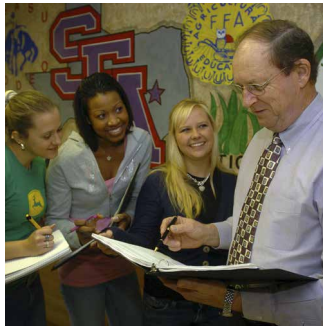


# STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

---

NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Your Education. Personalized.



# STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

---

## NACOGDOCHES, TEXAS



## Welcome to SFA

Ranked a Tier 1 Regional University by U.S. News & World Report, **Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA)** delivers quality education to over **120 international students** from 43 foreign countries. The university is recognized as a comprehensive institution with widely respected preparation programs, focusing on solid academic areas of study. Rigorous academic standards are maintained.

With around **13,000 students**, SFA's student-faculty ratio of 20:1 ensures that you receive personalized attention. More than 80 percent of professors hold the highest degree in their field.

Stephen F. Austin State University is **accredited** by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Schools and Colleges to award baccalaureate and other qualifications - SFA offers 83 undergraduate majors, 50 master's degrees, three doctoral degrees and more than 120 areas of study. The hands-on, real-world experience provided serves as a solid foundation for a successful career.

The award-winning Academic Assistance and Resource Center supports student achievement by providing free tutoring, study sessions and supplemental instruction.

SFA's beautiful 418-acre campus offers the perfect backdrop for walking, jogging, biking and other outdoor pursuits. Nacogdoches – where the university is located – is home to East Texas landmarks, quaint shops, dining opportunities and a variety of recreational facilities.

# Colleges and Academic Programs

With personalized attention, real-world experience and award-winning research projects, SFA prepares you for the career of your dreams through its various establishments:

## Nelson Rusche College of Business

The **Nelson Rusche College of Business** enrolls approximately 2,000 majors in its Gerald W. Schlieff School of Accountancy and four academic departments - Computer Science; Economics and Finance; General Business; and Management, Marketing and International Business. Three of SFA's top-15 undergraduate majors are in areas of business, and the college also offers master's degrees in business administration and public accountancy.



## James I. Perkins College of Education

The college is organized into four departments and one school: Elementary Education; Human Services; Kinesiology and Health Science; Secondary Education and Educational Leadership; and the School of Human Sciences. Its programs offer real-world knowledge, preparing students to be successful professionals.

**James I. Perkins College of Education** offers 27 degree programs and 45 educator certifications.



## College of Fine Arts

The **College of Fine Arts** offers degree programs in art, music and theatre. With its programs consistently being rated among the top-12 majors offered by the university, enrollment in the college is at an all-time high. The College of Fine Arts - home to the School of Art, School of Music and School of Theatre - offers comprehensive and superior visual and performing art experiences.





# Colleges and Academic Programs

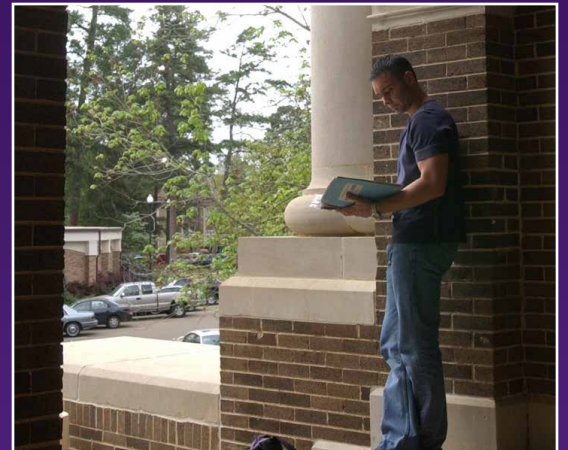
## Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture

Established in 1946, the **Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture** is one of the largest and most respected colleges of forestry and agriculture in the nation. You get to learn from classroom, field-based and distance-learning experiences that prepare you for numerous professional careers. The college offers courses in – forestry, agriculture, environmental science and spatial science.



