Traditional Freshmen (resident and nonresident):

Freshmen students are those who have completed high school or its equivalent and have never attended a college or university. Students that have attempted less than 12 quarter or semester college-level credits at another regionally accredited college or university after high school graduation are considered an incoming freshman. Students who have earned college-level course credit, Advanced Placement, or International Baccalaureate credits while still attending high school are also considered incoming freshmen.

Admission Requirements (Resident and Non-Resident):

1. Graduation from a regionally accredited high school or one accredited by the State Department of Education, or passed a General Educational Development (GED) Diploma, or obtained qualifying scores on the ACT Compass Exam.
2. MSU Academic Requirements:

   ONE of the following:

   o A 2.5 cumulative grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale), OR
   o ACT Enhanced Composite score of 22, OR
   o SAT combined critical reading/mathematics/writing score of 1540 OR
   o Rank in the upper half of the graduating class

   AND

   o Minimum Math score of 22 on ACT or 520 SAT, OR
   o Minimum Math score between 18-21 on ACT or 440-510 SAT (students must enroll in and pass a math course within the first 3 semesters at MSU), OR
   o Score of 3 or above on Advanced Placement (AP) Calculus AB or BC exam, OR
   o Score of 4 or above on International Baccalaureate (IB) Calculus exam, OR
   o Four years of high school Math courses (which include Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry and courses beyond Algebra II,) and three years of science courses with grades of C or better in all courses.

   AND

   (If you plan on taking the ACT, be sure to sign up for the optional writing section)

   o Minimum Writing score of a 18 on the Combined English/Writing section or 7 on the Writing Subscore of the ACT Optional Writing Test, OR
   o Minimum Writing score of a 440 on SAT or a 7 on the Essay, OR
   o Score of 3 or above on the AP English Language or English Literature Exam, OR
   o Score of 4 or above on the IB English A1 Higher Level Exam, OR
   o Score of a 3.5 or above on the Montana University System Writing Assessment, OR
   o Students who do not meet the writing options listed above, must enroll in and pass a writing course within the first 3 semesters at MSU.

3. Successful completion of a state College Preparatory Curriculum. Non-resident applicants who have not completed the college preparatory requirements stated below may satisfy the requirements by providing evidence that they have: (a) completed a similar college preparatory program required in their home state and certified by the high school; or (b) met two of the three academic admission requirements stated above.

   o Four years of English: Courses should emphasize the development of written and oral communication skills and literature.
o Three years of **Mathematics**: Courses should include Algebra I, Geometry, and Algebra II (or the sequential content equivalent of these courses). Students are encouraged to take a math course in their senior year.

o Three years of **Social Studies**: Courses should include global studies (such as world history or world geography), American history, government, economics, Indian history, psychology, sociology, or other third-year courses.

o Two years of **Laboratory Science**: One year should be earth science, biology, chemistry, or physics, and the other year can be one of the above sciences or another approved college preparatory science.

o Two years of **Elective** courses: foreign language; computer science; visual and performing arts; or approved vocational education unit

4. The following categories of students are exempt from the admissions requirements above:
   - **Non-Traditional age students** (out of high school more than 3 years)
   - **Non-Degree undergraduate students**

---

**Application Procedures**

Receipt of the following credentials in the Office of Admissions constitutes a complete application for admission. Requests to have final credentials sent to MSU must be initiated by the applicant. Requests should be made by contacting the high school, the registrar's office at the college/university, or agency. Credentials must be sent directly from the school to the Office of Admissions. **Credentials received from the student are considered unofficial, working copies and will not be accepted as official documents.**

Application materials and fees will be retained for one year from the original application term. To apply for a semester other than the one originally intended, notify the Office of Admissions as soon as possible.

Be sure to submit the following items (if applicable):

1. **Admissions Application**: An application may be submitted on-line or printed out at: [http://www.montana.edu/wwwcat/appopts.html](http://www.montana.edu/wwwcat/appopts.html). The application may also be obtained from a high school counselor or from the Office of Admissions.

2. **Application fee (nonrefundable): $36 online application or $30 paper application**. Checks should be made payable to Montana State University. The application fee will not be waived, deferred, or refunded. The fee must be paid before the application for admission will be processed.

3. **Student Self-Report Form**: (included in the Admissions Application) This form, required of all first-time, full-time applicants who have been out of high school less than three years, will be used to determine admission status prior to the receipt of the final high school transcript sent after graduation.

4. **High school transcript**: A complete and official transcript must be sent directly from the high school to the Office of Admissions after graduation. Courses completed, GPA (on a 4.0 scale), rank in class, and date of graduation must be posted.

5. **GED transcript**: A complete official General Educational Development (GED) score report/transcript must be sent directly from the Department of Education from the state in which the exam was given to the Office of Admissions.

