



## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT INFORMATION AND APPLICATION PACKET

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We appreciate your interest in Southwestern College. We are also pleased to provide you with the following information pertaining to our international student program.

Southwestern College is a two-year public community college located in Chula Vista, a suburb of San Diego, California. The college is approximately 15 kilometers east of the Pacific Ocean on a mesa above the Bonita Valley. The college provides post-secondary education and offers a wide variety of day and evening courses to assist students in achieving their educational needs. Programs leading to an Associate in Arts or an Associate in Science Degree are available in:

Occupational Programs – Designed for students interested in achieving vocational competence in a specialized occupational field.

Transfer Program – Designed for students who wish to complete their freshman and sophomore courses in preparation for transfer to a four-year institution of higher education.

Southwestern College is fully accredited by the Western Association for Schools and Colleges (WASC). The University of California, colleges, and private universities of high rank give full credit for appropriate courses completed at Southwestern College.

### Admissions

1. Southwestern College welcomes the enrollment of students from other countries who possess the academic background and potential necessary to succeed in a collegiate institution.
2. International Student admissions applications will be accepted for the Fall semester no later than April 30<sup>th</sup>. Applications for the Spring must be received by October 1<sup>st</sup>. New International Students are not admitted during the summer session.
3. Courses at Southwestern College are conducted in English and every student must have sufficient command of the language. Students whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) before being accepted to Southwestern College. TOEFL test scores must be submitted with the application in order to be considered for admissions. Southwestern requires a minimum score of 460 on the paper-based test and 140 minimum score for the computer-based test.

Test information may be obtained by writing:

*TOEFL/TSE Services*

*Test of English as a Foreign Language*

*P.O. Box 6151*

*Princeton, NJ 08541-6151, USA*

*609-771-7100*

4. Students must be a high school graduate, have achieved a "B" or 3.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) and meet the placement recommendation for admission as referenced in the Country Index.
5. Students planning to transfer from a college or university in the United States must have completed 15 semester units with a grade point average of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale).
6. The International Student application must be completed and returned to the Admissions Center along with:
  - Transcripts of the last three years of secondary school (high school). This must be a certified English translation.
  - Transcripts of any college work completed. This also must be a certified English translation.

- Verification of financial sponsorship equivalent to \$18,032 U.S. dollars.
- TOEFL score report sent directly from TOEFL Test Center to Southwestern College.
- A 300-500 word handwritten statement commenting on your background and educational objectives.

Notification of Admissions

Students admitted will receive notification approximately 30 days after the application deadline. The college will issue an I-20 form after the student has been accepted and has submitted the **non-refundable** deposit. Southwestern College must receive this deposit no later than 30 days from the date of the letter of acceptance. Upon arrival and enrollment, this deposit will be applied towards non-resident tuition.

Academic Requirements

International Students with an F-1 Visa are required to:

1. Attend a pre-registration orientation
2. Take the College Guidance Placement Tests
3. Receive educational counseling prior to registration
4. Enroll in, **maintain and complete** a minimum of 12 units each semester
5. **Must** maintain a 2.5 Grade Point Average on a 4.0 scale.

Other Requirements

1. All International Students must become familiar with the regulations of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) and **assume responsibility** for complying with those regulations.
2. Each International Student is required to obtain an Accident and Sickness Insurance Policy (information available at the College).

Housing

Southwestern College does not have on-campus housing or dormitories. Therefore, students are responsible for arranging their own housing off campus. The International Programs office in room 430G ( 619/482-6504 ) maintains a list of available housing in the area. Please be aware that there is a housing shortage in Southern California, and prices tend to be higher than in other parts of the United States.

Transportation

Southwestern College is located outside the Chula Vista metropolitan area and is served by public transportation. However, to fully enjoy the opportunities available in Southern California, you may wish to purchase an automobile or motorcycle. Also, California law requires that automobile insurance be purchased.

Costs

1. Tuition varies per semester. Refer to a current class schedule for current fees.
2. Students must purchase textbooks and other related instructional supplies.
3. Scholarships and financial aid **are not** available for International Students.

