



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**TENNESSEE**  
KNOXVILLE

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS  
TRANSFER CENTER

## **UT Knoxville Transfer Policy December 2022**

### **Who Qualifies as a Transfer Student?**

A transfer applicant is a student who has earned college-level credit at a postsecondary institution following high school graduation (excludes dual enrollment, advanced placement, CLEP, and similar credit). High school graduates who earn summer credit prior to their first fall term of enrollment are still considered first-time freshmen.

### **How to Apply**

Learn how to submit your application as well as key application dates on our [transfer student page](#).

### **General Transfer Admission Policies**

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has a competitive admission process for transfer applicants. Transfer applicants who have earned 24 or less transferable college level hours will be reviewed holistically on factors such as high school and transfer GPA, ACT/SAT scores, and intended major field of study. These applicants are required to send in all test scores, high school transcripts, GED scores, and college level transcripts in order to be reviewed for admission. Transfer applicants who have earned more than 24 transferable college hours will be reviewed primarily on transfer GPA, however, other holistic factors will be considered as needed.

Undergraduate Admissions recommends that all transfer applicants that are active or former military send in Joint Service Transcripts, DD214, or any other record of service to be considered in the holistic review process if necessary.

We are committed to reviewing all transfer applications for admission. Transfer applicants should have a minimum cumulative 2.0 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) in transferable academic-level coursework. Grades earned at other colleges and universities are used only for admission, course placement, and other academic decisions. They are not included in the UT Knoxville GPA. All courses attempted and grades earned, including repeated coursework, in college-level and non-remedial courses are considered in holistic review. Students are encouraged to include personal statements and any other supporting documentation that will strengthen their application in addition to their academic coursework.

There is no minimum or maximum number of hours needed to apply as a transfer student. However, some majors have capacity limits that allow very few transfer admissions, even for well-qualified students.

For such majors, those academic colleges or departments may require greater than a 2.0 for acceptance into certain programs. Additional course work and enhanced performance standards beyond what is required by other universities and colleges may be needed when applying to our competitive degree programs. This may include but not be limited to an intermediate level sequence of foreign language, more advanced math and science requirements, and courses in non-U.S. history.

Before you apply, consider the special requirements by these colleges:

- [College of Architecture and Design](#)
- [Haslam College of Business](#)
- [College of Education, Health, and Human Sciences](#)

320 Student Services Bldg., Knoxville, TN 37996-0315  
865-974-1111 [transfer.utk.edu](mailto:transfer.utk.edu)

- [Tickle College of Engineering](#)
- [College of Nursing](#)
- [College of Social Work \(Online\)](#)

Prior to graduating from UT, transfer students must have completed their last 30 semester hours of credit at UT Knoxville and at least 60 semester hours of credit at a four-year college or university. During the final 30 hours, up to two courses outside a student's major may be taken at another institution as long as the student has 25% of coursework for the degree completed at UT Knoxville.

Any transfer applicant who has been academically suspended or dismissed by the last institution they attended will not be considered for admission, regardless of the hours earned and transferable GPA.

Links:

[General Transfer Admission Policies, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)  
[Transfer Admissions, Transfer Students](#)

## Evaluation of Course Credit

College transcripts are evaluated after you are admitted to the university and are typically completed within two-three weeks of your date of admission. \*

You may access your transfer credit evaluation in [MyUTK](#) under Academic Resources. Be sure to bring your academic history which will include your credit evaluation with you to your first [academic advising appointment](#). Your evaluation will help you and your advisor create your academic plan in advance of registering for classes.

*\*During peak times, credit evaluations may take longer than two weeks to process.*

Link:

[Evaluation of Course Credit, Transfer Students](#)

## Credits that Transfer

All college level coursework earned at a post-secondary degree granting institution in good standing with their academic accrediting association will be evaluated for transfer credit. Generally, those institutions will be accredited by one of seven accrediting associations. College level coursework completed at a post-secondary institution not accredited by one of the listed accrediting associations may require additional approval from a Department Head.

