form under item 11)
- School admission letter (included with your I-20)
• Completed visa applications (DS-160 or DS-156, DS-158, and, if applicable, DS-157)

• Two 2”x2” photographs in the prescribed format http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/passports/photos/photos.html

• A receipt for the visa application fee

• A receipt for the SEVIS fee (If you have not received an official receipt in the mail showing payment and you paid the fee electronically, the consulate will accept the temporary receipt you printed from your computer. If you do not have a receipt, the consulate may be able to see your payment electronically if your fee payment was processed at least three business days before your interview.)

• Financial evidence that shows you have sufficient funds to cover your tuition and living expenses during the period you intend to study (the total amount from #7 on I-20)

• Any information that proves that you will return to your home country after finishing your studies in the U.S (This may include proof of property, family, or other ties to your community.)

For information on bringing dependents to the U.S., returning to continue studies, renewing your visa, or details on applying at, visit http://travel.state.gov/visa/visa_1750.html.

Note: Once your visa is issued, it will have the name of the institution you will be attending listed. You may not enter the United States on an I-20 from an institution other than what is listed on your visa.

You may be refused entry into the United States if you attempt to arrive more than 30 days before the program start date listed on #5 of your SEVIS I-20 form.

**IMPORTANT TRAVEL INFORMATION**

There is no guarantee that you will receive an F-1 visa. Please do not make travel arrangements until you have received your visa. Possession of a visa does not guarantee entry into the United States. The Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) officials have authority to permit or deny admission to the United States. You must have your I-20 in your possession each time you enter the U.S. If you are allowed to enter the U.S., the immigration official will determine the length of your visit on the Arrival-Departure Record (Form I-94).
Since Form I-94 documents your authorized stay in the U.S., be sure to keep this in your passport.

Department of Homeland Security regulations require that all initial or beginning students enter the U.S. 30 days or less in advance of the course of study start/report date as shown on the Form I-20. Please consider this date carefully when making travel plans to the U.S.

HEALTH INSURANCE

ACC highly recommends that F-1 international students purchase health insurance coverage for their stay in the U.S. Below are links for international student health insurance providers and are not affiliated with ACC:

- Compass Benefit Group
  https://www.compassstudenthealthinsurance.com
- Insurance for Student, Inc.
  http://www.insuranceforstudents.com
  1-800-356-1235
- International Services, Inc.
  http://www.nriol.net
  1-877-593-5403
- International Student Protection
  http://intlstudentprotection.com
  1-877-738-5787
- North Carolina Community College Student Health Plan
  http://www.studentccsi.com
  1-800-509-6988

REPATRIATION AND MEDICAL EVACUATION INSURANCE

It is also recommended that international students maintain repatriation and medical evacuation coverage. ACC is not responsible for payment of repatriation or medical evacuation expenses.
REGISTERING FOR CLASSES

ACTIVATE YOUR ACCESS STUDENT ONLINE ACCOUNT

Students are required to setup an online student account before registering for classes at ACC. Students may activate their online student account at http://my.alamancecc.edu/pdf/access_account.pdf. Through your ACCess account you will be able to access

- College E-mail
- Moodle (ACC’s online instruction platform)
- WebAdvisor (ACC’s online academic management system)

WebAdvisor is the most convenient way to register for classes, add and drop classes, view a class schedule, view placement test scores, view financial aid information, check a student balance, submit payments, print an unofficial transcript, and check grades.

ARRIVAL AT ACC

Upon arrival at ACC, you are required to check in with:

Elizabeth Brehler
Title: Director of Enrollment Management
Primary Designated School Official (PDSO)
Phone: 336-506-4120
Email: Elizabeth.Brehler@alamancecc.edu
Office: G130
ACADEMIC ADVISING

As an international student pursuing a degree, diploma or certificate, you are assigned a faculty advisor upon admission to the College. Your faculty advisor is an instructor within your designated program. It is very important to meet with your advisor before registering each semester and throughout your program at Alamance Community College.

LOCAL HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

Alamance Community College does not have on-campus housing. The international student advisors at ACC will assist you in identifying local housing and transportation options. Although Graham, N.C. does not have a mass public transportation system, vanpools and local transports may be available.