Expenses

The amounts listed below are only estimates, based on the minimum costs for a single student, per year (Fall & Spring)

- Tuition & Fees .....\$4,796.00
- Health Fees.....\$ 24.00
- Room & Board.....\$8,748.00
- Books & Supplies .....\$1,260.00
- Personal.....\$2,214.00
- Transportation.....\$ 990.00
- **Total .....\$18,032.00**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Application Deadline

Your completed application must arrive in our office by:

April 30 - for the Fall Semester (August to December)

October 1 - for the Spring Semester (January to May)

### Mailing Address

Please mail completed application forms and required documents including a non-refundable fee of \$100 to the following address:

Southwestern Community College  
Admissions & Records  
900 Otay Lakes Road  
Chula Vista, CA 91910

### Contact Persons

Aida Mora, International Student Technician  
Admissions Office  
Telephone (619) 482-6584  
Fax (619) 482-6489  
E-mail: [Amora@swc.cc.ca.us](mailto:Amora@swc.cc.ca.us)

Teresa Alvarez, Supervisor  
Admissions Office  
Telephone (619) 421-6700 ext. 5413  
Fax (619) 482-6489  
E-mail: [Talvarez@swc.cc.ca.us](mailto:Talvarez@swc.cc.ca.us)

Georgia Copeland, Director  
Admissions & Records  
Telephone (619) 421-6700 ext. 6531  
Fax (619) 482-6489  
[Gcopeland@swc.cc.ca.us](mailto:Gcopeland@swc.cc.ca.us)

### Academic Programs

- ◆ Southwestern Community College offers lower division course work towards a vocational certificate, a two-year Associate degree, and preparation for a four-year Bachelor's degree.
- ◆ Southwestern Community College does not offer an intensive program of English as a Second Language
- ◆ If you have already earned a Baccalaureate college degree or the equivalent (completion of about 60 units) you may be considered beyond the course offerings of Southwestern Community College. You are encouraged to apply to a four-year college or university. Exceptions may be granted for students declaring a new major or needing additional lower division courses.

### Academic Standards

Prospective students must meet one of the following high school education requirements:

- ◆ Foreign High School - Graduation from a foreign secondary school that is equivalent to an American high school with a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 is required.

- ◆ United States High School - Students who graduate from a US High School must also have a 2.0 GPA. (If you have obtained a General Equivalency Diploma (GED), you must have passed with a minimum score of 45).

### **English Proficiency**

To be accepted as an international student at Southwestern Community College, you must be able to speak, read, write, and understand English at a level that will allow you to successfully complete the college academic work. To verify your level, we require that you pass the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a minimum score of 460 paper based, 140 computer based, no computer bond. This requirement is waived if you come from a country that has English as the primary language in its educational system. Students must request that the TOEFL Office send the scores directly to Southwestern Community College, Code number 004726 PRIOR TO THE STATED APPLICATION DEADLINES.

### **Transcripts**

Please send all official high school and/or college transcripts, certificates, official test scores, or other documents verifying educational history. PLEASE DO NOT SEND PHOTOCOPIES!!!

### **International Student Application**

Complete the two-page International Student Application form and attach a passport size photo to the top right corner of page 1.

### **Financial Resources**

Complete the Confidential Statement to prove that you have sufficient financial support to pay for your tuition, books, supplies, and living expenses for one year. The estimated cost to attend Southwestern Community College is \$16,394 per academic year (excluding summer).

### **Transfer Students**

The following information pertains to international students who are currently attending other US institutions:

- ◆ Transfer Clearance Verification Form - If you are presently attending other US educational institution and are seeking a transfer to Southwestern Community College, you must submit the Transfer Clearance Form included in your application materials. This form is to be completed by the Designated School Official (DSO) at your current institution certifying that you are in good standing.
- ◆ Transcript - You must request that official transcripts be sent directly to Southwestern Community College from your current and prior US institutions.
- ◆ Immigration Documents - To verify your present immigration status, you must send a copy of your valid passport, valid visa, I-94 form (front and back), and I-20 (pages 3 and 4).

### **Non refundable Fee**

Send a non-refundable fee of \$100 in a U.S. or International money order. If you are admitted to the college, the \$100 fee will be applied towards your tuition and fees during the first semester of attendance.

### **Form I-20 - Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status**

A Congratulations Letter and an Immigration Naturalization Service (INS) form I-20 will be sent to you after you have met all of the admissions requirements. To avoid delays in receiving your form I-20, please notify our office immediately if you have changed your mailing address.

Take your Form I-20 and valid passport to the nearest United States Consulate or Embassy in your country to apply for an F1 visa (student visa). For applicants who are already here in the US, please meet with the International Student Technician in the Admissions Office. You will be instructed on how to apply for a change to an F1 student status or how to complete your transfer to our college.

## Orientation

F1 students are required to attend a mandatory orientation and enrollment session. Orientation is scheduled approximately two to three weeks prior to the start of the semester. **Students are required to bring Form I-20, passport/visa, Form I-94.**

The following activities will occur during orientation:

- ◆ Completion of the College Admissions Application
- ◆ Discussion of immigration regulations
- ◆ Overview of the U.S. educational system
- ◆ Math and English assessment tests
- ◆ Registration

**Web Site:** [Http://www.swc.cc.ca.us](http://www.swc.cc.ca.us): You may also contact the web site to access our current class schedule and course description information.

