

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS

Admission Requirements - Trinity Florida Undergraduate Program

Online Application

To apply please visit our application home page (<https://www.tiu.edu/florida/apply-to-trinity-florida/>) and complete our free and easy online application (<https://admissions.tiu.edu/apply/>). Our Admissions Enrollment Counselors will walk with you each step of the way.

Standard Admission Requirements

The standard requirements for admission to Trinity Florida undergraduate coursework, regardless of the number of credits transferred from other institutions, are:

1. Proof of high school graduation or GED certification (i.e. an official high school or GED transcript).
2. Original, official transcripts from all previous college/university study indicating an overall cumulative grade point average of 2.0 (using 4.0 scale).
3. For those whom English is not their first language, a current score on the Test for English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or another comparable exam is required. This requirement can be waived if English was the language of instruction at the applicant's high school or prior college/university. Currently acceptable scores are:
 - 71 on the Internet-based TOEFL exam.
 - 560 on the written TOEFL exam.
 - 132 on the computer-based TOEFL exam.
4. Minimum age 18 (if you are under 18 and/or interested in dual enrollment as a high school junior or senior please contact us (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/florida/about-frc/locations/>) to explore the options available to you).

Applicants who do not fully meet the admissions requirements are considered if there are factors that point to probable success. Additional materials may be requested. This decision is made by the Admissions Committee. Admission decisions may be appealed to the Appeals Committee when questions of qualification arise. Applicants with a GPA below the requirement (or who otherwise do not meet the established criteria) are encouraged to work with their enrollment counselor to submit additional materials to the Admissions Committee in advance.

Admission for Those Transferring Fewer than 15 Semester Credits

Applicants seeking admission with fewer than 15 college credits (semester hours) may take only lower-division (100-200) courses offered in General Education Courses. Given the lack of formal college experience on which to base an admission decision, prospective students will need to give evidence of ability in reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing. Students may be required to complete a writing assessment, which will determine placement in the program. Students who do not wish to take the placement assessment test must begin by taking at least two of Trinity's developmental writing courses and passing them with a grade of "C" or better before continuing in the program. Students must complete at least 3 credits toward the English composition requirement within the first year of coursework in the program.

Admission to Upper-Division Courses

Beyond the standard admission requirements, additional requirements to any upper-division courses include:

- Completion of at least 25 transferable credits from an accredited college or university or from Trinity for which a grade of "C" or better was received, and an overall GPA of 2.0 on a 4.0 scale. ("C" includes C, C+).
- Completion of at least 3 credits in college composition with a "C" or better.
- Completion of IDS 105 Foundations for Adult Learning.

Admission to All Undergraduate Majors (except Elementary Education)

In addition to the general admission requirements, a student completing coursework within their major must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of at least 25 transferable credits from an accredited college or university or from Trinity for which a grade of "C" or better was received and an overall 2.0 on a 4.0 scale ("C" includes C, C+).
- Completion of undergraduate composition course (when applicable as determined by writing placement test).
- Completion of at least 3 credits in college composition with a "C" or better.
- Completion of IDS 105 Foundations for Adult Learning.

Admission to the Elementary Education Major

In addition to the standard admission requirements, a student entering the Elementary Education major must meet the following criteria:

- Completion of at least 25 transferable credits from a regionally accredited college or university or accredited by an agency accepted by the U.S Department of Education or accepted by its own State Department of Education for certification purposes, or from Trinity for which a grade of "C" or better was received and an overall 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale ("C" includes C, C+).
- A grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale on all previous college work from a regionally accredited college or university.
- Successful demonstration of thinking, organization, and writing ability through a writing sample.
- Completion of at least 6 credits in college composition with a "C" or better.
- Successful interview with Program Director.
- Faculty references/recommendations.
- Completion of IDS 105 Foundations for Adult Learning.