Visit the Alamance County Transportation Authority at http://www.acta-nc.com for more information about local transportation.
ACC CONTACTS

Elizabeth Brehler
Title: Director of Enrollment Management
Primary Designated School Official (PDSO)
Phone: 336-506-4120
Email: Elizabeth.Brehler@alamancecc.edu
Office: G130

Clara Vega
Title: International Student Advisor
Humanities and Fine Arts Department Head
Phone: 336-506-4230
Email: Clara.Vega@alamancecc.edu
Office: B210

Kouassi Yao
Title: Spanish Instructor
Minority Male Mentoring Coordinator
Phone: 336-506-4330
Email: Kouassi.Yao@alamancecc.edu
Office: B209

Erin Flowers
Title: Placement Testing Coordinator
Designated School Official (DSO)
Phone: 336-506-4361
Email: Erin.Flowers@alamancecc.edu
Office: G121
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

Immigration law prohibits international students who are in hourly student employment positions at the College from working more than 20 hours per week during regular semesters and more than 40 hours per week during summer and periods of break. The 20-hours and 40-hours rule applies to ALL job assignments combined.

It is essential that all international students comply with this immigration law to maintain their visa status. Non-compliance could lead to loss of employment with the College and in severe cases, termination of the student’s international student status.

SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The following external links provide information about scholarships and grants for international students:

- https://www.isoa.org/list_scholarships.aspx
- http://www.educationusa.info
Alamance Community College is conveniently located between Raleigh and Greensboro, NC. If you are planning to arrive by air you may use one of the following airports:

- Piedmont Triad International Airport (GSO)  
  6415 Bryan Boulevard  
  Greensboro, NC 27409  
  (336) 665-5600

- Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU)  
  1600 Terminal Blvd  
  Raleigh, NC 27623  
  (919) 840-2123
Alamance County is full of interesting and fun places to see and experience. Whether it’s for your education, entertainment, or making memories, Alamance County has something for you!

Nestled in the heartland of North Carolina between the mountains and the coast, Alamance County is rich in history, exciting cultural attractions, a vast variety of shopping, and excellent facilities for sports.

The County is ideally located between the Outer Banks and the Blue Ridge Mountains, as well as the major cities of the Triad (Winston-Salem • Greensboro • High Point) and the Triangle (Raleigh • Durham • Chapel Hill). It runs alongside Interstate 40/80. I-40 is the third-longest interstate highway in the United States, crossing the country from west to east starting in Barstow, California and ending in Wilmington, North Carolina. I-85 runs from Montgomery, Alabama to Petersburg, Virginia.

**CULTURAL ATTRACTIONS:**

Alamance County has wonderful local cultural activities such as the Snow Camp Outdoor Theatre, an outdoor repertory theater company presenting several dramas each summer in Snow Camp; and the Saxapahaw Rivermill Summer Series, which runs from May through the end of August. In neighboring counties,
there are also iconic cultural attractions like Cultural Old Salem, a historic district of Winston-Salem, which features a living history museum that interprets the culture of the Moravian settlement in North Carolina during the 18th and 19th centuries. Greensboro, among many other cultural attractions, hosts the International Civil Rights Center and Museum, where the Civil Rights Movement lived one of its most important moments.

**RECREATION AND PARKS:**

There are nine natural parks in Alamance County whose grounds include picnic and fishing areas. Alamance County is also home of the Haw River Trail, over 10 miles of hiking trails along the Haw River suitable for hiking, horseback riding, cycling, mountain biking, canoeing, kayaking, and more.

**SHOPPING:**

Alamance County is a heaven for shoppers. Strategically located throughout the county there are large open air shopping centers such as University Commons and Alamance Crossing as well as the Tanger Outlets. There are also numerous local shops and antique stores that showcase real bargains.

**RESEARCH:**

Nearby Durham, Research Triangle Park (RTP), is one of the most prominent high-tech research and development centers in the United States. The park is home to over 170 companies employing 42,000 workers and 10,000 contractors, including the second largest IBM operation in the world.

**EDUCATION:**

Several of North Carolina's most prestigious universities and colleges are within an hour of Alamance County, including the Universities of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Greensboro, North Carolina State, North Carolina Central University, North Carolina A&T, Duke University, Elon University, and many more.

For more local information, please visit http://www.visitalamance.com/ or http://www.alamancechamber.com/