## College of Liberal and Applied Arts

The College of Liberal and Applied Arts is home to the humanities and social science disciplines at SFA. The most diverse of SFA's colleges, the **College of Liberal and Applied Arts** houses nine academic units – Division of Communication and Contemporary Culture; School of Social Work; and the departments of english, government, history, military science, languages, cultures and communication, psychology, and social and cultural analysis.



## College of Sciences and Mathematics

In the **College of Sciences and Mathematics**, laboratories, research opportunities and clinical experiences help prepare students for stimulating careers within the STEM disciplines: science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Opportunities for graduates include medicine, dentistry, veterinarian medicine, pharmacy, nursing, teaching, industrial research, biomedical research and development, government agency assignment, technical services, and technical management.



# Colleges and Academic Programs

## School of Honors

The **Honors program** encourages students to work closely with professors and classmates. Honors students are among the brightest at SFA and benefit from early registration, unique scholarship opportunities, field trips and designated computer labs.



## Graduate School

With 50 master's and three doctoral degrees, **SFA's Graduate School** offers extensive and innovative graduate and professional programs of distinction.



## Research

- **SFA** offers numerous opportunities for **research**, expanding educational experiences for undergraduate and graduate students.
- To enhance instruction and keep abreast of latest developments in their fields, faculty members across campus engage actively in internally and externally funded projects and strive to include students in these activities. Funding for active projects accounts for more than \$30 million.
- In addition to opportunities for involvement in funded projects, undergraduate and graduate students participate in structured research and creative projects that are integrated into program curricula and faculty-led extracurricular projects.
- There are recognized centers and laboratories at SFA, which provide facilities and specialized research equipment required to enhance the learning experience.



# Admissions and Entry Requirements

Along with the completed **International Application for Admission**, applicants need to submit the following:

- \$50 application fee
- Official TOEFL score report issued directly by ETS or an IELTS score report demonstrating English proficiency

**Freshman applicants** must have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade-point average, and also submit:

- Official transcripts from all secondary schools attended, showing all courses taken and grades received
- Official transcript evaluations for all non-U.S. secondary schools attended
- Official ACT or SAT scores (if taken)
- Proof that you have received the **bacterial meningitis vaccination**.



**Graduate applicants** must also submit:

- official transcripts from all post-secondary schools attended, displaying all courses undertaken and grades received
- official transcript evaluations for all non-U.S. post-secondary schools attended
- three letters of recommendation
- personal goal statement
- official GRE (if required) issued by ETS
- official GMAT (if required)
- any additional academic department requirements

Admission decisions, regarding international graduate applicants, are made by the respective **SFA** academic departments, usually within two to four weeks.

If accepted, you will need to submit:

- original bank statement verifying funds of at least \$24,500 for undergraduates or \$21,200 for graduate students
- original Certification of Finances form



# Intensive English Language Program

The English Language Institute (ELI) provides non-credit intensive instruction in academic English to international students who want to pursue undergraduate and graduate degrees at Stephen F. Austin State University. ELI offers students curriculum and activities necessary to succeed in an American university, supportive student services, and quality instruction.

Students who successfully complete the ELI program may be granted admission into regular academic programs at SFA if other entrance requirements are met.

The focus of our program is academic English, but students develop conversational skills as well. In addition to the language skills required for academic success, ELI also prepares students culturally for life as a college student in the United States. ELI arranges outings to interesting cultural sites around the area. In coordination with the International Student Association, ELI encourages students to attend cultural events on campus, including dance nights, food festivals, and fashion shows.

Students enroll for a full 15-week term during either of the regular academic semesters - Fall (late-August through mid-December) or Spring (mid-January to early May). The full 10-week summer term begins in early-June and ends in mid-August.

