

Admission and Financial Aid

ADMISSION

UNDERGRADUATE MATRICULATED STUDY

In order to preserve the residential character of the University and to maintain a favorable student-faculty ratio, Stanford has a limited undergraduate enrollment. The anticipated size of the freshman class is 1,600 students. Between 100 and 120 transfer students, entering either the sophomore or junior class, are also admitted each year. For both freshman and transfer admission, the University receives many more applications from qualified students than there are places available.

Stanford's undergraduate community is drawn from throughout the United States and many other countries. It includes men and women whose abilities, intellectual interests, and personal qualities will allow them to benefit from and contribute to the University's wide range of teaching and research programs in the humanities, sciences, and engineering. The University admits students with highly developed skills in particular areas, as well as those with versatility in a number of fields. A comprehensive financial aid program aims to promote broad socioeconomic representation. Stanford is committed to meeting the University-computed financial need of each admitted student, and admission decisions are made without regard to the applicant's economic resources except in the case of some international students.

Affirmative action programs encourage development of a truly multicultural community, and special effort is made to attract, enroll, and provide support services for a group of undergraduates that is diverse in many ways. Admission practices are in accordance with University policies on nondiscrimination, and there are no restrictive quotas of any kind.

Stanford expects students to adhere to the principles of its Fundamental Standard: "to show both within and without the University such respect for order, morality, personal honor, and the rights of others as is demanded of good citizens." Admission officers select undergraduates they believe will benefit most from the University's resources, contribute to its community and to the education of their fellow students, and proceed to a lifetime of intellectual, personal, and societal accomplishment.

Since application procedures and requirements vary from year to year, specific information regarding application for admission as either a freshman or transfer student should be obtained by writing to the Office of Undergraduate Admission, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-3005.

NONMATRICULATED STUDY

Admission to Stanford as a nonmatriculated student during Autumn, Winter, and Spring Quarters is not routinely approved except under extenuating circumstances. Nonmatriculated students authorized to enroll at Stanford University are not admitted to any Stanford degree program and are permitted to register for a specific period, usually one, two, or three quarters. Financial assistance from Stanford University is not available. Acceptance as a nonmatriculated student does not guarantee subsequent admission as a matriculated student. Students interested in nonmatriculated status during the Autumn, Winter, and Spring Quarters should contact the Registrar's Office. The two most common categories of nonmatriculated undergraduate status are described below.

High School Nonmatriculated Students—Local high school students are eligible to be considered to attend Stanford as nonmatriculated students on a limited basis when they have exhausted all of the courses in a given discipline offered by their high school. Nonmatriculated high

school students are permitted to enroll in one course per quarter and are required to pay the applicable tuition if admitted.

Post-High School Nonmatriculated Students—Stanford admits nonmatriculated undergraduates, who have already earned a high school degree or equivalent, only under extraordinary circumstances. Such students are required to pay full tuition if admitted, and are not eligible for financial assistance from Stanford University.

Students wishing to enroll as nonmatriculated students during Summer Quarter should contact the Summer Session Office for more information about the Summer Visitor Program. Admission to the Summer Visitor Program does not imply regular admission to Stanford for subsequent quarters or to one of Stanford's regular degree programs.

GRADUATE MATRICULATED STUDY

Applicants from colleges and universities of recognized standing who hold a U.S. bachelor's degree or its equivalent are eligible to be considered for admission for graduate study. Details regarding degrees offered in specific departments are given in the *Guide to Graduate Admission* included with application materials. The number of applicants who can be admitted for work in a particular field of study at any time is limited by the facilities of the school or department and by the number of matriculated students who continue their work in that field.

The Coterminous Degree Program—This program permits matriculated Stanford undergraduates to study for bachelor's and master's degrees simultaneously in the same or different departments. Application policies and procedures are established by each master's department. Applications must be submitted no earlier than the student's completion of 105 units, or eighth quarter of undergraduate study. Stanford quarters and transfer quarters are included (calculated by dividing the total transferred units by 15). Applications must be submitted at least four quarters before the expected conferral of the master's degree, and approved no later than the eleventh quarter of undergraduate study (Stanford quarters and transfer quarters included and calculated as above). Students who decide to apply for admission to master's programs after these deadlines are not eligible for the coterminous program and must apply through the regular graduate admission process.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Specific information regarding test requirements, other application procedures and requirements, and closing dates for filing applications and supporting credentials for admission and financial aid are listed in the *Guide to Graduate Admission*.

