

ONU International Students

Thank you for your interest in Olivet Nazarene University! We look forward to helping you through the application process.

Since its inception in 1907, Olivet Nazarene University (ONU) has been home to a diverse student population with many of our students coming from numerous countries around the world. Currently, we have 25 countries represented on our campus. The International Student Services (ISS) office is here to help international students through the application process, with an experienced staff committed to helping international students take the necessary steps to reach their educational goals at ONU.

Steps to Apply

Once the following documents have been submitted, your file will be ready for an admission review.

1. **ONU Application**

Complete and submit your application for admission at <https://www.olivet.edu/apply>

2. **Evaluated High School and College Transcripts**

Transcripts must be translated to English and evaluated by [WES](#) or [ECE](#) (if instruction was not completed in English) and must show the name of the institution, dates of attendance, credentials received, individual courses taken and the U.S. equivalent credit/unit value and grade. When ordering your evaluation from WES or ECE, you will need to select the “translate and evaluate” option and send your sealed, official transcripts directly to them. They will send the complete evaluation with the transcripts to ONU.

*****Student Athletes:** Use incredevals.org to get your transcripts evaluated.

College transcripts from a US institution do not need evaluation and can be sent directly to your DSO or ONU Admissions: admissions@olivet.edu

3. **SAT or ACT Scores (optional)**

Submit SAT or ACT scores requested through collegeboard.org or actstudent.org. This is not a required document for admission.

4. English Requirements

Applicants from countries whose primary language is not English must demonstrate English proficiency in one of the following ways to ensure a successful experience at ONU.

- TOEFL Score:

For undergraduate students taking the TOEFL exam before January 21, 2026, the University requires a minimum iBT score of 70.

*For exams taken on or after January 21, 2026, a score of 4 or higher (including a minimum section score of 4 in Reading and Writing) is required (using the B2 CEFR descriptor band for reference).

- IELTS Score:

A recent official test score report with an overall score minimum of 6.5

5. Two recommendation letters (from coaches, teachers, or clergy)

You may email all documents to the appropriate Recruiting DSO:

Undergraduate Recruiting DSO: Elissa Rodig - elrodig@olivet.edu

Graduate & Continuing Studies Recruiting DSO: Allyssa Macari - admacari@olivet.edu

Important Deadlines

FALL (August Term Start Date)

- Complete application deadline: **June 1**
- Payment Deadline: **July 1** (first month's payment)

SPRING (January Term Start Date)

- Completed Application Deadline: **December 1**
- Payment Deadline: **January 1** (first month's payment)

ONU Enrollment Deposit: Olivet Nazarene University waives the \$200.00 deposit fee for international students.

I-20 Requirements

The I-20 Form (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant (F-1) Student Status) is issued by the Olivet Nazarene University's Recruiting DSOs to international students who have been accepted into ONU's degree program.

To obtain an ONU I-20, students must submit a signed ONU Financial Summary, show proof of financial support, provide a notarized Affidavit of Support, and supply a copy of their current passport. If the student is transferring from a university within the United States and currently holds an I-20, they will also need to provide an I-20 Transfer-In Form and a current copy of their *active* I-20. Detailed instructions for completing these steps will be provided upon admission.

Once all steps are complete, the I-20 will be generated for the student and sent securely via email. The student must then make an appointment with the embassy in his/her home country in order to apply for an F-1 student Visa. The student must bring their valid I-20 ([along with the other required documentation](#)) to the appointment.

The F-1 Student Visa

The F-1 student visa is a nonimmigrant visa. In order for this visa to be issued, the applicant must provide proof that:

- He or she has a permanent residence outside of the U.S. which they have no intention of abandoning.
- He or she is desirous to obtain temporary nonimmigrant status into the United States for the sole purpose of engaging in a full-time course of study at Olivet Nazarene University, who issued them the I-20 Form.
- Applicants for an F-1 student visa will need to apply at the closest U.S. Embassy or Consulate of their permanent residence. The U.S. Consular will require an interview with the applicant, and it is required for the applicant to present a valid passport and the I-20 Form as well as the proof of financial support. Each applicant for an F-1 student visa must also submit the following information:
 - Forms DS-156, DS-157, and DS-158.

- A valid passport for travel to the U.S.
- One or more photographs, based on the requirements specified.
- I-20 Form from Olivet Nazarene University.
- Proof of financial support from a financial institution.
- Pay the one-time \$350.00 SEVIS fee online before the consular interview.

To learn more, visit the **Travel.State.Gov, Bureau of Consular Affairs website:** [U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE — BUREAU of CONSULAR AFFAIRS](https://travel.state.gov/bureau-of-consular-affairs)

SEVIS Database

The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) is an Internet database system designed to track International students while they are in the United States.

While in the United States, F-1 International students must report correct and up to date information regarding their personal information, U.S. address, enrollment status, and academic progress to the International Student Services Office. The PDSO will then enter this information into the SEVIS database.

PLEASE NOTE: It is very important for a nonimmigrant student to maintain his or her immigrant status while in the United States. It is the responsibility of the International student to keep all immigrant documents current. If an International student fails to maintain the conditions of their nonimmigrant status, it could jeopardize their status, and could possibly be grounds for deportation from the United States under the U.S. immigration law.