

Information for Undergraduate

# Transfer Students



Princeton's transfer program looks for a small group of exceptionally well-prepared students from a range of backgrounds, and we particularly encourage applications from students from low-income backgrounds, community college students, and U.S. military veterans.

Transfer students, like first-year students, will be able to enroll in the fall term only. Most students will be expected to begin in their sophomore (second) year. However, in some cases, they may begin as juniors, or be required to enter as first-year students. In all cases, this standing is determined by Princeton faculty and college deans after evaluation of transfer credit.

## Princeton Is Affordable

Princeton's generous need-based financial aid program is designed to encourage all qualified students—regardless of financial circumstances—to consider applying. At Princeton:

- Admission is **need-blind**, meaning there is no disadvantage to financial aid applicants.
- We will meet **100% of demonstrated need** for all admitted students for all years.
- We offer aid in the form of **grants, not loans**, which you do not pay back. Many of our students graduate **free of debt from Princeton**.
- For U.S. military applicants, **students are not required to use veterans benefits** for undergraduate study at Princeton, as they may be eligible to be replaced by financial aid grants.

More information about the financial aid process is available on our website: [admission.princeton.edu/cost-aid](http://admission.princeton.edu/cost-aid).



of recent seniors graduated **debt free**

100%

The average grant for the class entering fall 2019 covers **100% of tuition**

61%

**receive** financial aid

**\$56,500** the average financial aid grant for students admitted to the class entering fall 2019

**\$51,870** tuition for the 2019–20 academic year

## Transfer Eligibility

- Students may transfer if they have the equivalent of one or more years of full-time postsecondary transferrable credit by the spring prior to enrollment.
- Students with one year of eligible transferrable course units may enter as sophomores; students with two years of transferrable course units may enter as juniors.\*
- Students with less than one full-time semester by the time of enrollment are encouraged to apply as first-year students. Students with one full-time semester or more by the time of enrollment should apply as transfer students.
- Students who are dual-enrolled in both a high school and college program should apply as first-year students.
- Students who have earned college credits before completing high school cannot transfer those college credits to a Princeton undergraduate degree.
- Students who have already attained an undergraduate bachelor's degree or its equivalent are not eligible to apply for transfer admission. However, students are eligible if they have attained an associate's degree.

\*NOTE: In all cases, eligible transferrable course units and year of entry are determined by Princeton faculty and the college deans.

More information about admission eligibility is available on our website: [admission.princeton.edu](http://admission.princeton.edu).

## Credit Transfer

To be eligible to transfer for credit, a course must be completed at an accredited postsecondary institution. The fulfillment of Princeton's general education requirements is prioritized in awarding transfer credit. Generally, departmental requirements for majors and certificate programs may not be fulfilled through transfer credit.

To learn more about what types of courses may fulfill general education requirements, please see [ua.princeton.edu/contents/general-education-requirements](http://ua.princeton.edu/contents/general-education-requirements).



**PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**

## Transfer Application Dates and Deadlines for 2019 to 2020

### FALL 2019

- **Transfer Application Available:** Common Application or Universal College Application, plus the Princeton Transfer Supplement

### MARCH 1, 2020

- Transfer Application and Princeton Transfer Supplement due

### MARCH 9

- Princeton Financial Aid Application due

### END OF MARCH

- All ACT, SAT and SAT Subject Tests to be completed

### MID-MAY

- Transfer decision notification

### LATE MAY

- Transfer candidate's reply deadline

## Application Checklist

- The Common Application or the Universal College Application (completed online)
- Princeton Transfer Supplement
- Application Fee or Fee Waiver
- Graded Written Paper
- Official College Transcripts (from all institutions attended)
- Official High School Transcript
- College Report
- Transfer Mid-Term Report (if currently enrolled)
- Two (2) academic recommendations (at least one from a college instructor)
- SAT or ACT
- Two (2) SAT Subject Tests (recommended, but not required)
- English Proficiency Tests: TOEFL, IELTS or PTE Academic (non-native English speakers only)

More information about the required transfer application components can be found on our website at [admission.princeton.edu/how-apply](http://admission.princeton.edu/how-apply).

## FAQs

### **Should I apply as a first-year student or as a transfer student?**

You should apply as a transfer student if, after high school, you will have completed the equivalent of one full-time semester at a postsecondary institution (i.e. college, university, or equivalent) by the time of enrollment at Princeton. If you will have completed less than the equivalent of a full-time postsecondary semester after high school, or you enrolled in college courses during high school, you should apply as a first-year student.

### **How will I know if my college credits are eligible as transferrable course units?**

As part of the transfer application review process, a committee of Princeton faculty and deans decides what courses may transfer, and you will be notified of your standing at the time of admission.

### **Is financial aid available for transfer students?**

Yes, Princeton guarantees to meet 100% of demonstrated financial need for all undergraduate students, regardless of year of entry. This includes tuition, room and board, and other allowable expenses for all years of undergraduate study. Students are not required to take out a loan; they can graduate free of debt from Princeton.

### **Are there any limits or disadvantages in applying for financial aid as a transfer student, compared to first-year students?**

No, admission is need-blind for all students, whether applying as transfer or first-year students. There is no disadvantage in the admission process to students applying for financial aid.

### **Can I transfer from a community college?**

Yes, we encourage community college students to apply if they feel that Princeton is the right fit to continue their postsecondary career. Students are still eligible even if they have attained an associate's degree.

### **Are students with non-traditional backgrounds eligible to apply?**

Yes, provided that a student's background aligns with our academic eligibility guidelines, students are eligible for consideration regardless of age or how many years they have spent within their postsecondary journey.

### **Am I guaranteed on-campus housing?**

Yes, all students are guaranteed on-campus housing for all years of their undergraduate experience, regardless of year of entry.

### **May I choose to live off campus?**

All undergraduates are required to live and eat meals within the residential college system for some time during their years of study. For students entering as transfers, and/or those who have actively served in the military, this requirement applies to their first full year of enrollment only. Housing appropriate to a variety of life circumstances is available.

### **Can I receive credit for AP or IB exams?**

No. To learn more about advanced standing at Princeton, please visit: [princeton.edu/ap](http://princeton.edu/ap).

## U.S. MILITARY APPLICANTS

We especially welcome applications from individuals who have actively served in the U.S. military, confident that they bring a valuable perspective to our community of diverse students.

U.S. military applicants apply through the same process as other prospective undergraduates; they determine their eligibility for the transfer program as described above, and are required to submit the same materials.

To assist with the process, Princeton will waive the application fee of any candidate who is serving or has served in the U.S. military. On submitting your application, please select the "Princeton-specific fee waiver" option, and we will automatically waive your fee.

Princeton participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program and does not limit the number of students eligible for the program. Veteran students typically receive a combination of benefits through the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, including Yellow Ribbon and the Post-9/11 GI Bill. Princeton's need-based financial aid program can supplement or even replace the use of veterans benefits toward the total cost of attendance.

Princeton is also a proud partner with Service to School (S2S), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that provides higher education counseling through professional advisers and peer networks at no cost to U.S. military applicants. We are part of a small group of institutions involved in their Service to School (S2S) VetLink initiative, launched in 2015 to connect these counselors with our admission representatives.

If you have specific questions about the application process for U.S. military applicants, please contact Alex Bustin, associate dean of admission, at [abustin@princeton.edu](mailto:abustin@princeton.edu).



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