

Frequently Asked Questions — and Answers — For New Freshmen

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSION

Starting college naturally brings with it lots of questions. Here are answers to some of the most commonly asked questions about the admission process at St. Edward's University.

When can I visit the St. Edward's campus?

Almost any time of year. [Student-led campus tours](#) are offered Monday through Friday and on selected Saturdays during the school year. You are welcome to visit during the summer (June to August), when classes are not in session. However, we encourage you to visit during the school year to get the most complete picture of campus life. Get more information about visit options, including group programs for juniors and seniors. View the [campus visit options \(PDF\)](#).

You can also take a [self-guided tour](#).

What classes should I take in high school?

Challenging courses in high school will prepare you for college-level work, so we prefer applicants who have taken a rigorous curriculum. The strongest applicants are those with at least pre-calculus, physics and a third year of a foreign language. The most competitive students have taken advanced courses — Honors, Advanced Placement (AP), dual credit or International Baccalaureate (IB).

What are the admission requirements for St. Edward's (GPA, class rank, test scores)?

Students ranked in the top half of their class with SAT scores over 500 on each section and ACT scores over 21 are considered for admission. More than half of this year's incoming freshmen were ranked in the top quarter of their class. The average critical reading and math SAT score is 1125. ACT composite scores average about a 24. The writing section is required for the ACT if no SAT score is submitted.

If I don't meet the criteria exactly, should I apply?

Of course, and you should contact your admission counselor if you have specific questions.

When should the SAT and ACT be taken, and what is the last test date for consideration?

Ideally, students should take the SAT and ACT once each as juniors and again as seniors. The December test is the last one that guarantees your scores will be received before the Feb. 1 priority deadline. The Feb. 1 priority deadline is important for admission, scholarship, and Honors Program consideration and to help candidates get the best financial aid package possible.

The St. Edward's code for the SAT is 6619; the ACT code is 4156. Use these codes when registering to ensure your scores are sent to us.

What is the Common Application?

The Common Application is a single application accepted by more than 400 colleges and universities nationwide. Students can fill out the Common Application and have it sent to multiple colleges, including St. Edward's. Only U.S. and international freshman applicants may use the Common Application to apply to St. Edward's, and a supplement specific to St. Edward's is required. Please note that this is the nationwide Common Application, not the Texas Common Application — which is only for universities in Texas.

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What is the Honors Program?

The Honors Program is a series of interdisciplinary courses taken in the first three years, followed by an independent study project in the senior year. Honors courses satisfy general education requirements, so Honors students take the same number of classes as all other students. The program is open to about 5% of the freshman class each year. Potential candidates are sent an application in their acceptance packet. Students who are interested in the program should meet the priority application deadline of Feb. 1.

Does St. Edward's accept Advanced Placement (AP) and/or International Baccalaureate (IB) credit?

Yes, scores of three or higher on AP exams and five or higher on IB Higher Level exams are generally accepted for university credit. View the [Advanced Placement Credit Guide \(PDF\)](#) to see what tests and scores will transfer.

How do I find out if my transcripts and test scores have been received?

It's easy. Once you've applied, you can check your application status. Go to "Admission Central" on the lower right of the home page to view the status of your application, including any documents that are still needed.

What type of financial aid is available?

Financial aid takes many forms. You may be eligible for scholarships, grants and loans when you apply. You can also get an estimate of your scholarships and grants and the cost of your St. Edward's education by using our Scholarship Calculator for new freshmen at www.stedwards.edu/calculator.

Scholarships:

- Merit Awards: Academic scholarships based on high school performance and SAT/ACT scores.
- Specialty Scholarships: Awards based on superior achievements in athletics, theater arts or ROTC.

Need-Based Aid:

- **Grants:** Financial assistance based primarily on income, family size and asset information. Can be offered by St. Edward's or by the government.
- **Loans:** Most student loans allow 10 years for repayment.
- **Federal Work Study:** Need-based program providing part-time university employment for students.

Is a special form needed to apply for a scholarship?

Applicants are automatically considered for merit scholarships. Our most competitive scholarships — Holy Cross and Moreau — do have separate applications that must be received by Feb. 1.

What form is needed to apply for financial aid?

Students applying for need-based aid must complete the [Free Application for Federal Student Aid \(FAFSA\)](#). The priority deadline for filing a FAFSA is March 1.