Students who wish to be admitted to the English Language Institute must have a high school diploma or its equivalent. Please note a basic understanding of English and English alphabet is required. A completed application for admission must include:

- **Application for ELI.** *This application should be completed by students applying for ELI only. If you are applying as an academic student seeking conditional admission pending English proficiency, please submit the appropriate academic application*
- \$50 application fee
- A diploma or certificate from high school or highest level of education
- Original bank statement from you or your sponsor(s) verifying funds of at least \$16,100
- Original **Certification of Finances** completed by you and your sponsor(s)
- Proof that you have received the **bacterial meningitis vaccination.**



# Scholarships and Funding

SFA strives to provide affordable, high-quality education by maintaining reasonable educational costs. The OIP Scholarship for international students is a financial aid option.

## The OIP Scholarship

**The Office of International Programs (OIP) Scholarship** awards \$1,000 per year. Recipients are eligible for Texas resident tuition rates, which saves undergraduate students an average of \$4,000 each semester.

To be eligible for this scholarship, you must be an international student who has demonstrated financial need and academic achievement, and also satisfy at least two of the following requirements:

- Your native language is not English
- You have lived in a country other than the United States for a period of five years or more
- You possess foreign citizenship or dual citizenship, which is recognized by the particular country and not the United States
- Other scholarship and funding options

There are other sources of funding available to international students. The University Scholars program awards \$2,000/semester, the Vera Dugas Scholarship awards \$2,500/semester, and University Scholars receive \$3,000/year. The SFA Alumni Association also offers a variety of scholarships for which international students may apply. Please note that some of these do require that a student submit an SAT or ACT test score.

The Office of International Programs also offers a **Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG)** - a smaller state grant for undergraduate and graduate students with financial need.



“

*Stephen F. Austin State University was ranked a Tier 1 Regional University by U.S. News & World Report.*

”



# Student Services



*The AARC's programs have been recognized for excellence by the National Association for Developmental Education.*



Stephen F. Austin State University (SFA) is committed to providing student support services that enhance the development and ensure the safety of all students. SFA provides comprehensive resources to help students succeed academically, engage fully in the curriculum, and meet their personal and academic goals.

**Office of International Programs** - The Office of International Programs (OIP) provides a wide range of support to all international students. Office staff members assist students from the beginning of the application process, to pick up at the airport and arrival on campus and beyond. Each semester, the office hosts a two-day orientation program for students to help familiarize them with campus, the resources available to them, and all of the details of getting set up for their academic life at SFA (student IDs, bank accounts, housing issues, etc.).

The office also coordinates with the International Student Association to plan on-campus events such as food festivals and fashion shows, as well as trips outside of the area for cultural events, such as the Houston International Festival. OIP hosts several events throughout the semester to bring international students together with the campus community to exchange ideas, expand awareness of international issues and to help internationalize the campus (coffee hours, global gateway student presentations, international friendship program).

**Academic Support** - **The Academic Assistance and Resource Center** (AARC), located on the first floor of Steen Library, is a major contributor to student success and support for faculty. AARC hires more than 150 tutors per year and trains tutors in interpersonal communication, study skills, time management, and independent learning strategies. The AARC works closely with ELL to provide group conversation and tutoring hours for ELL students. AARC tutors have also been actively involved in providing ELL students with cultural outings around town, such as going to art galleries, bowling, etc.



*SFA has committed approximately \$173 million in recent years to improve the campus, and additional improvements valued at \$44 million are currently under way.*



# Student Services

**Health, Safety and Wellness** - SFA provides many services to assist students in maintaining their personal health, safety and wellness. The University Health Services clinic is an outpatient medical facility offering preventive and medical services to all currently enrolled students. It is staffed by licensed doctors, nurses, laboratory personnel, and support staff. Most services are available to students without charge.

**Counseling Services** are provided to assist students in achieving educational and personal goals that contribute to their development. These services are free and confidential. In addition, Counseling Services offers training to students and student groups that encourage students to be mindful of the wellness needs of others, promote responsible behavior with regard to alcohol and other drugs, and encourage choices that promote physical and mental health.



