

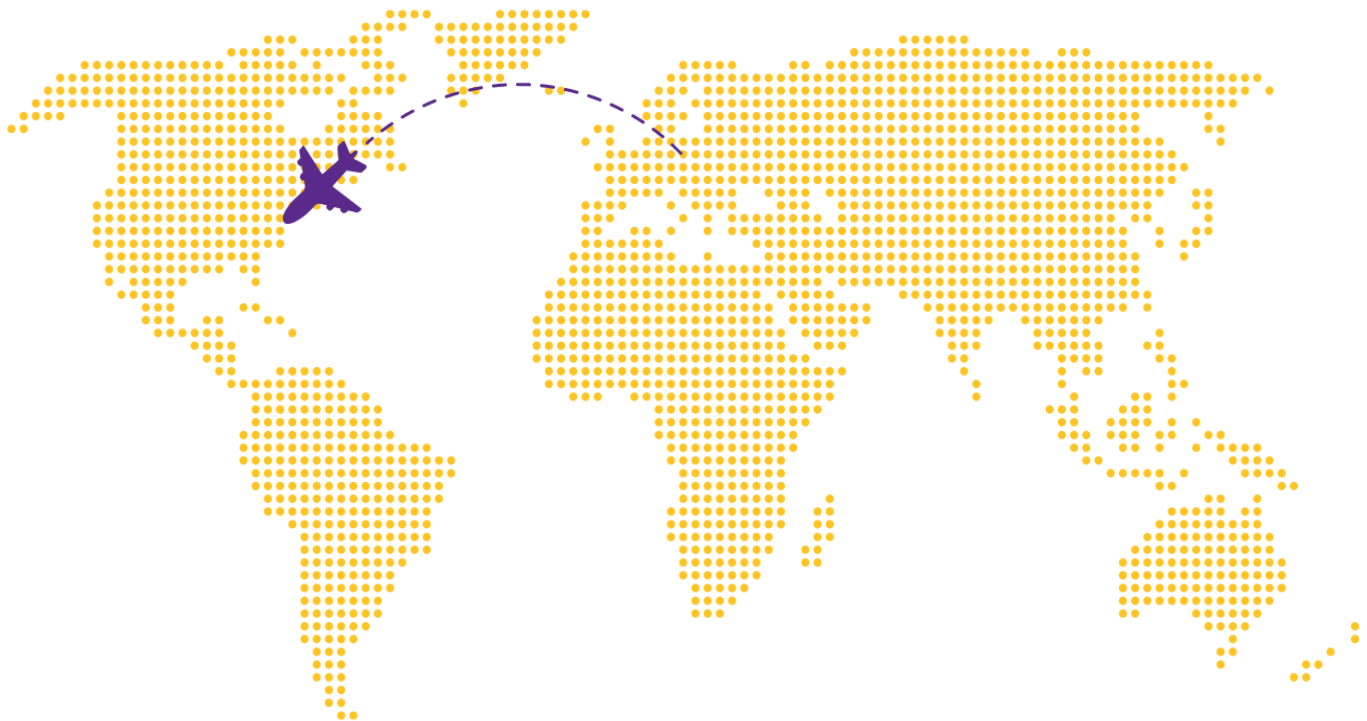


# International (F-1) Students at ECU

**Spring 2023  
Enrollment**

• **71** Undergraduate  
• **79** Graduate & Professional  
**8** Intensive English  
**17** Exchange (here for one semester)

**They come from 59 countries**



Australia (1), Azerbaijan (1), Bahamas (1), Bangladesh (2), Belarus (1), Belize (2), Bermuda (1), Brazil (2), Cameroon (10), Canada (5), China (10), Colombia (8), Cote d'Ivoire (1), Cyprus (1), Czech Republic (2), Democratic Republic of Congo (2), Denmark (2), Ecuador (2), Egypt (5), Ethiopia (1), Finland (1), France (4), Germany (4), Greece (1), Haiti (1), India (11), Iran (10), Italy (1), Jamaica (3), Japan (1), Kenya (2), South Korea (4), Mexico (2), Moldova (1), Morocco (1), Myanmar (1), Nepal (1), Netherlands (2), Nigeria (11), Norway (2), Pakistan (4), Peru (1), Poland (1), Russia (1), Rwanda (1), Saudi Arabia (5), Serbia & Montenegro (1), South Africa (3), Spain (3), Suriname (1), Sweden (1), Thailand (1), Togo (2), Turkey (2), United Kingdom (3), Vietnam (1)

