



**ADMISSION AND
REGISTRATION**

ADMISSION

Eligibility

Admission to Imperial Valley College is governed by the laws of the State and such supplementary regulations as prescribed by the Board of Trustees. Students who register for eight or more units of work in a given semester or upon an accumulation of eight or more units, are requested to (1) ensure that an official transcript of all work taken in high school and/or institutions of higher education are on file in the Registration Office; and (2) complete the college assessment tests (unless they have completed regular college courses in both English and mathematics).

All students are admitted under one of the following classifications:

1. High school graduates or equivalent certificates (General Educational Development or California High School Proficiency Examination).
2. Non-graduates of high school who are eighteen years of age and no longer enrolled in high school.
3. High school students who are recommended by the high school principal for one to nine units of work. A Special Student Application for Concurrent Enrollment must be submitted.
4. College transfers who submit official transcripts may be granted advanced standing.
5. International students on F-1 student visas may be admitted. The International Student Application Packet must be completed and submitted to the Admissions and Records Office by June 1 for fall semester admission, and November 1 for spring semester. Students must have a local sponsor and provide documentation that sufficient funding is available for at least one year of tuition and fees as well as living expenses.

Application

Students who are enrolling in Imperial Valley College for the first time and those who are former students returning after an absence of a semester or more (not including summer) must submit an application for admission online. The Online Application may be found by logging into the IVC website: www.imperial.edu. Click on the "Apply Now" box located on the top right corner of the home page.

Applications for admission will be processed beginning on the following dates:

Summer/Fall: March 15

Spring: October 15

Attendance of Local High School Students

Local high school students attending the college are restricted to a spectator's role in college student activities, and extracurricular participation is to be confined to the high school. Counseling is available at the college, but every effort will be made to leave this responsibility to the high school counseling staffs.

Students must attend high school for the minimum school day.

The attendance of a student at a community college as a special student pursuant to this section shall be credited to the district maintaining the community college for the purposes of allowances and apportionments from the State School Fund and the student shall receive credit for community college courses completed, in the same manner as if a regularly enrolled community college student. (E.C. 76001)

Admission of Special Students in Grades 11-12

A principal of a high school may recommend a high school student as a special part-time student pursuant to rules and regulations which may be adopted by the governing board of the district maintaining the high school. (Refer to the section on "Admission" in this catalog for more information.)

Each semester, prior to being allowed to register, students who wish to attend IVC as special part-time college students must complete and submit the "Special Student in Grades 11-12" application (available online). Application deadlines for each term are noted on the application. Special Students must also meet all course prerequisites and assessment tests must be completed for subjects such as math and English.

Residency

Under the Education Code, the general rule is that a student must pay nonresident tuition unless the student can qualify as a resident of California or meet the requirements of certain special provisions. Since the concept of residence involves subjective intent, this catalog cannot anticipate every question that will arise in connection with determining whether such intent exists.

Each person enrolled in or applying for admission to a California Community College is, for the purposes of admission and tuition, classified as a "resident" or a "nonresident". Students classified as a "resident" will be admitted without payment of nonresident tuition. Students classified as "nonresident" will be required to pay tuition in an amount set by the Governing Board.

"Resident students" are those who have resided within California for at least one year prior to the residence determination date and have met the residency standards stipulated in Title 5 of the California Administrative Code. The "residence determination date" is the day immediately preceding the opening day of instruction each semester or summer session during which the student proposes to attend college in the Imperial Community College District.

"Nonresident students" are those who have not established California residency status in the state for at least one year prior to the residence determination date or those who hold certain non-immigrant visas which preclude them from establishing residency. Foreign students admitted to the United States under student visas are classified as nonresidents.

The Admissions and Records Office determines the residency status of all new and former students for tuition purposes, using responses provided in the college application for admission and, if necessary, other evidence furnished by the student.

Note: *Students should bring any and all immigration documents—including visas, passports, and I-688 information—to the Admissions and Records Office at the time they apply to assist in determining their residency status.*

Exemptions:

The California Education Code and provisions in state law allow certain nonresidents the opportunity to pay in-state tuition. Eligibility criteria are noted below.

Students who believe they are eligible for an exemption based on any one of the following criteria should consult the Admissions and Records Office when they apply.

1. Students who are members of the armed forces of the United States who are stationed in this state on active duty, except those assigned to California for educational purposes.
2. Spouses and dependents (natural or adopted children or stepchildren) of active members of the armed forces.
3. Parents who are federal civil service employees and have moved to California as a result of a military realignment action that involves the relocation of at least 100 employees. This exemption also applies to the natural or adopted children or stepchildren of such employees.
4. Students who have completed at least three years of high school in California and have graduated from a California high school. Students must fill out and submit the "AB 540 Affidavit for Exemption" for consideration.
5. Students who live in Yuma, Arizona are eligible for an exemption (Colorado River Compact). Students need to complete a Student Petition to request this exemption.