Admission to the Teacher Education Program

For a student to progress into the Teacher Education Program (TEP), upon completion of the fourth course in the major sequence, the following must be successfully accomplished:

- Application to (TEP).
- Successful interview with Director of Elementary Education.
- Writing sample with a passing grade.
- Positive faculty references.
- Passage of GKE (General Knowledge Exam).
- Completion of first four courses in the major with a 2.5 GPA average or better.
- Background screening.
- Formal acceptance into the Teacher Education Program.

Computer Expectations

Students enrolled in the Trinity Florida undergraduate program are expected to have easy access to a computer, printer, and the Internet. It is very difficult to complete the degree programs without these tools. Courses will require the production of papers and interaction using email and other technologies. Students may also be required to do research online, complete web-based assignments, and produce computer-based electronic products. Further, all Trinity Florida courses use the Canvas learning management system to complement classroom instruction.

Please refer to the Canvas technical requirements here (<https://community.canvaslms.com/t5/Canvas-Basics-Guide/What-are-the-browser-and-computer-requirements-for-Canvas/ta-p/66/>) (external link).

All Trinity Florida undergraduate students have access to on campus computer workstations at Trinity Florida locations (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/florida/about-frc/locations/>). The workstations are available during the University's operating hours on a first-come, first-served basis.

Additionally, students completing coursework using the HyFlex model are expected to have a Zoom compatible device and a reliable, high-speed internet connection to avoid interruptions to their remote, synchronous course meetings. Please refer to the Zoom technical requirements here (<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362023-Zoom-system-requirements-Windows-macOS-Linux/>) (external link).

Writing Placement

The undergraduate program at Trinity Florida is writing-intensive. Students are expected to achieve a level of writing competence early in their Trinity Florida experience to excel in their studies. In an effort to ensure the success of all students, a computerized writing evaluation will be administered by the undergraduate admissions staff for students who do not meet ALL of the following criteria:

- Have 15 or more college credits (technical credits are not considered in meeting this criterion),
- Have been enrolled in school within the last five years,
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 from previous college work, and
- Have completed six credits of English Composition, or the relevant equivalents, achieving a minimum grade of C.

The results of the writing assessment will determine what, if any, writing course(s) students will be required to complete with a "C" or better within the first 24 credits of the undergraduate program. If students have met all their writing general education requirements and achieve a satisfactory score on the assessment, no further writing courses will be required. If, however, the score is below the determined level on the assessment, students will be required to take the course(s) most appropriate to their level, regardless of whether all general education requirements have been met.

Second Bachelor's Degree Option

Applicants to the undergraduate programs who already hold a regionally accredited baccalaureate degree will be allowed to pursue and, if all requirements are met, earn a second bachelor's degree from Trinity. From the existing bachelor's degree coursework, we would transfer applicable general education and elective credits that meet current Trinity degree requirements for the second bachelor's degree.

Students would be required to complete the major, as well as BI 101 and BI 111, if they do not transfer in equivalent courses. **Students who have a baccalaureate degree from another school need to take a minimum of 30 credit hours at Trinity and must complete at least two-thirds of a major in new coursework at TIU to receive the second bachelor's degree from Trinity-Florida.** This second-degree option is also available to students who already hold a TIU bachelor's degree. Students must take a minimum of 30 credit hours of new coursework at Trinity that is not counted for any other degree.

Students considering this option should note that those pursuing a second bachelor's degree are generally not eligible for Federal or state grant funds. Lifetime Direct Loan limits for undergraduate work must be reviewed to determine if a student has remaining Direct Loan eligibility.