6. **ACT/SAT scores**: All first-time incoming freshmen are required to take either the American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) Reasoning Test. MSU does not accept the SAT Subject Tests (formally SAT II Subject Test) for admissions purposes. The test results are used in determining admission status, awarding certain scholarships, and in assisting with
academic planning. Applicants who have graduated three or more years prior to the semester in which they intend to enroll are not required to submit ACT/SAT test results.

7. **College/university transcripts**: Applicants who have attended another college or university, whether credit was earned or not, MUST have an official transcript sent directly from each institution to the Office of Admissions after all final grades have been posted. For more information on how college/university courses will transfer to MSU, refer to the Evaluation of Transfer Credit section.

8. **Advanced Placement (AP)**: Applicants who have completed an Advanced Placement Examination should request that the official scores be sent directly to the Office of Admissions. Scores of 3 or higher on an AP Exam will be granted college credit with a Pass grade for the equivalent courses. For more information on how AP courses will transfer to MSU, refer to the AP Course Equivalencies website.

9. **International Baccalaureate (IB)**: Applicants who have completed an International Baccalaureate Examination should request that the official scores be sent directly to the Office of Admissions. IB Exams with scores of 4 or higher (Higher Level only) will be granted college credit with a Pass grade for equivalent courses. For more information on how IB courses will transfer to MSU, refer to the IB Course Equivalencies website.

**Transfer Students**

A transfer student has graduated high school or its equivalent and completed 12 or more quarter or semester credits in college-level courses at a regionally accredited institution. Students who have previously been awarded a baccalaureate degree who wish to apply as a Second Bachelor's Degree student (Post-Baccalaureate) are also considered a transfer student. College-level work means those courses that are applicable towards at least an associate degree and does not include remedial or developmental courses. Students who previously attended MSU and are returning after attending another institution should refer to the Former MSU Students section.

**Academic Eligibility**

Applicants will be considered for admission based on transferable credits from all regionally accredited colleges or universities previously attended. As determined by the Office of Admissions, a 2.0 (or C) cumulative transferable GPA (on a 4.0 scale) is required in order to be accepted for admission in good academic standing. Transfer students start with a new GPA upon enrolling at MSU.

Students who do not meet the 2.0 cumulative transferable GPA are still encouraged to apply for admissions and submit the necessary credentials. Montana State will examine each student's credentials on a case-by-case basis for admissibility. Some students who do not meet the requirements may be admitted on University Probation and will need to earn a 2.0 or higher GPA during the first term attended at MSU to be placed in good academic standing.

**Application Procedure**

Receipt of the following credentials in the Office of Admissions constitutes a complete application for admission. Requests to have final credentials sent to MSU must be initiated by the applicant. Requests should be made by contacting the registrar's office at the college, university, or agency previously attended. Credentials must be sent directly from each institution to the Office of Admissions. **Credentials received from the student are considered unofficial, working copies and will not be accepted as official documents.**
Application materials and fees will be retained for one year from the original application term. To apply for a semester other than the one originally intended, notify the Office of Admissions as soon as possible.

Be sure to submit the following items (if applicable):

1. **Admissions Application**: An application may be submitted on-line or printed out at: http://www.montana.edu/wwwcat/appopts.html. The application may also be obtained from the Office of Admissions.

2. **Application fee (nonrefundable)**: $36 online application or $30 paper application. Checks should be made payable to Montana State University. The application fee will not be waived, deferred, or refunded. The fee must be paid before the application for admission will be processed.

3. **Official college/university transcripts**: An official transcript must be sent directly to the Office of Admissions from each regionally accredited college or university attended. This academic information will be used to determine admission status as well as transfer credit. Applicants who are enrolled at a transfer school while applying to MSU will be considered for admission based on an incomplete official transcript showing all academic work completed and posted to date. A final official transcript must be received in the Office of Admissions by the 15th class day of the first term of attendance. Academic eligibility will be reviewed again upon receipt of that final transcript. For more information on how college/university courses will transfer to MSU, refer to the Evaluation of Transfer Credit section.

4. Transfer students follow the Undergraduate Catalog in effect at the time of initial enrollment at MSU. Transfer students from feeder institutions such as the community colleges in Montana and Wyoming as well as the four year colleges in Montana may elect to follow the MSU catalog that was in effect when they began their freshman year at the feeder institution.

5. **Advanced Placement (AP)**: Applicants who have completed an Advanced Placement Examination should request that the official scores be sent directly to the Office of Admissions. Scores of 3 or higher on an AP Exam will be granted college credit with a Pass grade for the equivalent courses. For more information on how AP courses will transfer to MSU, refer to the AP Course Equivalencies website.

6. **International Baccalaureate (IB)**: Applicants who have completed an International Baccalaureate Examination should request that the official scores be sent directly to the Office of Admissions. IB Exams with scores of 4 or higher (Higher Level only) will be granted college credit with a Pass grade for equivalent courses. For more information on how IB courses will transfer to MSU, refer to the IB Course Equivalencies website.