Graduate fellowship funds and assistantships are generally committed in March for the entire period comprising Autumn, Winter, and Spring quarters of the next academic year. Awards are seldom made to students who enter the University in Winter, Spring, and Summer quarters; such applicants must meet the same financial aid application requirements as those entering in Autumn Quarter.

Applications may be submitted electronically for graduate programs in the schools of Earth Sciences, Education, Engineering, Humanities and Sciences, and the Biosciences (non-M.D. programs in Medicine). Application instructions may be found at www.stanford.edu/dept/registrar.

The *Guide to Graduate Admission* and application forms for graduate matriculated study may be obtained from Graduate Admissions, Registrar's Office, Old Union, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-3005, except for the following programs:

Business—Applicants should write to Director of Admissions of the M.B.A., Ph.D., or Sloan Program, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305-5015 for information and application forms.

Law—Applicants should write to Director of Admissions, School of Law, Stanford University, Stanford, California 94305. The Law School Admissions Test is required.

M.D. Program—Applicants should write to Admissions Committee, School of Medicine, 851 Welch Road, Palo Alto, California 94304 for

an AMCAS (American Medical College Application Service) application request card and information about the M.D. program. Applications and transcripts must be received by AMCAS by November 1. The Medical College Admissions Test is required.

Coterminal Master's Program—Interested Stanford undergraduate students should contact directly the department in which they wish to pursue a master's degree and must adhere to the application deadlines described in the "Coterminal Degree Program" above.

NONMATRICULATED STUDY

Graduates of colleges and universities of recognized standing who hold a U.S. bachelor's degree or its equivalent are eligible to apply for nonmatriculated graduate student status. This status may be granted to students of demonstrated ability who are not seeking an advanced degree from Stanford University, but who would benefit from course work at Stanford for a variety of reasons. A 3.0 or 'B' grade average in prior studies is required. Nonmatriculated admission is valid only for a given academic year or a part thereof. Students who wish to reenroll in a subsequent academic year must reapply.

Nonmatriculated students are not permitted to enroll in certain courses, such as those in the following departments or programs: Film and Broadcasting courses in Communication; graduate level courses in Psychology; all courses in Computer Science, Economics, Electrical Engineering, International Policy Studies, and the School of Medicine. Nonmatriculated students receive academic credit for courses satisfactorily completed and may obtain an official transcript. They may use University facilities and services. In classes of limited enrollment, students in degree programs have priority. Nonmatriculated students may apply for housing but will have a low priority for assignment. No fellowships, assistantships, or Stanford loans are available for nonmatriculated students.

Nonmatriculated students who later apply for admission to a degree program must meet the standard admission requirements and should not anticipate special priority because of work completed as a nonmatriculated student. Students who are admitted to a degree program may apply a maximum of one quarter of nonmatriculated study toward the residency requirement for a master's degree and two quarters for the Engineer or Ph.D. degree.

Application forms for nonmatriculated status during the regular academic year are available from Graduate Admissions, Registrar's Office, Old Union, Stanford, CA 94305-3005. Deadlines for applying are included with the forms and are generally two months before the start of the quarter.

Applicants interested in nonmatriculated student status for the Summer Quarter only should contact the Summer Session Office, Building 590, Room 104, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-3005.

POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARS

Prospective postdoctoral scholars should write directly to the department in which they wish to study.

Postdoctoral scholars who are paid as Research Affiliates through Stanford grants and contracts must enroll as nonmatriculated graduate students each quarter of their appointments. They are thereby eligible for most student benefits. Scholars who are supported by other funds have the option of registering, except in the School of Medicine which requires that all postdoctoral scholars be registered. Postdoctoral scholars must have received the Ph.D. within the last three years or the M.D. within the last six years.

The School of Medicine has an additional special student category, the School of Medicine Fellow, which is open to those holding the M.D. for more than six years or the Ph.D. for more than three years and who have been invited to Stanford to undertake further training in modern medical technology.

Postdoctoral scholars who are not required to register as nonmatriculated students may request Visiting Scholar status. This option is available only to an individual who is visiting from an outside institution or organization, who has a doctoral degree or is a recognized expert in his or her field, and whose source of funding is not Stanford. Appointments

are authorized by department chairs. Visiting scholars are not eligible for student benefits.