**Undergraduate  
Student Statistics**

• **10%** In Honors College  
• **41%** Athletes  
• **6%** Matriculated from our intensive English program

**Enrollment By College**

COB(28%)	THCAS (27%)	CET (17%)	CFAC (15%)	HHP (11%)	COE (1%)
<b>11%</b>	<b>14%</b>	<b>20%</b>			
Attended a NC high school or community college	Attended another US high school or community college	Have family in NC			

**Recent trend:** In 2022, the Saudi Arabia Cultural Mission opened a national scholarship funded by the government of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia focusing on hospitality management programs. ECU is on the list of approved programs and we have enrolled 4 students into this program in the last 6 months.

# How do international students get to ECU?

Prospective students who have or need a non-immigrant visa in the US apply for admission to ECU with the International Admissions Office housed within the Office of Global Affairs.

- They are assessed for academic admissibility
- They are assessed for English proficiency

Upon admission, they apply for the student visa and work through ECU enrollment steps simultaneously. We provide them specific guidance on the steps they need to take. They have a separate [Admitted Student Checklist](#).



## Apply for the F-1 Student Visa to the US

- Request a Form I-20 from International Admissions by completing our Confidential Financial Form, submitting their passport ID page, and submitting evidence of the first year's estimated cost of attendance in liquid funds (currently \$43,185).
- Upon receipt a Form I-20, they apply for the F-1 student with the US Department of State which includes forms, fees and an in-person interview at their closest embassy or consulate.
- They can apply for the F-1 Student Visa up to 365 days in advance of enrollment.
- Issuance of an F-1 Student Visa is not guaranteed.
- If issued an F-1 Student Visa, they can enter the US up to 30 days prior to the start of the semester.



## ECU Enrollment Steps

- International students coming to ECU on an F-1 visa do not pay an enrollment deposit\*. We use issuing a Form I-20 as the same act of intention to enroll at ECU.
- First-time freshman are required to live on campus and complete a housing contract. They do not pay a housing deposit\*.
- Incoming F-1 international students do not use PIER. They are likely connected to you all individually to register for classes.
- Incoming F-1 international students attend New Student Orientation a few days before the start of the semester that is hosted by the Office of Global Affairs. We cover topics like services on campus, academic expectations in the US, how to navigate US healthcare, as well as important information related to their student visa.

*\*Why? Because they have over \$500 in non-refundable fees that have to be paid to the US Department of State to apply for their student visa, and the visa is not guaranteed.*

## How can you improve your skills in working with international students?

Global Zone Training provides an interactive and engaging opportunity for you to better understand the challenges international Pirates face and develop strategies for helping them navigate rough waters. Be a part of a network of advocates and allies who strengthen international Pirates' sense of belonging and reinforce our commitment that all Pirates will be academically supported and professionally prepared. Global Zone sessions are organized several times per year. Information about upcoming sessions can be found on the [Office of Global Affairs website](#).

## Support the Office of Global Affairs provides to students



### New International Student Orientation

Before the start of each semester, new international students are required to attend this 1-day orientation. We provide a host of information that is specific to international students studying on an F-1 student visa.



### Airport Shuttle

We arrange Raleigh-Durham International Airport (RDU) shuttle service at the start of each semester. While primarily targeted towards incoming students, continuing students are welcome to register. The specific date and time(s) are arranged in advance and communicated with students with at least 4 weeks' notice to reserve their spots. The fee is estimated to be \$50 USD, but is subject to change. Local pick up from Pitt-Greenville Airport (PGV) can also be arranged at no cost.

# Supporting International Undergraduate Students

## Additional support the Office of Global Affairs provides to students



### Cultural Adjustment and Community Building Events

Each semester we host a series of events ranging from casual Coffee Hours and football tailgates to day-long excursions to popular locations such as the Outer Banks. Our semester event schedules are available in the International Student Hub, shared at new student orientation, and sent out via email in our weekly International Student Digest.



