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I. International F-1 Students

- A. An International Student is defined as one who has entered the United States on an F-1 visa and for whom an I-20 must be issued by the College for the purpose of attending St. Petersburg College. The student is admitted to the U.S. with a student visa and remains a citizen and resident of his/her home country. There are two classifications of International Students, and the required admissions documentation differs depending on the student's intent:
1. Students who enter the College with the intention of enrolling full-time to pursue an academic program of study to receive a degree.
 2. Students who enter the College with the intention of enrolling full-time in a language program at SPC (either English for Academic Purposes [EAP] or the Intensive English Program [IEP]).
- B. International Student applicants, regardless of program intent as described in Section A., who are applying for the Student F-1 Visa must complete the International Student Packet which includes the application for admission, the financial ability form with official bank statement (a Certified translated foreign bank statement is acceptable), and payment of the International Student application fee. The student must prove that sufficient funds are available for one full year which includes: matriculation and tuition fees, books, and supplies, personal expenses, off campus room and board, medical insurance, and dependent costs (if applicable) for a full academic year. Proof of medical insurance must be received after arrival in the U.S. and before initial registration into classes. Students who intend to have dependent(s) accompany them for whom an I-20 must be issued in order to apply for an F-2 Visa must provide all applicable documents to the Office of Admissions and Records. A dependent may be defined as a spouse or unmarried child

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under 21 years of age. Documents to be submitted for this purpose may include:

1. Marriage license
2. Birth certificate(s)
3. Immigration documents

Documents that are not in English must first be sent to a certified translator prior to submitting to SPC.

- C. International Students whose intent is to enroll full-time at SPC to pursue an academic program of study as delineated in Section A.1. of this Procedure must provide evidence of high school completion, as evidenced by sealed, evaluated transcripts from an approved source sent directly to the Office of Admissions and Records. A request for an official document evaluation of non-U.S. high school transcripts must be submitted to one of the approved National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) agencies. This shall be required before issuance of the I-20 to enter the U.S.
- D. International Students who begin their studies at SPC with the intent of pursuing only the Intensive English Program, but who later desire to pursue an academic program of study to earn a SPC degree, shall be required to submit evidence of high school completion, as outlined in Section C. of this Procedure, prior to being admitted to degree-seeking status at SPC.
- E. Prospective International Students who are already in the U.S. and are seeking to transfer their F-1 status from another U.S. institution must complete all SPC application requirements as delineated in Section B. of this Procedure. The prospective student shall submit to the school they are transferring from an SPC Clearance form and request the school to transfer the I-20 through the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS). An I-20 will be issued by International Student Services only after the SPC admission requirements have been met, depending on the student's stated intent and purpose for studying at SPC.

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- F. Prospective International Student applicants who desire to have transfer credits and/or earned degrees from previously attended postsecondary institutions posted to their SPC record should refer to SPC Procedure 4.06 pertaining to transfer credit policies. Students with international degrees certified by an NACES-approved credential evaluation agency of having met requirements for an Associate in Arts degree or higher from a regionally accredited U.S. institution shall be exempt from further general education requirements. The exception is that students with degrees from a non-English speaking country will be required to complete SPC's General Education Communication requirements.
- G. Final acceptance and issuance of the I-20 to International Student applicants will not be made until all of the following items have been received by the Office of Admissions and Records;
1. Completed application for admissions
 2. Payment of nonrefundable application fee, including international student fee
 3. Evidence of high school completion (depending on student intent)
 4. Financial Ability form with bank statements or bank letter
 5. Copies of applicable immigration documents

II. International Distance Students

Students who reside outside of the United States, who are foreign nationals in their resident country, may apply to SPC to enroll for online credit courses while remaining in their country. Such students shall pay the application fee, provide photo identification, and are limited to enroll in online courses only. Students in this category desiring to earn a degree or credential shall meet SPC general admission and registration eligibility requirements as delineated in Procedure 4.02. An International Distance Student who subsequently enters the U.S. after first enrolling in this status, and who desires to continue to enroll in online courses at SPC, must notify the Office of Admissions and Records as to his/her current visa status, purpose for entering the United States, and anticipated length of stay. During

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the period in which the student is physically residing in the U.S., SPC may suspend the student's ability to enroll in classes, depending on the type of visa by which the student has entered the U.S.

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