

## ADMISSION OF FOREIGN STUDENTS

Citizens of nations other than the United States who are residing outside the United States should be aware of the limitations and restrictions by which the services of Edison State College can be provided.

Once the evaluation of the student's credentials has been completed, the student will be advised of the remaining degree requirements. Students may be assessed special fees to cover the costs of consulting faculty used in the evaluation of foreign credentials, as well as additional mailing and telephone costs. It is the responsibility of the student to arrange for the completion of remaining degree requirements under conditions stipulated below.

### Visas and Fees

Edison State College does not issue "certificates of acceptance (Form 1-20)" to any foreign student. Thus, foreign students who need a visa to enter the United States cannot do so through Edison State College, nor can existing visas be renewed through the College.

Students on F Visas will be required to pay out-of-state fees. Students on visas other than F will be charged fees depending upon their visas and place of residence.

### Applications/Admissions

The College recognizes the difficulty and discipline necessary to complete a self-directed program of study and suggests that foreign students without a strong command of the English language seriously consider their higher education options before enrolling with the College. Since the College is an external degree institution for adults, it offers no instruction, issues no visas, and has no residential campus facilities. Its primary mission is the testing and assessment of learning obtained outside the formal classroom setting.

Foreign citizens interested in becoming students will be eligible for enrollment if the student's educational background and scores on the TOEFL (where applicable) are acceptable.

### Program Requirements

Certain degree program requirements can only be fulfilled through study in the United States. Therefore, students residing outside the United States will be restricted in the admission and enrollment of such programs. In addition, certain degree programs have degree completion requirements which can only be fulfilled by entering the United States and meeting with College staff.

Because Edison State College is an American college, the degrees it awards must reflect the general content of an American education. It cannot award a degree for knowledge which is significantly different from what is generally expected of an American education.

Therefore, as part of the 120 semester credit requirement for the Bachelor's degree, foreign citizens will be required to complete a minimum of thirty (30) specified semester credits in subject areas which conform to the generally accepted content of courses taught in American colleges and universities. This same requirement applies to a minimum of fifteen (15) semester credits for the Associate degree programs. All such credits must be approved in writing by the College.

Further, limitations of access to acceptable American collegiate institutions may restrict the student's ability to complete the remaining degree requirements for the Edison State College degree program.

### Student Services

In most cases, foreign students residing outside the United States will not be eligible for the College's portfolio assessment or credit by examination programs. Students may make use of these services by coming to the United States as stated below. In addition, students residing outside the United States should be prepared for a longer period of time in obtaining Edison State College's services due to mail service time and an elaborate evaluation and credit earning process.

### Foreign Students Residing in the United States

A student who enters the United States on a student visa (FI) by obtaining Form I-20 Certificate of Acceptance from a college other than Edison State College, may enroll in any of the Edison degree programs. Students receiving such visas to enter the United States from authorized sources other than Edison State College will receive the full range of services for enrolled students. It will be the student's responsibility to keep his/her visa status current and eligible for further study at Edison State College.

### THE EVALUATION OF FOREIGN CREDENTIALS

Edison State College will evaluate for credit academic work completed at institutions located outside the United States. Consistent with the College's overall policy pertaining to acceptance of transfer credit, Edison State College will accept for credit only those credits which are applicable toward a degree at a college or college-parallel institution unless an individual wishes to take advantage of only the College's credit banking services. The method of evaluating foreign credentials is as follows:

- (a) A foreign college is identified using either The International Handbook of Universities published by the International Association of Universities, the World Education Series which provides books on various countries, published by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO), the Commonwealth Universities Yearbook, and other allied publications.
- (b) If the foreign college's credentials and the credibility of the document are established, credit recommendations are determined using the AACRAO book on that particular country. There are approximately fifty countries for which these guides have been published.
- (c) Students may be asked to have their evaluations carried out by independent evaluation organizations.
- (d) If consultant assistance is required in determining the credit recommendation, this will be undertaken at the student's expense.
- (e) All foreign documents must be translated into English by, or certified by, an American Translation Association translator. Only original or certified copies of documents are accepted.
- (f) Grades are not listed nor is a grade point average calculated.