Application Process

Initial inquirers interested in an undergraduate degree program, and students who are reapplying to the undergraduate program are encouraged to begin the application process as soon as possible. The application process must be completed no later than two weeks prior to the start of class. The typical sequence of the application process is:

- Contact the Admissions Office to request information on degree programs and majors.
- Complete the online application (<https://admissions.tiu.edu/apply/>).
- Request official transcripts from all colleges or universities where you have attended classes. Student copies or hand-delivered copies that are not sealed by the issuing institution are not considered official transcripts and will not be accepted for purposes of admission. Upon receipt of all official transcripts the applicant will be provided with an assessment of previous college coursework.
 - Please send all required admissions pieces (transcripts, test scores, etc.) to:
 - Trinity International University
Attn: Admissions Operations
2065 Half Day Road
Bannockburn, IL 60015
 - Electronic pieces may be sent to: aot@tiu.edu
 - NOTE: In most cases we can help you obtain transcripts from your prior schools. Please complete your application and ask your enrollment counselor about our transcript release form.
- Upon completion of the application and receipt of all required documents, the undergraduate admissions staff will evaluate your application for admission. You will then be notified of your admission decision, usually within two weeks.
- If you are offered admission, please accept your offer of admission promptly to confirm your spot and proceed with the registration process.
- Although not required for admission, applicants are strongly encouraged to complete the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) form (<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa/>) as early as possible during the admission process since some types of aid are available only at certain times of the year. More details on financial aid are provided in the Financial Assistance (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/florida/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/university/finances/financial-assistance-overview/>) section of this catalog.

Transfer Students

At Trinity International University - Florida, students with prior college experience thrive in the undergraduate program. The great majority of undergraduate students at Trinity Florida transfer in from other schools (many after some time away from college), which means you will be greeted by a rich community of people who have made the same life-changing decision to attend Trinity. We value your presence and the experience you bring to classroom discussions.

Once accepted to TIU-FL, transfer work will be evaluated. Though Trinity has a generous transfer policy in place, the University reserves the right to accept only courses that are equivalent in content, objectives, and extent to those offered by Trinity. Students may receive credit for subjects not offered at Trinity when approved by the Office of the Dean and validated by the Office of the Registrar. For further information see the Advanced Standing (Transfer Credit) Policy (<http://catalog.tiu.edu/trinity-college/academic-life/policies/advanced-standing/>) section of this catalog.

Additional Considerations for International Applicants

Trinity Florida welcomes students from all over the world to our campus. International students are valuable members of the Trinity community, and we are committed to serving them through the enrollment process. In addition to the regular application process outlined above, international applicants must also consider the following items: pre-application information form, financial requirements, and visa requirements.

Pre-Application Information Form for International Applicants

Prospective international students need to provide their e-mail address to the Trinity Florida International Student and Scholar Office (ISSO) representative (located within the Trinity Florida Records Office) so that a Welcome Letter can be sent to them. The Welcome Letter contains detailed instructions and an internal I-20 Application form that must be completed and returned to the ISSO. In the I-20 Application, the prospective international student provides preliminary documentation, as required by the U.S. Government, to identify their sources of funding for both education and living expenses while at Trinity (see Financial Requirements section below). **Applications for program admission will not be reviewed until the I-20 Application and Certificate of Finance (see below) have been received and approved by the Trinity Florida ISSO.** This begins the application process. Subsequent to approval of the I-20 Application, the prospective student's Application for Admission will be received and reviewed for admission to Trinity Florida.

Financial Requirements - Certificate of Finance (COF)

According to U.S. law, international applicants must demonstrate how all expenses related to education, travel, and living will be paid prior to issuing a U.S. Immigration Certificate of Eligibility (I-20) or F-1 student visa. International applicants may apply if they have a financial guarantor in the United States or if they have sufficient evidence from legitimate individuals or organizations that their expenses while attending Trinity can be met. Living expenses add more than \$20,000 annually to the costs of education (tuition, fees, books).

International students on an F-1 visa should not plan on working in the U.S. to fund their studies. They are required to register as a full-time student each semester and Trinity Florida requires payment in full prior

to starting semester classes. Please note that the Trinity Alternative Payment Plan (TAPP) is not available to international students.

