

# UAM

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SERVICES

## Student Guide



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UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO

# Welcome!

UAM is excited that you have chosen our campus to help guide you through your scholastic endeavors. This brochure was designed to provide an international student with the necessary information that will aid with regulatory compliance obligations for both the federal government and the University of Arkansas at Monticello.

## UAM MISSION STATEMENT

The University of Arkansas at Monticello shares with all universities the commitment to search for truth and understanding through scholastic endeavors. The University seeks to enhance and share knowledge, to preserve and promote the intellectual content of society, and to educate people for critical thought. The University provides learning experiences which enable students to synthesize knowledge communicate effectively, use knowledge and technology with intelligence and responsibility, and act creatively within their own and other cultures.

## PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

### UAM ADMISSIONS

You should first make sure that you have contacted the Office of Admissions at UAM to request the require information that is needed for enrollment. UAM is SEVIS approved and authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant students on “F-1” or “M-1” student visas. To be fully admitted to the University, all supporting documentation must be received prior to the beginning of the semester of registration. For international admissions to be complete, it is suggested that students begin the process approximately three months prior to the initial semester.



## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Submit a completed application for admission. You may request an application by contacting the Office of Admissions or by visiting [www.uamont.edu](http://www.uamont.edu). Contact Information:

### OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS

UAM Box 3600  
Monticello, AR 71656

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Toll-Free: (800) 844-1826  
Fax: (870) 460-192

[www.uamont.edu](http://www.uamont.edu)  
[whitingm@uamont.edu](mailto:whitingm@uamont.edu)

- 2 Submit official college entrance exam score (ACT/SAT). Visit the testing website to find out dates and locations at [www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org) or [www.ets.org](http://www.ets.org).

- 3 Submit certified copies of all academic records. The applicant’s academic background must be at least equivalent to the U.S high school graduation requirements as determined by the University. All documents submitted must be originals, or certified copies of the original documents, and must be translated into the English language.

- 4 If the applicant’s native language is other than English, an official report of the score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) must be submitted directly from the Educational Testing Service. For undergraduate applicants the required scores are 500 for the paper-based test, 173 for the computer-based test, and 61 for the internet-based test. For graduate applicants the required scores are 550 for the paper-based test, 213 for the computer-based test, and 80 for the internet based test. Any alternative test must be approved by the campus international officer.

**5** The applicant must submit an official statement from a financial institution certifying that the applicant has sufficient funds that will cover the cost of attending UAM for at least one academic year. Please request current cost estimates. An additional financial statement is required on a yearly basis.

**LOCAL BANKS:**

- Commercial Bank (870)367-6221
- Parkway Bank (870)367-1935
- Simmons First Bank (870)367-5334
- Union Bank (870)460-6400

**6** An international applicant must purchase health insurance that can be used in the United States and present evidence before enrollment. Proof of two MMR injections and a current TB skin test are required for admission. Other immunization requirements may also be requested.

**7** The student must complete the required I-901 application and pay the fee to initiate the international process. The INS Form I-20A, "Certificate of Eligibility for Non-Immigrant Student Status," will be issued only after eligibility for admission has been established. A minimum of three months prior to the beginning of classes may be necessary to complete the admissions process.



**8** International students who are seeking admission as transfers from another college or university in the U.S must be SEVIS eligible according to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Transfer students must be in good standing at the institution from which they are transferring and must have a minimum grade point average of 2.00 (based on a 4.00 scale).

**9** It is the responsibility of the international student to become familiar with the regulations of the Department of Homeland Security and assume responsibility for complying with these regulations. It is the University's intent to follow all regulations required by the DHS. For further information visit [www.ice.gov](http://www.ice.gov). Upon arrival, all international students must meet with the campus International officer to review comprehensive guidelines. Students will be held responsible for adherence to these guidelines.

**TO PAY BY MAIL**

- Get a Form I-901 "Fee Remittance for Certain F, J and M Nonimmigrant."
- Download the form from <http://www.FMJFEE.com> or ask for the form by phone at 1-800-870-3676.
- Complete the Form I-901. Be sure to write your name exactly as it appears on your I-20 form.
- Prepare a check or an international money order (drawn on US banks only) in the amount of \$200 USD, made payable to "The Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement."
- Mail the completed I-901 and payment to the address listed on the Form I-901.
- A Form I-797 receipt confirmation notice should be mailed within 3 days of processing the fee. Be sure to make copies of this receipt notice, and keep it with your other important immigration documents.

**TO PAY ONLINE**

1. Find the Form I-901 at <http://www.FMJfee.com>.
2. Complete the form online and supply the necessary VISA, MasterCard or American Express information.

## CHECK LIST BEFORE DEPARTING FOR UAM

- Confirm that your passport and visa are valid for entry into the United States.
- Double check to see that your visa accurately reflects your correct visa classification.
- When you receive your nonimmigrant visa at a U.S. Embassy or consulate, the consular officer will seal your immigration documents in an envelope and attach it to your passport. You should not open this envelope! The Customs and Border Protection Officer at the U.S port of entry will open the envelope.

### HELPFUL HINT

When traveling you should carry some specific documents with you. Do not check them in your baggage. If your baggage is lost or delayed, you will not be able to show the documents to the Customs and Border Protection officer and, as a result, may not be able to enter the United States.

## DOCUMENTS TO CARRY ON YOUR PERSON:

- Passport with Visa
- SEVIS Forms: I-20 and I-901
- Evidence of financial resources
- One change of clothing
- Small notebook and pen for use along the way

## PACKING LIST:

- Shoes (Arkansas has both very hot and very cold weather.)
- Appropriate daily clothing
- Socks and undergarments
- Pajamas or nightgown and bathrobe/dressing gown
- At least one nice/formal outfit for attending special functions
- Linens Clothes
- Blanket and Sheets
- Pillow
- Towels and washcloths

### TOILETRIES

- Personal preference of soap
- Lotion
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste and toothbrush
- Deodorant
- Other personal hygiene items



**NOTES**



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