Establishing Residency

Legal residency may be established by an adult who is physically present in the state and who, at the same time, intends to make California his or her permanent home. The prospective resident must take steps at least one year and one day prior to the residence determination date to show an intent to make California a permanent home and, concurrently, relinquish legal residency in the state of his or her prior home. There are various steps that one may take to demonstrate the intent to become a California resident. The Admissions and Records Office will assist any student who wishes to establish residency, providing recommendations for each individual case.

For general purposes, the following are some, but not the only ways to show one has taken the necessary steps toward becoming a California resident:

1. Registered to vote and voted in elections in California.
2. Filed resident California state income tax forms.
3. Owned and resided in a residential property or consistently occupied or rented an apartment on a lease basis.
4. Maintained licensing from California for professional practice.
5. Maintained California vehicle registration and driver's license.
6. Maintained active savings and checking accounts in California banks.
7. Maintained permanent military address and home of record in California, if in the military service.

Note: *No single item listed above may establish a case for California residency. It is up to the applicant to offer as many documents as possible to prove validity of the change to California resident.*

Reclassification to Resident Status

The request for reclassification to resident status must be initiated by the student. Students who are interested in changing their classification should consult the Admissions and Records Office. Evidence of presence in and intent to reside in California—for at least one year and one day prior to a coming semester's start date is required for consideration of a change in status and must be submitted for a residency review. Students should allow up to ten working days after submitting their documents for a decision.

Residency reclassification must be completed no later than the first two weeks of the semester. Since some petitions require additional documentation to prove a residency case, students should be sure to submit reclassification requests early in an academic term.



International Students

Imperial Valley College defines an “international student” as a student attending college full time while on an F-1 visa. Applications for admission in IVC’s International Student Program are available online at www.imperial.edu, on the Admissions and Records website under “Forms.” Prospective students may contact the Admissions and Records Office by calling (760) 355-6101 or by visiting the college website: www.imperial.edu.

All international students must maintain full-time enrollment (12 or more units each semester) and demonstrate academic progress in order to maintain their F-1 visa status. Students with other types of visas (not F-1) may apply and enroll online through the Admissions and Records Office at www.imperial.edu.

Other requirements for admission include the following:

1. International Student Application—paper application.
2. Application for admission to Imperial Valley College – online.
3. An official affidavit of support and current bank certification or bank statement that prove the student has sufficient financial support to pay tuition and living expenses to study at Imperial Valley College.
4. Local Sponsor.
5. Health insurance coverage. Imperial Valley Community College District require that all international students have a valid health insurance plan that provides coverage during their course of study. Students must have health insurance coverage in order to enroll in classes. Health insurance information is available in the Admissions and Records Office.
6. A transfer clearance form completed by the institution the student presently attends that verifies his or her eligibility to transfer to IVC (when applicable).
7. Students under 18 years of age must be living with a legal guardian as stated in the admission requirements.

Upon acceptance, students will be administered assessment testing. During the assessment session, students are given tests in writing, mathematics, and/or English as a Second Language to determine their skill levels in these areas. Based on the results of English proficiency, students will be advised as to the recommended level of enrollment in English, math, and other courses. Students will receive their results from their assessment session immediately following the assessment.

REGISTRATION

Open Enrollment Policy

In conformity with the provisions of Title 5 of the California Administrative Code, the governing Board of the Imperial Community College District affirms a policy of open enrollment. Imperial Valley College does not discriminate in the admission nor in the offering of programs and activities because of ethnic group identification, national origin, religion, age, gender, race, color, medical condition, Vietnam era status, ancestry, sexual identification, marital status, or physical or mental disability, or because he or she is perceived to have one or more of those characteristics.

New Students and Returning Students

New students are those who have never enrolled in classes at Imperial Valley College.

Returning students are those who have previously attended either Imperial Valley College but have been absent from the college for a semester or more, excluding summer.

Returning students are given a registration date and time for Priority Registration each semester.

Returning students registration times are based on the total units completed along with other factors (i.e., Athlete, EOPS, Veteran, Disabled Students Program, etc.).

New students are given a date and time and are the last group to participate in registration.

Continuing Students

Continuing students are those who have been registered during the immediately preceding semester and have received at least one letter grade or “W.” Those who were registered during the semester but did not complete a course with a letter grade or “W” will have forfeited their continuing student status.

Student Portal and WebSTAR

Student Portal is the IVC web portal that enables students to view their registration times. WebSTAR enables students to view their class schedules, grades, and academic history; add or drop classes; and access a variety of useful resources. Students need an ID number and a Personal Identification Number (PIN) to use the Student Portal. For more information about the Student Portal, please refer to the IVC website: www.imperial.edu.

Maintaining Student Contact Information

It is important for students to maintain current contact information, including the phone number and address in their college record. An address and phone number may be updated through the student’s their WebSTAR account under “My Information” or through the Admissions and Records Office, located in the Administration Building. Mail returned from the U.S. Postal Service with a new forwarding address will be used as the basis for updating a student record.