### English Language Support

Students can audit ECU Language Academy classes (reading, writing, grammar, listening/speaking) at no charge while enrolled in a degree program at ECU. If you identify this need for your students, please contact the Manager of ECU Language Academy at [ecula@ecu.edu](mailto:ecula@ecu.edu).



### Career Prep Series

Co-hosted with ECU Career Services, we offer five workshops for international students each academic year including:

- Bootcamp (Career Services)
- Cover Letters
- Understanding CPT & OPT
- Interviewing
- The Job Search



### F-1 Student Visa Advising

East Carolina University sponsors F-1 student visas and therefore works with each student to share the requirements, ensure they are compliant, and answer any questions they have about the regulations and benefits of their student visa.



### International Student Hub

After an international student is admitted and begins the student visa process they are enrolled into our International Student Hub in Canvas. They have access to this Hub for the entire duration of their studies. This is our living resource and contains information for new students including arrival, housing and bank accounts, as well as continuing student information such as understanding and maintaining their visa status, employment regulations and processes, adjusting to US culture and living in Greenville.

Benefits include:

- 24/7 access to information and answers to their most frequently asked questions
- Weekly International Student Digest with announcements
- Events calendar

## Frequently Asked Questions



### What are the Enrollment Requirements for International Students?



#### Credit requirements

Students studying at ECU on an F-1 student visa must be enrolled full time during fall and spring semesters. Full time is 12 credit hours for undergraduate students. Per federal regulations, 9 of those credit hours must be conducted in the face-to-face format. This means the course must be Main Campus 008 and Instructional Method 01 in Banner. The remaining credit hours can be face-to-face or distance education. Continued enrollment in summer sessions is considered optional and therefore does not have a minimum credit hour requirement.

#### Enrollment verifications

Official enrollment verifications are issued by the Registrar. Students can request this via [registrar.ecu.edu/enrollment-verification/](http://registrar.ecu.edu/enrollment-verification/).





## What Employment Regulations do International Students Face?

### Working on campus

International students studying on an F-1 visa are allowed to work on campus. They are allowed to work part time during the semesters (maximum 20 hours) and full time during breaks (winter and summer).

### Working off campus

International students studying on an F-1 visa are not allowed to work off-campus unless reviewed and approved by their International Student Advisor for Curricular Practical Training (CPT). Work must be related to their academic discipline and have an academic purpose.

### Social Security Numbers

International students who have been offered an on-campus position can apply for a social security number (SSN) with the social security administration in Greenville. They must first have:

1. An offer of employment.
2. A permanent US address (temporary addresses such as AirBnB, hotel, etc. do not qualify).
3. Printed letters from Dr. Mallett.

### Taxes

International students who earn wages during their time at ECU are expected to file taxes each year. The Office of Global Affairs provides licenses to GLACIER Tax Prep as a courtesy to our international students. GLACIER Tax Prep specializes in non-resident alien tax compliance. To utilize this service, students need to request information from Dr. Mallett each year.



## What information needs to be communicated with their International Student Advisor?

Students are informed of these requirements as their responsibility. We are sharing with you because oftentimes they are in communication with you more regularly, particularly about their enrollment.

- if they are going to drop below 12 credit hours or 9 hours face to face
- if they want to withdraw from a semester for any reason, including medical
- changing their major
- adding a second major
- change of address or phone number



## What if they express financial hardship?

- ECU does not offer need-based aid to international students. International students do not qualify for the FAFSA, and ECU does not accept the International Student Financial Aid Application (IS-FAA) or College Scholarship Service (CSS) profile.
- International students are able to apply for merit based scholarships through ECUAWard.
- The Office of Global Affairs has created [The Countries in Crisis Scholarship](#) to support students whose education may be in jeopardy due to situations outside of their control.
- Students can utilize [Purple Pantry](#) for supplies they may need.
- Students can apply for relief funds through the [Students' Treasure Chest](#).

## Who do I contact with questions?

Mary Crawford

International Admissions Counselor

The first point of contact for admissions and enrollment steps prior to arrival.

Dr. William (Bill) Mallett

Assistant Director for International Student Advisement

The first point of contact for all questions related to current international students.

Email: [international@ecu.edu](mailto:international@ecu.edu) | Office: +1 252 328 6012 | Email: [mallettw@ecu.edu](mailto:mallettw@ecu.edu) | Office: +1 252 328 1939