Academic accrediting associations:

- Western Association of Schools and Colleges, Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC)
- New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)
- Higher Learning Commission (HLC)
- Middle States Commission on Higher Education (MSCHE)
- Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU)
- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)
- WASC Senior College and University Commission

Students from colleges or universities not located in the United States should contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions Transfer Center ([transfer@utk.edu](mailto:transfer@utk.edu)) for transfer eligibility.

Credits that are not acceptable for transfer include courses that are remedial, occupational, technical, or non-credit, as well as career course work used for an applied science degree from career or technical programs. Students bear the ultimate responsibility for educational planning, selecting courses, meeting program requirements, and adhering to policies and procedures. The university's [transfer credit policies](#) are available from the Registrar's Office.

The ACCP (Advanced College Credit Pathway) is a pathway program that allows advanced high school or first-year international college students to earn general education college credits to be applied towards a UTK degree. This program gives international students a great start in preparing for college. UTK partners with [IPERC](http://ipercc.org), which oversees the development and administration of the program abroad. Learn more about the ACCP at [ipercc.org/accp](http://ipercc.org/accp).

### **Transfer Credit Policy for Transfer Students Admitted Fall Semester 2013 and Forward:**

Transfer credit will be granted only for college level non-remedial courses in which a grade of ‘D-’ or better was earned. Credit in which a grade of ‘F’ was earned is not applicable and will not count toward a degree; however, the course, hours and grade are placed on the UT transcript and calculated in the transfer GPA. Many UT programs require a grade of ‘C’ or higher in courses in the major and the student bears the ultimate responsibility for educational planning, selecting courses, meeting program requirements, and adhering to policies and procedures.

Links:

[Transfer Credit, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)

[Evaluation of Course Credit, Transfer Students](#)

[Transfer Credit Policies and Procedures, Office of the University Registrar](#)

## **Students Applying for Transfer with an Associate of Arts or Associate of Science Degree**

Students who have completed an associate degree in Tennessee or a Tennessee Transfer Pathway will be given priority consideration. International transfer students completing an associate degree under an articulation agreement will be given International admissions priority consideration. However, the admission process is still competitive and still holistic. Completion of an associate’s degree or a pathway is not a guarantee of admission to the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, or to a specific program. More information is available at [www.tntransferpathway.org](http://www.tntransferpathway.org) or [www.international.utk.edu](http://www.international.utk.edu) for international students.

Transfer applicants who have earned AA or AS degrees from institutions in the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) system will have fulfilled the Volunteer Core (general education) requirement established by the faculty at UT Knoxville. This policy began Fall Semester 2009 and applies to any student who completed their AA or AS Tennessee Board of Regents degree in 2009 and entered the University of Tennessee Fall Semester 2009 or later. This policy does not apply to completion of an Associate of Applied Science degree.

Beginning Fall Semester 2019, transfer applicants who have earned an Associate of Fine Arts or Associate of Science in Teaching degree from institutions in the TBR system will have fulfilled the Volunteer Core (general education) requirement established by the faculty at UT Knoxville.

Link:

[General Transfer Admission Policies, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)

## **Students Applying for Transfer Prior to Degree Completion**

A transfer applicant is a student who has earned college-level credit at a postsecondary institution prior to matriculation at UTK and following high school graduation (excludes dual enrollment, advanced placement, CLEP, and similar credit). High school graduates who earn summer credit prior to their first fall term of enrollment are still considered first-time freshmen.

Transfer applicants from institutions in the University of Tennessee (UT), or Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR) systems, or from one of Tennessee’s public universities who have not earned an Associate of Arts or an Associate of Science degree but who have been certified by the institution from which they are transferring as having completed all the general education requirements of that institution will have completed Volunteer Core (general education) requirements for the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. They will not be required to take any additional coursework to meet Volunteer Core (general education) requirements at UT Knoxville.

Similarly, transfer applicants from institutions in the UT or TBR systems or from one of Tennessee's public universities who have been certified by the institution from which they are transferring as having completed sub-section(s) of general education (e.g., Natural Sciences) at that institution will be credited for completing the same section (if it exists) at UT Knoxville. The acceptance of certified Volunteer Core (general education) completion does not imply that the student has met any other admission or degree requirements at UT Knoxville.