## ESTIMATED COST OF ATTENDANCE

Based on an academic year (August to December and January to May)

ITEM	COST
Enrollment Fees .....	624.00
Room and Board.....	8,748.00
Books and Supplies.....	1,260.00
Public Transportation.....	990.00*
Health Fees.....	24.00**
Non Resident Tuition.....	4,172.00
Miscellaneous.....	2,214.00
<b>TOTAL.....</b>	<b>\$ 18,032.00</b>

\* This is the price for a bus/trolley pass for two semesters. If you purchase your own car, plan to spend at least \$1,000 for car insurance and at least \$2,000 for gas and maintenance per academic year in addition to the purchase price of the vehicle.

\*\* This fee does not include comprehensive health insurance coverage. We strongly encourage international students to purchase health insurance designed specifically for international students. Minimum cost for one year's coverage by a U.S. health insurance company is \$515.

### Housing and other resources:

Housing is the responsibility of the individual student and/or sponsor. Southwestern Community College does not provide dormitories or college-approved housing for students. Below are listed some web sites and phone numbers of companies/organizations that can assist you with planning your arrival to San Diego County.

- [www.signonsandiego.com](http://www.signonsandiego.com) - This web site offers information on apartment rentals, transportation, attractions, entertainment, weather, etc. You can also get information on temporary housing (hotels/motels) options.
- [www.aptforrent.com](http://www.aptforrent.com) - This web site will help you in locating apartments that are available in the San Diego area.
- [www.sdreader.com](http://www.sdreader.com) - San Diego READER magazine web site will provide you with information on roommates, rentals, cars, etc.

If you are interested in living with an American family, we can give you the names of homestay organizations upon request.



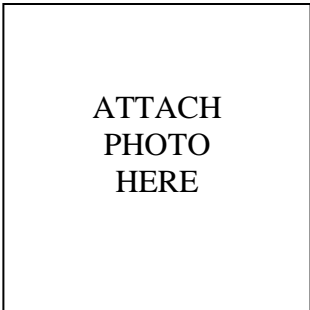
900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910 (619) 421-6531 Fax (619) 482-6489

## International Student Application

Fall Semester \_\_\_\_\_  
Year

Spring Semester \_\_\_\_\_  
Year

Please print or type:



Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Middle

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: Male  Female

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

Please check one: Initial Attendance  Continued Attendance  School Transfer

Admission # (If Transfer Student): \_\_\_\_\_ SEVIS# \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License#: \_\_\_\_\_ Issuing State of Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # or Tax Payer's I.D.#: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Foreign Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Education Level: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Intended Major: \_\_\_\_\_

Will Spouse and/or dependent minor children be applying for F-2 Visa? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, Please list:

Family Surname	First	Date of Birth	Country of birth	Relationship to F-1 Student

### FOR STUDENTS ALREADY IN THE UNITED STATES

Date of last entry into the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ Visa type (B2, F1, F2, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

If your visa status has changed, when was the change approved by INS: \_\_\_\_\_ Date your I-94 Expires \_\_\_\_\_

List institution(s) that issued you an I-20 \_\_\_\_\_

Did you attend that institution on an F-1 visa? \_\_\_\_\_ Date attended \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS ARE REQUIRED FROM ALL UNITED STATES SCHOOLS ATTENDED**







900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910 (619) 421-6531 Fax (619) 482-6489

## Transfer Clearance Verification

This Transfer Clearance Verification must also be submitted if you are transferring from another school in the United States. Have this form completed by the Designated School Official (DSO) from the last school you attended.

Name of Student _____	
Date of Birth _____	Dates of Attendance _____
Did Student Maintain a full-time Status? _____	
Does Student have Any Financial Obligation to Your School? _____	
Is the Student in good academic standing? _____	
Is the Student welcome to continue at your school? _____	
Type of Program Taken (ESL, Academic, Voc. Etc.) _____	
Major Course of Study _____	
Number of Units Completed _____	
Was the student granted Optional Practical Training while enrolled at your institution? Yes _____ No _____	
If yes, please specify. From(date) _____ to (date) _____	
Name of School _____	INS School Number _____
Designated School Official _____	
Title _____	
_____ Signature of Designated School Official	_____ Date
School Seal/Stamp	

Name of F/1 Student: \_\_\_\_\_  
SWC ID# \_\_\_\_\_

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
F/1 DEPENDENT INFORMATION**  
(\* Please fill one form for each dependent)

**Information Pertaining to Student Spouse/Dependent Child:**

**Family Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Middle Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Suffix:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Gender:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**Foreign Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**U.S. Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Proof of financial solvency will be required at time of submitting this form for consideration.**