VISITING RESEARCHERS

In limited instances, it is to the benefit of Stanford faculty to permit persons who have not yet obtained a Ph.D. (or its foreign equivalent) or who are not recognized experts in their fields to engage in research on the Stanford campus using Stanford research facilities. Such instances might include students at other universities who are engaged in graduate-level research in a field of interest to the faculty member, a person doing a laboratory rotation as part of a larger research study or grant, or employees of companies who are conducting research which requires specialized equipment available only at Stanford.

In these instances, since the person is not eligible for Visiting Scholar status, they may be eligible to register as nonmatriculated graduate students in the Visiting Researcher category for a maximum of one year. Invited persons must be qualified to conduct research at a level comparable to that of other Stanford graduate students, and the research must be of benefit to Stanford as well as to the visitor. Admission forms for visiting researchers are submitted to the Registrar's Office by the department issuing the invitation.

Visiting researchers are charged the Permit to Attend for Services Only (PSO) tuition rate quarterly and may waive the University's student medical insurance plan only if they have comparable coverage with another carrier. They may not enroll in or audit any courses, but in quarters they are registered, are eligible for the usual student benefits of nonmatriculated student status. Visiting researchers may apply for housing, but will have a low priority for assignments. No fellowships, assistantships, or Stanford loans are available for visiting researchers. Stanford cannot certify visiting researchers for deferment of U.S. educational loans. Citizens of other countries who enter the United States to be visiting researchers at Stanford must have an IAP-66 issued by the Bechtel International Center and must register each quarter, including Summer Quarter, to maintain their visa status.

VISAS FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS

All students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents must obtain visas for their stay in the United States. The types of visas available for students are the following:

1. Student Visa (F-1), obtained with an I-20 Certificate of Eligibility issued by Stanford University. The graduate student on an F-1 visa must enroll in a full course of study. The accompanying spouse or child enters on an F-2 visa. F-2 visa holders may not work.
2. Exchange-Visitor Visa (J-1), obtained with an IAP-66 Certificate of Eligibility issued by Stanford University or a sponsoring agency. This visa is required for graduate students sponsored by certain agencies, foundations, and governments. In some cases, Exchange-Visitors must leave the United States at the conclusion of their programs, may not change visa status, and may not apply for permanent residency in the United States until they have returned to their home countries for at least two years. The spouse of an Exchange-Visitor enters on a J-2 visa and may, in some cases, obtain permission to work.

The certificate of eligibility is issued to a student accepted for admission only upon receipt of evidence of satisfactory proficiency in the English language and certification of adequate financial support. A student transferring from another school must obtain a new visa with a Stanford certificate of eligibility.

Information on visas is sent to admitted graduate students from the Graduate Admissions Office. Information on visas for postdoctoral scholars and visiting researchers may be obtained from the Bechtel International Center.

The University requires that all students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents maintain a visa status that allows registration as students.

FINANCIAL AID

UNDERGRADUATE

The University has a comprehensive need-based financial aid program for its undergraduate students (except some international students) who meet various conditions required by the state or federal government, the University, and other outside donors.

In awarding its own funds, the University assumes that students and their parents (or spouse, in the case of married students) accept the first and primary responsibility for meeting the standard educational costs established by the University. Additionally, Stanford expects financial aid applicants to apply for and use resources from state, federal, and private funding sources, contribute from their earnings during nonenrollment periods (for example, summer) and use student loans and earnings from part-time employment during the academic year to meet educational expenses. If Stanford determines that an applicant and his or her family cannot meet these expenses, the University may offer student loans, recommend part-time employment during the academic year, and/or award scholarships or grants to help meet these costs. Stanford's policy generally is to exclude undergraduates from being considered financially independent of their parents for University-administered scholarship and grant aid unless the student is an orphan, a ward of the court, at least age 25, or has an extremely adverse home situation.

In awarding Stanford financial aid funds to meet need (that is, any gap remaining after reducing the standard budget by the University-determined family resources and any outside resources to which the student is entitled such as state or Pell grants, tuition benefits, and so on), Stanford first offers "self-help," which includes student loans and an academic year earnings expectation. The University normally expects that during enrollment periods, students will work and borrow up to approximately 16 percent of the standard budget. The self-help expectation may be lower for certain categories of students including those from low-income families, those who are academically in the top five to ten percent of an entering class, and those who bring diversity to the Stanford student body. If the University-determined need is greater than the self-help expectation, Stanford awards scholarship or grant funds to meet the remaining need.

Scholarships or grants from outside private sources may change the University's financial aid award. If the total in outside scholarships exceeds the need-based earnings expectation and loan portion of the financial aid package, the University then reduces its own scholarship or grant offer dollar for dollar.