**Campus Recreation** promotes a wellness-focused environment which promotes healthy lifestyle choices, social interaction, and enhances the total student experience through educational experiences, activity participation, student development-oriented opportunities, and excellent support services including; aquatic programs, outdoor pursuits, intramural sports and sport clubs as well as fitness programs. The program is housed in a state-of-the-art recreation center with a climbing wall, lazy river and the latest fitness equipment.

**Housing - Residential Facilities** - International students, especially those enrolled in ELL are encouraged to live in on-campus facilities. All residence halls at SFA are located on the main campus in Nacogdoches. Each residence hall has a live-in hall director that maintains the community environment within the hall, coordinates building services including safety and security, handles discipline issues, and coordinates residence life programs and activities. 24/7 emergency maintenance coverage is provided for each hall as well. Handicap accessible units are available in some residence halls.

The **SFA Residence Life Department** staff works diligently to provide a healthy, clean, safe and secure environment for our residential students. With approximately 5,000 on-campus students each semester, security is the highest priority. In order to provide the safest possible environment for residents, the department employs applicable technological solutions (emergency call stations outside each hall, card key access control system, and video surveillance).

# Campus Life

Getting involved in extracurricular activities is a great way to enhance your skills, meet new people and forge lasting relationships. The hub of activities on the SFA campus can be found at Student Affairs, which includes the Student Activities office, Student Organizations and Leadership Programs, Spirit and Orientation Programs, and much more.

SFA's International Student Association (ISA) sponsors events and activities designed to foster understanding among students from different nations, cultivating an appreciation for diverse cultural, religious and political philosophies. Events and activities hosted by the ISA include International Education Week, International Fashion Show, food festivals, movie and game nights, trips to locations within Texas, and informal gatherings through the year.

The **First Year Experience Program (FYE)** provides first year students with a comprehensive university experience. It includes academic and non-academic support services, enabling successful transition into university life.

The newly renovated **Baker Patillo Student Center** is located on the main campus. The Student Center is the hub of on-campus activities, including dining, meetings/conferences, banking, mail service, as well as a host of cultural, social and recreational programs.

The **Involvement Center** in the Student Center is a one-stop location for information about involvement on campus.

The Involvement Center also matches involved students with students seeking involvement to find opportunities that meet the interests and goals of both groups. Students can connect to more than 200 student organizations including the International Student Association and a number of country or region-focused student groups.

SFA's award-winning **Student Activities Association** provides a diverse and engaging slate of events. With weekly movies in a state-of-the-art cinema and more than 150 student-led programs each year, Student Activities Association provides a valuable service to SFA students.



“

*The SFA chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma, an international business honor society, recently was recognized as the top chapter in the nation.*

”



# Our Students



*SFA has a student-faculty ratio of 20:1 and an average class size of 26.*



**Ricka**

**Sierra Leone - Master's in Social Work**

"The warmth demonstrated by the faculty and staff and their ever-approachable, helping attitude help me as a student to achieve my educational goals here at SFA. Nacogdoches community (SFA) is like being home away from home."



**Kristine**

**Norway - MS in Human Sciences**

"My time at SFA has been a really great experience. The small town, the great professors and the culture at SFA has assured me that I made the right choice!"



**Swarnali**

**India - MS in Biotechnology**

"This is an exciting time to join SFA. My favorite things here are vibrant student life on campus, graduate programs, football weekends, and a number of available scholarships. The faculty members are also very helpful and dedicated. They go out of their way to help students and find opportunities for them from the very beginning."

# CONTACT SFA

Office of International Programs  
Stephen F. Austin State University  
P.O. Box 6152, SFA Station  
Nacogdoches, TX 75962

Phone: 936.468.6631

Fax: 936.468.7215

[international@sfasu.edu](mailto:international@sfasu.edu)



[www.sfasu.edu/oip](http://www.sfasu.edu/oip)