**International Undergraduate Students**

Students who are citizens of countries other than the United States and Canada are encouraged to apply to MSU as International first-time freshmen or transfer students. Those who have completed secondary school are considered freshmen; those who have completed an equivalent to 12 credits or more of post-secondary university-level course work after secondary graduation are considered transfer students.

**Academic Eligibility**

**Freshmen**

Freshmen students will be considered for admission on the basis of their secondary school record and their English proficiency. Applicants who meet a TOEFL score of 525 Paper/195 Computer/71 Internet, IELTS 6, or A.C.E. Language Institute Level 6 (available at MSU) and have a minimum cumulative grade-point average (GPA) of a 2.5 on a 4.0 scale will qualify for admission.
Transfer Students

Transfer students will be considered on the basis of their post-secondary education record and their English proficiency. Applicants who meet a TOEFL score of 525 Paper/195 Computer/71 Internet, IELTS 6, or A.C.E. Language Institute Level 6 (available at MSU) and have a minimum cumulative transferable grade-point average (GPA) of a 2.0 or C on a 4.0 scale will qualify for admission.

Application Procedures

All application materials must bear the official school seal and signature and be sent directly from the institution or agency to the Office of International Programs. Transcripts and test scores received from students are unofficial and not acceptable. To provide time for evaluation and for notice of acceptance to reach the applicant in a timely manner, the application and required credentials must be received by the Office of International Programs according to the following deadlines:

- Fall Semester - May 15
- Spring Semester - October 15
- Summer Session - March 1

Receipt of the following credentials in the Office of International Program constitutes a complete application for admission. Requests to have final credentials sent to MSU must be initiated by the applicant. To apply for a semester other than the one originally intended, notify the Office of International Programs as soon as possible.

Office of International Programs
PO Box 172260
400 Culbertson Hall
Bozeman, MT 59717 USA
Phone: +1-406-994-4031
Fax: +1-406-994-1619
Email: international@montana.edu

Be sure to submit the following items:

1. **International Undergraduate Application for Admissions**: A paper application can be downloaded and printed at: http://www.montana.edu/international/admissions/docs/InternationalApplication.pdf. An on-line application may be submitted at: https://apply.embark.com/ugrad/montanastate/.
2. **Application fee (nonrefundable)**: US$36 online application or US$30 paper application. The fee must be in U.S. currency. Checks should be made payable to Montana State University and must indicate the U.S. banking codes. The application fee will not be waived, deferred, or refunded. The fee must be paid before the application will be processed.
3. **English Language Proficiency**: An English TOEFL score of 525 Paper/195 Computer/71 Internet, or IELTS score 6, or completion of Level 6 at the A.C.E. Language Institute at MSU is required to qualify for admission. Only official score/grade reports sent directly from the language testing center will be accepted. Certificates of completion with official grade reports and the instructor's recommendation from alternative English as a Second Language programs may be considered. Those students who are citizens of countries where English is the native languages do not need
to submit proof of English language proficiency, unless English is not the student's native language.

4. **Evidence of Financial Support**: MSU requires the International Student Financial Certificate from students with non-immigrant visas. The Financial Certificate guarantees that the required minimum amount of money, in U.S. dollars, will be available to the student during the academic year. A bank statement is also required. Admission will not be considered until the Financial Certificate is completed, with a signed statement of support, and is on file in the Office of International Programs. The Financial Certificate is included with the paper application or it can be downloaded with the on-line application and submitted separately.

5. **Secondary school academic records**: Complete and official secondary school transcripts listing all courses and grades/marks earned is required of all students applying as first-time freshmen or those who have earned fewer than 12 college/university credits. The record must be sent directly from the secondary school to the Office of International Programs. Additional official certificates may be required to show completion of secondary school.

6. **College/university transcripts**: Official transcripts from each international and U.S. college/university attended are required. The transcript must be sent directly from each institution to the Office of International Programs and must list all courses taken and grades/marks earned.

7. **Translation of academic records**: An English translation must be received for all non-English academic credentials.

8. **Evaluation of foreign credentials**: MSU reserves the right to require a professional evaluation of non-U.S. academic credentials from applicants who have attended colleges/universities outside the United States and Canada (where English is not the language of instruction) unless MSU has a formal agreement with the postsecondary institution.

9. Submit required **immunization records** by logging onto the Student Health Service website and clicking on the "On-line Student Health" link. Students must submit proof of required immunizations prior to registration for classes. Questions should be referred to the MSU Student Health Service, +1-406-994-2311.

10. **Foreign Student Eligibility to Transfer Form**: This form must be submitted to the Office of International Programs by all international students transferring from a U.S. college or university.

**Notification of Admission**

Applicants are reviewed for admission when all required final and official credentials have been received at the Office of International Programs. Successful candidates will promptly be issued a letter of acceptance and an I-20 form necessary for obtaining an F-1 student visa. A packet of information regarding orientation, the registration process, and other important information will follow directly in a separate mailing.