The University considers applicants for its own scholarship and grant support beyond the twelfth quarter only if enrollment is essential in order to complete the minimum requirements for the first baccalaureate degree or major; a total of fifteen quarters is the limit for such aid. Students who enroll for a fifth year in pursuit of a coterminal program, a minor, a second major, a second degree, or the B.A.S. degree are not eligible for University scholarship and grant consideration but may apply for student loans.

APPLICATION AND AWARD NOTIFICATION PROCESS

FILING DEADLINES

Prospective freshmen	Early Decision, November 1, 2000
Prospective freshmen	Regular Review, February 1, 2001
Prospective transfers	March 15, 2001
Returning students	April 15, 2001

APPLICANT DOCUMENTS

The documents the applicant must submit each year for financial aid consideration vary depending on the applicant's nationality and the type of funds sought.

U.S. citizens and permanent residents who wish to be considered for all available funding administered by Stanford should submit the following documents. Canadians file the following except the FAFSA.

1. Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA), which must be processed by the federal processor. California residents must also submit a GPA Verification Form or SAT scores to the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC) by March 2, 2001, for Cal Grant consideration.
2. The PROFILE processed by the College Scholarship Service (CSS).
3. Copies of 1999 W-2 forms from the applicant's parents for continuing students. Copies of 1999 W-2 forms and tax statements from the applicant's parents for new students.

A complete application for U.S. citizens and permanent residents applying for Stafford loan consideration only includes:

1. Free Application For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), which must be processed by the federal processor.
2. Copies of 1999 W-2 forms from the applicant's parents for continuing students. Copies of 1999 W-2 forms and tax statements from applicant's parents for new students.

A complete application for international students (except Canadians) includes the Foreign Student Financial Aid Application and the Certificate of Finances.

Students whose application materials are filed after the published deadlines, who have not borrowed or worked in prior years, or who have not secured all external funds such as Pell and Cal Grants, can expect higher levels of self-help in their financial aid packages.

Applicants and their parents are required to submit accurate and complete information on all application documents. To monitor for accuracy and reliability of information, the University participates in a U.S. Department of Education project that samples the reliability of the data on a number of applications. The FAO may request documents, in addition to the application materials, to verify this information. Students will have their financial aid funds withheld or canceled and their future registration held if they fail to submit the information requested. Financial aid awards may change as a result of the verification process.

NOTIFICATION DATES

The FAO will notify early decision applicants who apply by the November filing date in December. The FAO will notify the freshman applicants who apply by the February 1 filing date in early April. Transfer applicants who submit complete applications by the March 15 filing date are normally notified of their financial aid award within 10 days of their notice of admission.

The FAO begins mailing award notices to continuing and returning applicants approximately the middle of July. Applicants who file after the filing date may not have a financial aid award or funds secured for disbursement by the Autumn Quarter payment due date.

PAYMENT AND FINANCING OPTIONS

Students whose financial aid is not available at the time registration fees are due may use the University's Deferred Payment Plan.

Parent loan and financing options may help families of students receiving financial aid meet the expected parent contribution. Many of these options are also available to families who do not qualify or apply for financial aid but feel the need for some extended financial credit to help meet the costs of attendance. Parents should also contact their employers for information about programs that may be available to them as employees' benefits to help meet college costs.

GRADUATE

Academic departments at Stanford University offer financial support to many graduate students. Funds are most often targeted to doctoral candidates and rarely cover all of a student's expenses. In addition to Stanford support, students usually need to use long-term loans, savings, liquidated assets, a spouse's earnings, or parental support. They are expected to study full time in order to attain the degree as soon as possible. Students with families to support or with medical or other special needs should budget income and expenses carefully. Loan funds alone may be insufficient to meet the expenses not covered by the Stanford award.

Students should consider part-time employment only after consultation with their department advisers and if no other alternative is possible. Students fully supported by Stanford are limited to additional employment of no more than eight hours per week; due to visa restrictions, international students may not be similarly employed.

Note—No fellowships, assistantships, or loans are available for non-matriculated students.