In addition to the I-20 Application detailed above, International applicants must complete the Certificate of Finance (COF). The COF must identify monies readily available for the first year of study and document additional funding for the duration of the student's program. Most international applicants, depending on anticipated living arrangements and the number of family members accompanying them to the United States, will need to identify available funds of around US \$32,000 to satisfy this requirement.

Visa Requirements

Trinity is authorized under U.S. law to enroll non-immigrant alien students; however, these U.S. laws are becoming increasingly stringent. International students must enter the United States with an F-1 visa, which is granted by the U.S. government. Applicants already in the United States in a visa category other than F-1 (including F-2, B-1, and B-2) may be admitted as Visiting Students or part time students for credit depending on visas as long as the studies are not the primary purpose for being present in the U.S. Failure to observe this limitation will place one's visa status in doubt and could jeopardize a student's ability to secure an F-1 visa in the future should their educational goals change.

A U.S. Immigration Certificate of Eligibility (I-20) will be issued by Trinity International University - Florida, enabling the international applicant to apply for an F-1 student visa, after the following have been met:

1. The applicant has demonstrated English language competence meeting or exceeding Trinity's standards,
2. The applicant has been admitted as a student,
3. The applicant has demonstrated adequate financial resources through documentation provided with the Certificate of Finance, and
4. The applicant has accepted their offer of admission.

The undergraduate admissions staff is available to help you with any of these steps.

In accordance with U.S. immigration law, Trinity does not allow non-immigrant aliens to register as full-time or degree-seeking students without an F-1 visa. Permanent residents are exempt from these limitations, as are certain other visa statuses (i.e., R-1 or H1B). Further questions regarding visa status and eligibility to study at Trinity may be directed to Trinity's International Students & Scholars Office on campus. It is the responsibility of the student to maintain legal immigration status.

For full details on the process of becoming an international student in the United States please refer to the Department of Homeland Security's *Study in the States* website.

Student Classifications

Regular Student: A student who is enrolled in a degree program at Trinity International University.

Auditor: A student who is permitted to enroll in a course without being required to fulfill the normal requirements of a course when it is taken for credit. No credit is granted. Audited courses will be recorded on the official transcript. Abbreviated admissions credentials are required of those students who are only auditing classes.

Those students wishing further knowledge of a particular topic, but not interested in pursuing a degree or additional credits are invited to audit any of the elective courses offered. To enroll, a person completes an audit application, registers, and pays the audit fee for each course. The school reserves the right to limit the number of students in any class. NOTE: VA students seeking audit status are not approved for benefits by the DVA.

It is recommended that auditors do all reading and writing assignments and prepare for each class. If assignments are submitted on their due dates, faculty may provide feedback on prepared work but will not assign grades. An auditor is required to follow the undergraduate attendance policy to successfully complete the course.

Dual Enrollment Student: A high school student who is enrolled at TIU to earn college and possibly high school credit (pending approval of the respective high school guidance office). These students must apply and be accepted into the program. A simplified admission procedure is used. Dual enrollment students are registered after university student registration is complete. A dual enrollment student may take up to two (2) courses per semester as a high school junior and up to three (3) courses per semester as a high school senior. NOTE: Federal and state aid require high-school graduation and are generally not available for Dual Enrollment students.

Student At Large: A student who meets all admission requirements but is not pursuing a degree program at Trinity. Such students elect a specialized program of their own choosing and are not required to meet degree requirements.

Visiting Student: A student not pursuing a degree program but desiring to be admitted for part-time studies (a maximum of 6 hours of credit per semester). A simplified admission procedure is used.

Leave of Absence: Students who do not wish to register for classes for a period of one to two semesters (12 month maximum) should request a Leave of Absence (LOA) from the Office of the Dean. This notifies TIU of the student's academic plans and enables Trinity to respond appropriately to the student's needs. A student on an approved LOA is considered active and campus services, such as library and e-mail, remain available. The student must be in good standing with Student Accounting to remain active and be able to register for the next semester.