Certification of general education completion must be provided by the institution at which the courses were taken. Certification must occur at the time the student transfers to UT Knoxville. No retroactive certification will be accepted. Acceptance of certified completion of general education began at UT Knoxville in Fall 2011.

Transfer students who complete a minimum of 45 transferrable credit hours prior to matriculation at UT Knoxville and earn an associate degree through the [Tennessee Reverse Transfer Program](#) will have fulfilled the Volunteer Core (general education) requirements established by the faculty at UT Knoxville. This policy does not apply to completion of an Associate of Applied Science degree.

Link:

[General Transfer Admission Policies, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)

## International Student Applicants and Requirements

All foreign nationals on non-immigrant visas are classified as international students whether they are applying to The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, as freshmen or transfer students.

If you have completed any **college academic work** outside the United States, you must submit your official transcripts to an evaluation agency that's a member of the [NACES \(National Association of Credential Evaluation Services\)](#). A detailed or course-by-course evaluation including a calculated college grade point average (GPA) is required for all college work completed in a country other than the US. We will only be able to process an application after receiving the necessary report from the evaluation company.

Companies offering these evaluation services include:

- [Academic Evaluation Services](#)
- [Educational Credential Evaluators](#)
- [World Education Services Inc. \(WES\)](#)
- [Josef Silny & Associates Inc.](#)
- [SpanTran: TEC](#)

Applicants who have completed less than 30 transferable college credit hours may also be required to submit a general evaluation with a calculated GPA that interprets all secondary or high school work.

In addition to the information above, other important details for applicants can be found on the page links below.

[International Students, Office of Undergraduate Admissions](#)

[International Students, Transfer Center](#)

[International Student Applicants, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)

[International Student and Scholar Services, Center for Global Engagement](#)

## Transfer GPA

Undergraduate Admissions utilizes a holistic application review considering all parts of the transfer student's academic record. All grades earned in transferable academic-level coursework from every regionally accredited college attended will be considered in determining admissibility. Grades earned at other colleges and universities are used only for admission, course placement, and other academic decisions. The official grade point average for any UT student does not include transfer grades.

Link:

[Evaluation of Course Credit, Transfer Students](#)

## LD and UD Courses

Courses that transfer without an exact UT course equivalent may also transfer with the designated LD or UD.

- LD = Lower Division (100–200 level) course credit
- UD = Upper Division (300–400 level) course credit

Academic departments determine how undesignated credits (LD or UD) are used toward graduation requirements through the petitioning process. Students should contact their college's [academic advising center](#) or their major advisor for information on how to petition courses. Please note that a petition does not guarantee that the course will be approved.

Link:

[Evaluation of Course Credit, Transfer Students](#)

## Volunteer Core Curriculum Requirements

Find out about the [Volunteer Core Curriculum Requirements](#) at UTK.

## American History Requirement

Comply with the state law that one unit of American history at the high school level or 6 semester hours of collegiate work be satisfactorily completed. This requirement is effective for those graduating July 1, 1978, and thereafter. It may be satisfied by completing [HIUS 221-HIUS 222](#) (or [HIUS 227-HIUS 228](#)).

A student may elect to substitute three hours of Tennessee history either for [HIUS 221](#) (or [HIUS 227](#)) or for [HIUS 222](#) (or [HIUS 228](#)). Students should consult the catalog of enrollment to determine how the six credit hours for fulfillment of this requirement is to be included in individual curricula.

*(Tennessee Code Annotated Sections 49-6-1202 and 49-7-110)*

Links:

[American History, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)

[General Requirements for a Bachelor's Degree, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)

## Universal Tracking (uTrack)

Transfer students' academic progress is monitored using uTrack – a tool that identifies milestones that are designed to keep students on track for timely graduation. Transfer students and counselors should review the UT [catalog](#) to make sure that they are completing milestones that will facilitate transfer into specific majors. uTrack does not apply to transfer students who entered prior to Fall 2015.

Link:

[General Transfer Admission Policies, 2022-2023 Undergraduate Catalog](#)