FELLOWSHIPS AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Fellowships, research assistantships, and teaching assistantships are an integral part of the educational program for many graduate students; they also provide funds for graduate student support. As part of their academic plans for students, departments determine assignments for graduate assistantships and fellowships; they also determine the disposition of funds available for graduate fellowship and assistantship appointments. Academic program, academic merit, and availability of funds are the primary considerations in the awarding of graduate financial support. The availability of aid varies considerably among departments and programs. Support offers range from partial tuition fellowships to awards that provide full tuition and a living stipend. Some departments admit only those students to whom they can offer support or who have guaranteed funds from other outside sources. Other departments may offer admission but are unable to provide financial assistance due to limited financial resources. Very few awards are given for study toward terminal master's degrees.

Application procedures and deadlines for admission and financial aid are described in the *Guide to Graduate Admission*. Fellowships and assistantships are normally awarded between March 15 and April 15, in accordance with the Council of Graduate Schools resolution. Acceptance of a Stanford award obliges the student to inform the department of any other support received. The Stanford award *may* be adjusted (see "Outside Fellowships" below). Recipients of all graduate fellowships and assistantships must register each quarter of their appointment.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

Stanford has two categories of postdoctoral scholars. Postdoctoral Research Affiliates are classified as advanced students who are employed on contracts and on research and training grants. Postdoctoral Fellows are categorized as advanced students whose funding is from outside sources, typically foundations and foreign governments. Inquiry should be made directly to the department.

OUTSIDE FELLOWSHIPS

Many Stanford graduate students hold fellowships won in national competition from outside agencies such as the National Science Foundation. Information on application procedures and terms of such fellowship programs may be obtained from reference materials in the applicant's current academic institution. If not, the student should write for information directly to the national office of the agency or foundation administering the program. A student who receives support from an outside source must notify the department immediately. The Stanford award *may* be adjusted.

LOANS

Graduate students who believe they will require loan assistance can apply for Federal Stafford Student Loan, Federal Perkins Loan, and University Loan programs. Inquiries regarding loan program terms can be directed to Financial Aid Office at www.stanford.edu/dept/finaid/graid.html or 520 Lasuen Mall, Old Union, Room 322, Stanford, CA 94305-3021; phone (888) FAO-3773 from outside the Bay Area and (650) 723-3058 locally. International students who are not permanent residents are not eligible for government or University long-term loans.

Application—(The following information applies to all graduate students, except those in the schools of Law and Business and in the M.D. program in the School of Medicine, who should receive information about the aid application process through their respective schools.) Graduate student loan information is available on the website above and the brochure is sent after admission; a tear off portion of that brochure may be

used to request a graduate loan application packet, including detailed loan program information, forms, and instructions. Required application documents are:

1. The results of filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) with the federal processor.
2. Stanford Graduate Supplemental Application (online at www.stanford.edu/dept/finaid/gdocs.html).

Students who anticipate the need to use loan proceeds to pay Autumn Quarter bills should have their completed application filed with the FAO by the June prior to the beginning of the academic year. The FAO will notify the student of loan eligibility, which is based on a review of computed financial need, satisfactory academic progress, level of indebtedness, credit history, and availability of funds.

Debt Management—The University encourages wise debt management. Software is available to help students plan for future repayment.

Short-Term Loans—Emergency loans are available to all students with a good credit history, including international students, upon demonstration of ability to repay the loan within three months. These loans are not available to pay University bills.

COTERMINAL STUDENTS

Stanford undergraduate scholarships and grants are reserved for students in their first four years of undergraduate study at Stanford. University graduate fellowships are rarely given to coterminal students, but some departments may award research and teaching assistantships as part of the educational program to certain coterminal master's students who are eligible for such appointments in the quarter *after* they have completed 180 units. Students on 50 percent assistantships register for 9 units per quarter and accrue 62 percent of a full-tuition quarter of residency; such assistantships provide a stipend and some tuition allowance. Most private and federal graduate fellowships are awarded only to students who have received the bachelor's degree.

HONORS COOPERATIVE PROGRAM

Under a graduate cooperative program in engineering and science, employees from over 200 companies in the San Francisco Bay area are released from work, with full compensation, to attend regular classes at Stanford. Most of these companies have joined a Stanford four-channel television network that enables students to observe live lectures with talk-back privileges in their own plants. For a list of participating companies, write to the Stanford Center for Professional Development, 496 Lomita Mall/Durand Building, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94305-4036.

VETERANS' BENEFITS

Liaison between the University, its students, and the various federal, state, and local agencies concerned with veterans' benefits is provided by the Office of the Registrar located in the Old Union Building. All students eligible to receive veterans' benefits while attending the University are urged to complete arrangements with the appropriate agency well in advance of registration.

