

Frequently Asked Questions for Transfer Applicants

Here are some answers to frequently asked questions about the Duke transfer admissions process. For more information, please visit the [transfer admissions](#) website.

Q: How competitive is the transfer pool?

A: Transfer admission to Duke is highly selective, with the admission rate ranging from 3% to 7% over the past five years (2012-2016). The most successful applicants will have a minimum college GPA of 3.7 in a challenging academic program. Of those admitted in 2016, the mid-50% had SAT I critical reading scores between 670-740, math scores between 720-800 and writing scores between 670-770.

Q: What kinds of credits will transfer?

A: Duke does not offer a preliminary credit evaluation to prospective transfer students. Unfortunately, we are unable to connect prospective applicants with an advisor to discuss credit transfer. However, there is a good chance that credits will transfer if coursework taken at the applicant's current/previous accredited college is comparable to courses offered at Duke in areas such as natural science, math, foreign language, literature, social sciences and the arts. You may find a list of courses offered at Duke by searching our online [course catalog](#).

Q: What kind of financial assistance is available for transfer students?

A: All US citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply for need-based financial aid through the [Karsh Office of Undergraduate Financial Support](#).

Unfortunately, foreign citizens applying as transfer students are not eligible for need-based financial aid.

Unfortunately, there are no merit-based scholarships available to transfer applicants.

Q: Are application fee waivers available for transfer applicants?

A: Yes. If you are a US citizen or permanent resident, the transfer application fee may be waived if the applicant is eligible for a Pell grant or meets one of the following [indicators of economic need](#). There are three ways to apply for a fee waiver:

1. If applying using the [Common Application](#), request a fee waiver on the Profile screen in the Application Fee Waiver Section.
2. Sign and submit the Certification Statement found on page 1 of the [NACAC Transfer Fee Waiver Form](#) (the additional documentation section found on page 2 is not required if submitting this form).
3. Provide a brief statement describing why you are unable to pay the application fee.

For #2 and #3, please submit your fee waiver request to undergrad-admissions@duke.edu. You should assume that your fee waiver request has been approved unless you hear otherwise.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide fee waivers to foreign citizens applying as transfer students. Please note that foreign citizens applying as transfer students are not eligible for need-based financial aid.

Q: I am interested in attaining a second bachelor's degree. Is that possible at Duke?

A: The only opportunity to earn a second bachelor's degree is the [Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing](#) program, which is administered through the Duke University School of Nursing. Otherwise it is not possible to receive a second bachelor's degree. We do have a number of graduate programs that you might be interested in pursuing. Please contact the specific graduate department for more information on admissions.

Q: Are interviews available for transfer applicants?

A: Unfortunately, interviews are not part of the transfer application process.

Q: Do I have to submit SAT/ACT scores?

A: In order to admit a transfer applicant, the admissions committee requires that the applicant submit either an official SAT I or ACT with writing score. Please note that while SAT subject test scores are required for first-year admission, they are NOT required for transfer admission.

All transfer applicants, whether educated in the United States or abroad, are **required** to submit either an official SAT I or ACT with writing score. Foreign citizens currently attending college/university in an area where either the SAT or ACT is administered are expected to submit either an official SAT I or ACT with writing score.

The only exception to this rule might be for applicants who live in areas that do not have access to a testing center in their home countries (e.g., mainland China). These students may be exempt, and if so, will not be penalized in the evaluation process.

Q: May I apply to transfer as a part-time student?

A: No. Our transfer application process is only open to applicants who intend to transfer to Duke as full-time students. While the Office of Undergraduate Admissions cannot allow students to apply for transfer for part-time study, it may be possible to study part-time through [Duke Continuing Studies](#). Duke Continuing Studies works with local Triangle residents with a variety of educational needs: (1) who desire to take a few courses for career development; (2) who need a few courses in order to enter graduate or professional school; (3) who seek courses to complete degree programs from other institutions; (4) who wish to resume study towards a bachelor's degree; (5) local high school seniors who would like to pursue their studies beyond the level provided at their school.

