



Lake Tahoe Community College

International Student Information Packet

(March 2023)

Thank you for your interest in attending Lake Tahoe Community College. This information packet will provide the information you need to apply for admission to this college. It also outlines the rules and regulations with which you must comply while attending, so please consider this information carefully.

COLLEGE

Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC) is a small two-year college serving approximately 2,500 students in total and 50 international students annually. The staff and faculty are dedicated to providing the highest quality education. Combine the surroundings with our campus and what you get is a world-class educational experience. LTCC offers courses necessary for transfer to a four-year university or college and has transfer admission agreements with the University of California (UC) school system, such as UC-Santa Cruz, Santa Barbara, Merced, Irvine, Riverside, and Davis, as well as the California State University (CSU) school system. In addition, we offer Associate in Arts and Associate in Science degrees in the following areas of study:

Addiction Studies

Anthropology

Art

Art New Media

**Business: Administration, Accounting, Finance,
Management, Marketing**

Commercial Music

Computer and Information Systems - Cybersecurity

Criminal and Administration of Justice

Culinary Arts

Early Childhood Education

English

Elementary Teacher Education

Environmental Science

Environmental Studies

Fire Science

Geography

Geology

Hospitality Management

Kinesiology

Liberal Arts: Arts and Humanities, Math and Science, Social Science

Mathematics

Medical Office Assistant

Political Science

Psychology

Sociology

Spanish

Wilderness Education and Outdoor Leadership



COMMUNITY IN LAKE TAHOE

The College is located in South Lake Tahoe, California, a small resort community in the beautiful Sierra Nevada Mountains at 6,200 feet above sea level. The town's main industries are outdoor sports, hospitality, and tourism. The permanent population is about 30,000. Outdoor recreation is year-round at Lake Tahoe. Students are within minutes of three ski resorts, with twelve others to choose from around the lake. Summer brings water sports and access to an extensive network of hiking and mountain biking trails. The sun shines an average of 274 days a year giving students plenty of chances to get out and explore the Sierra Nevada mountains.

HOUSING AND TRANSPORTATION

LTCC offers off-campus housing to full-time students. Other rental options are available in the community. You should begin arranging accommodation during the college application process. To learn more about housing available in the South Lake Tahoe area and to apply for LTCC student housing please visit www.ltcc.edu/campuslife/housing.

Public transportation is available via Tahoe Transportation District and students receive a free bus pass with a valid LTCC student id. LTCC students can also utilize Lake Link, a free public ride share service, within the center of town where the campus, student housing and grocery stores are located.

All F-1 international students coming to the U.S. to study can enter the U.S. as early as 30 days before the start date for the program listed on their I-20 form. We strongly recommend that students use this early arrival option to have enough time to adjust to the time change, to get to know the new area, and to finalize housing arrangements. Please note that you cannot attend classes nor participate in any LTCC athletic program or activities during this 30-day period.

CLASS ENROLLMENT



International students are required to enroll in and complete approximately 15 units per quarter. International students are not eligible for federal financial aid, and they must comply with all requirements of the USCIS, SEVP and Lake Tahoe Community College. We recommend you take advantage of our counseling services in planning your coursework throughout your attendance at Lake Tahoe Community College. As a condition of your F-1 visa you will need to show sufficient funds to cover all tuition and living expenses without U.S. based employment.

International students from England, Spain, and Brazil signing up for fall quarter.

REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION OF F-1 STUDENTS

International student admission applications are considered each quarter. Admission is contingent upon completing the application process before the application deadline. **Deadlines for the 2023-2024 academic year are as follows:**

Quarter of admission	New student application deadline	Transfer student application deadline
Early Fall (Athletes)	May 1, 2023	July 10, 2023
Fall	July 17, 2023	September 1, 2023
Winter	October 23, 2023	December 4, 2023
Spring	February 26, 2024	March 25, 2024



Lake Tahoe Community College accepts F-1 students provided they have met the following requirements. Your application must be submitted with the following items by the deadline to be considered for admission.

	Requirement	Documentation to be Submitted
1	Minimum Age	You must be 18 years of age or older when classes begin. If you will be under 18 when classes begin, you must independently arrange for a legal guardian to assume responsibility for you while you are in the U.S. In either case, provide proof of your date of birth such as a copy of your passport.
2	Previous Education	You must have the equivalent of an American high school education and submit a copy of your transcripts from all high schools attended. If you have earned a Bachelor's degree at a university, you may alternatively submit a copy of your transcripts from all universities attended. Transcripts from institutions outside the U.S must be translated into the English language by a professional translation service.
3	English Proficiency *	To be accepted to an academic program you must demonstrate your proficiency in English. Please submit <u>one</u> of the following official certificates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ TOEFL exam: minimum score of 55 on the Internet-based version; ▪ Duolingo exam: minimum of 85; ▪ IELTS exam: minimum of 5.5; ▪ GTEC CBT exam: minimum of 1055; ▪ Cambridge English Assessment certificate: B2 level or higher; ▪ iTEP English Proficiency certificate: 3.5 or higher; ▪ ELS 109 level or higher; ▪ proof of successful completion of an appropriate ESL level from an Intensive English Language School <p>*If English is an official language of your home country, you do not need to submit any of the above stated documents.</p>
4	Financial Resources	<u>You must have assured a minimum of \$25,440 in American dollars for each academic year you expect to attend Lake Tahoe Community College. You should not assume you can live on less than this amount per year. You must have sufficient funds to successfully study and live in the U.S. without resorting to U.S. based employment for financial support.</u> Students on an F-1 visa are not allowed to work off-campus. Please provide recent (dated within the last 3 months) official bank certification as proof of your ability to meet all financial obligations including school tuition, housing, living expenses, health insurance and textbooks. A written statement from the financial sponsor is also required. The bank certification must be issued for personal/private accounts belonging to the person named as the sponsor under the Affidavit of Support (sponsor statement) on page 6 of the International Student Application. The funds must be liquid and presented in a checking/savings account, college saving account, or approved bank loan stating that the funds are available for withdrawal to cover academic and living expenses. The intention to obtain a student or cash loan, investment funds, stock market shares, mortgage loans, etc. is not sufficient to demonstrate the necessary funds. During the visa application process, the U.S. embassy will verify the financial information you provided, and these funds must be fully available and accessible to the student to cover all expenses for the duration of their stay in the U.S.
5	Health	You must provide evidence of a Tuberculosis screening (TB test) performed within the last 2 years with your admission packet. The test results must be officially translated into English or originally issued in English on the medical provider's letterhead. You may use page 8 of the application to fulfill this requirement.
6	Personal statement	Provide a personal statement describing your academic interests, career goals, and reasons for choosing LTCC. The letter must be submitted in English, signed and dated.
7	Immigration Documents	Please provide a copy of your passport page showing name, picture, date of birth, and expiration date. Transfer students should provide copies of their student visa, I-94 form, and current I-20 form.
8	Application	Complete all sections of the International Student Application form.
9	Application Fee	You must submit a \$100 non-refundable application processing fee with your application.
10	Medical insurance	All F-1 visa students enrolled at Lake Tahoe Community College are required to purchase the health insurance selected by the college. This insurance coverage must be active on the first day you arrive to the U.S. You must submit evidence of medical coverage for the entire academic year prior to enrolling in classes.

