

Frequently Asked Questions

Are international students allowed to work while in school?

- Students with F-1 visas are not allowed to work off-campus without special permission from the Department of Homeland Security. Students with F-1 visas can work on campus up to 20 hours per week while school is in session and can work on campus 40 hours per week during the school breaks and holidays. There is no guarantee that a student will find a job on campus since there are more students seeking jobs than there are job vacancies. It is the student's responsibility to search for jobs on campus. Students should check with the Human Resources office for job vacancies after arriving at SAU Tech.

Can international students apply for financial aid or scholarships?

- International students cannot apply for federal or state financial aid programs. At this time, we do not offer any scholarships for international students.

Do international students have to submit English test scores for admission?

- If you are seeking immediate enrollment in an academic program then we do require English proficiency for most countries. However, there are a [few exemptions](#) to this requirement. Even if you studied at an institution that taught classes in English, we still require proof of English proficiency.

Do you provide transportation for international students?

- International students who live in campus housing are provided transportation weekly for groceries, shopping and other general supplies.

How can I pay the international student application fee, housing deposit, or tuition and fees?

- Payments can be paid by wire transfer or credit card by calling or emailing Lisa Holland at 870-574-4503 or lholland@sautech.edu.
- Payments can also be paid by bank draft made payable to Southern Arkansas University Tech and mailed to:

SAU Tech Business Office
PO Box 3499
Camden, Arkansas 71711

Is there a meal plan available?

- SAU Tech housing offers dorm rooms with full kitchenettes including stoves and refrigerators. Therefore, a meal plan is not required. However, declining balance meal plan cards can be purchased from the college cafeteria or meals can be purchased daily. The café on campus is only open for lunch meals Monday through Thursday.

How do international students transfer credits from a former university abroad?

- If you want to transfer academic credits from a university abroad, then you will need to ask your former university to send us an official transcript. You will also need an evaluation agency to assess your transcript.
- If you are transferring from another American school, then you will need to get an official transcript sent to us, and you will need to have the [transfer questionnaire](#) completed.
- Once the transcript evaluation is completed, the registrar's office, your advisor and the Vice Chancellor of Academics will determine how many transfer credits you will get. If SAU Tech does not have an equivalent course to the one(s) you have taken, then that course or those courses will not transfer.

How much does it cost to be an international student?

- Tuition is based on one full academic year, which includes fall and spring semesters. [Approximate Cost of Attending](#) includes tuition, housing, fees, books, and supplies.

What is the classroom size like?

- SAU Tech maintains an average 26-to-1 student-teacher ratio with class sizes for some courses being higher and others being lower.

What is the housing like on campus and do I have to live on-campus?

- SAU Tech offers 3 housing options for all students who are enrolled in 9 or more credit hours. Each housing area is designed differently, but all have the same suite-style concept except for our off-campus option. There is currently no requirement for SAU Tech students to live in our housing areas.

When do you mail I-20's for international students?

- Because visa interviews can only be scheduled 120 days before you start school, we usually mail out I-20's so they arrive just before visa interviews start. This way it is less likely for someone to lose their I-20 before the interview.
- Using regular mail, it usually takes three to four weeks for your I-20 to reach you in another country. If you are in the US, then it could take just a few days. Also, if you want express mail, which usually takes a week, there is a \$50 charge.
 - This fee can be paid by wire transfer or credit card by calling or emailing Lisa Holland at 870-574-4503 or lholland@sautech.edu.
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