Q: Is the completion of a high school diploma or GED required to apply for transfer to Duke?

A: Neither a high school diploma or a GED is required to apply for transfer to Duke. However, applicants should be aware that a candidate's academic record is a very important part of the application. The most competitive transfer applicant has built a strong academic record of success. If an applicant applies without completion of a high school diploma or GED, the committee will take an even closer look at the candidate's academic preparation through the successful completion of coursework at the community college, college, or university level.

Q: I'm a fairly non-traditional applicant (older than a traditional-aged college student, military veteran, and/or married). Will Duke still consider my transfer application?

A: Non-traditional students are welcome to apply to Duke as they bring a unique perspective that is not often found in our more traditional undergraduate population. You must have been enrolled in college at some point during the last 4 years.

In particular, Duke offers military veterans a high level of support as they transition to our campus community. For more information about the resources available to veterans, visit the [Duke Veterans](#) website.

Q: Are transfer students required to live on-campus?

A: Duke believes that the residential experience is an important factor in the education process. The Board of Trustees mandates that all undergraduates live on campus for three years. As an extension of this practice, transfer students are required to live on campus for two years. Exceptions to the housing requirement include: 1) Transfer students who enter as juniors may request to live on campus for only one year. 2) Non-traditional transfer students may request the housing requirement be waived entirely.

Q: I am a college junior and am interested in applying to transfer to Duke. Will my application be considered?

A: Yes. You may apply to Duke but should be aware that we can only award up to two years of transferrable credit to admitted students, which means that you might lose up to one full year of credit from your previous institution should you decide to enroll. Duke does have a policy that all transfers must spend a minimum of two years at the University in order to receive a degree. You are welcome to apply so long as you are comfortable with these policies.

Q: May I apply to Duke using a paper application?

A: No. Your application must be submitted electronically through either the [Common Application](#) or [Coalition Application](#). Please consult the [Checklist & Deadlines](#) section of the Duke Admissions website for a list of required application components and due dates.

Q: When will I find out if I am admitted to Duke?

A: We will release admissions decisions by mid-May. You will receive e-mail correspondence from us letting you know how to check your decision online. If you are admitted or offered a spot on the waiting list, we will need to hear from you by June 5, 2017.

Q: I previously applied to Duke for freshman admission and am now looking to transfer. Do I need to re-send materials that I previously sent when I applied as a freshman?

A: All applicants who previously applied to Duke must submit a new application for transfer admission.

If you previously applied to Duke and submitted official test results at that time, you do not need to resend those scores again. However, you may choose to submit any additional scores that you wish the admissions committee to consider in addition to what we already have for you in our system.

In most cases, previous first-year applicants submitted an official transcript that only listed courses and grades up to the first semester of the applicant's senior year. Because of this, we require that all applicants submit a final high school transcript, regardless of whether or not they have previously applied to Duke.

Q: Have all parts of my transfer application been received?

A: We continue to process transfer applications at this time. If any portion of your application is missing after the March 20 deadline, we will send you an e-mail and you will need to send any outstanding materials within five business days. Please check your spam folder, in case the e-mail may have ended up there.

Q: My recommenders are having trouble submitting their forms and recommendations through the Common Application website. Is there another way to submit these important forms and recommendations?

A: Yes. An alternative to submitting materials online is via fax or email. Our fax number is 919.668.1661 and email address is undergrad-admissions@duke.edu. You may send materials via postage-paid mail, although it will take longer to receive. Our mailing address is Duke Office of Undergraduate Admissions, 2138 Campus Drive, Box 90586, Durham, NC 27708.

Q: My school has an electronic submission system when it comes to sending transcripts. Is it okay for my school to submit my transcript this way?

A: Yes. You may request that your transcripts be sent to undergrad-admissions@duke.edu.

Mailing Address:

Duke University Office of Undergraduate Admissions
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Box 90586
Durham, NC 27708

Within the United States:

Phone: +1 919 684 3214
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