SEVIS AND STUDENT VISA APPLICATION

The Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) is a web-based system for maintaining information on international students and exchange visitors in the U.S. After receiving your I-20 from LTCC, you must pay a non-refundable processing fee to SEVIS in the amount of \$350. Additionally, you will pay \$160 to schedule the F-1 visa appointment.

For more detailed information on the SEVIS and visa appointment fees, visit www.ice.gov/sevis. The F-1 visa application form I-901 can be completed online and payment can be submitted via credit card.

You must bring proof of both fee payments to your embassy appointment.

LIVING EXPENSES AND SCHOOL FEES

Prospective students and their financial sponsors must complete a Statement of Finances and Affidavit of Support (sponsor statement) with the appropriate documentation stating that they have a minimum of **\$25,440** (American dollars) available per year to cover their academic and living expenses. Your actual costs for housing and food, books, supplies, transportation, and other living expenses may vary based on where you decide to live and how much you will spend on food and discretionary expenses.

Tuition and enrollment fees will be collected at the time of registration for each quarter based on the number of units in which you enroll. You will not be asked to pay the tuition up front for the academic year upon arrival in the U.S. and you may apply for a tuition payment plan.

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR F-1 STUDENTS FOR THE 2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

As required by the U.S. Department of State, F-1 visa applicants must provide evidence of financial support for their first year of study in the U.S. Our estimated costs of attendance include both academic and personal expenses and cover nine (9) months of attendance at LTCC (three quarters of study). Applicants are required to provide official documentation demonstrating sufficient funding and these funds must be made available and fully accessible to the student to cover all the expenses listed below.

Tuition cost for per academic year 2023-2024 (45 units) \$13,815*

1 unit of tuition \$307

1 quarter of tuition (15 units) \$4,605

Housing cost (9 months) \$6,075

Food and personal expenses (9 months) \$4,050

Medical insurance (academic year) \$1,100 **

Textbooks \$400***

Total cost \$25,440****

*Total of 90 transferrable units are required to receive an associate degree. Students will enroll in approximately 45 units per academic year. Student athletes will enroll in an additional 3.25 units of soccer classes.

** Includes coverage for academic year. The medical insurance fee is mandatory for all F1 students. Subject to change annually. The overall cost depends on the selected plan and the age of the student.

*** The actual cost of books and learning supplies depends on the number and type of courses that the student is enrolled in.

**** This amount doesn't include travel to and from the U.S. Student athletes should add expenses for an additional month.

On-campus employment is not guaranteed and is a benefit to eligible F1 students. International applicant should not factor potential earnings from on-campus employment as a source of funding. The money earned in an on-campus job is meant to be a supplement to student's discretionary expenses.

NOTIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE

Upon satisfactory receipt of all required items, your application for admission as an international student will be reviewed. Once your application has been approved, we will send you a letter of acceptance, along with an electronic I-20 form (Certificate of Eligibility for Nonimmigrant F-1 Student Status), to the email address provided in your application.

NEXT STEPS

All new students are required to complete a new student orientation at www.ltcc.edu/orienation and an in-person international student orientation. Before arrival you must also meet with an academic advisor to discuss educational and career goals and develop a plan for their achievement. Please contact the International Program Office to make an appointment with a counselor.

Upon your arrival in the U.S. and no later than the first day of class, please visit the International Student Office to verify your presence. The Designated School Official will certify your enrollment status to SEVIS.

Please note that you are allowed to enter the United States no sooner than 30 days prior to the first day of class.

MAINTAINING F1 STATUS

Once you are in the U.S. it is important that you do not violate the conditions of your visa and maintain your status. F-1 students must maintain full-time status by enrolling in at least twelve (12) units per quarter. You must notify the International Student Office immediately if you change your address or other contact information. You must also obtain written authorization from the International Student Office prior to leaving the country for holidays or other breaks.



International students from England, Mexico, Australia and Jamaica celebrating last week of spring quarter.

MORE INFORMATION

If you have questions about the admissions process for international students, please contact the International Student Office:

Lake Tahoe Community College
One College Drive
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

international@ltcc.edu

