

6Hx19-6.25 INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The purpose of this Board Rule is to establish Board policy regarding admissions of International Students.

The credentials of an applicant for admission to Pasco-Hernando State College (PHSC) from a foreign country are evaluated in accordance with the general regulations governing admission and acceptance of transfer credit. International applicants must be admitted both to the College and to a degree program before an Immigration I-20 form will be released.

1. In order to be admitted to PHSC, non-immigrant (F visa or M visa) students also must formally declare their intent to enter an Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, or an Associate in Applied Science degree program and must be eligible for admission to that program. The student must submit official transcripts indicating secondary school graduation or successful completion of U.S. General Education Development (GED) Test. High School transcripts from institutions outside the United States must be accompanied by a written evaluation of the student's high school documents from an external evaluation agency as recognized by the College.

For those applicants seeking transfer credit, official transcripts must be submitted from all postsecondary institutions attended. All documents must include an original or certified copy and a certified English translation if the document is written in a language other than English. Transcripts from international institutions will be reviewed for credit only if accompanied by a course-by-course written evaluation of the transcript from an external evaluation agency as recognized by the College. These evaluations must be supplied at the applicant's expense.

2. Prior to admission, non-immigrant (F visa or M visa) students must submit evidence of proficiency in English through one of the following means:
 - a. citizenship in a country in which English is the native language, or:
 - b. graduation from a U.S. high school, or
 - c. completion of a U.S. GED in English, or:
 - d. a minimum score of 523 (paper-based), 193 (computer-based) or 69 (internet-based) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).
 - e. a minimum score of 6 on the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or
 - f. successfully completed an Intensive English Language program from one of the ELS Language Centers at Level 9; or
 - g. successfully completed an associate degree or higher from a U.S. regionally

accredited college or university.

3. Non-immigrant (F visa or M visa) students must have sufficient funds available to cover any expenses that may be incurred. Certification that there are available funds to cover all expenses must be received by the Admissions and Student Records Office prior to admission, and before an I-20 form will be released.

PHSC does not provide, supervise, or recommend student housing. Students should arrive several weeks in advance of enrollment to arrange for their own housing and transportation.

Non-immigrant (F visa or M visa) students must submit proof of health/accident insurance prior to admission. The insurance coverage must be valid for a minimum of one year and include coverage of the student while in the U.S. The documentation provided as proof must indicate effective and expiration dates. This information must be updated with the Admissions and Student Records Office prior to the beginning of each academic year.

4. Non-immigrant (F visa or M visa) students are required by U.S. Immigration regulations to be enrolled full-time (at least 12 semester hours) for two semesters each academic year, and must meet the standards of progress applicable to all students. Those international students holding a valid visa type other than "F" or "M" who wish to enroll for a limited number of courses must secure the approval of the Director of Admissions and Student Records before enrollment.
5. Continued enrollment at PHSC is contingent upon maintenance of immigration status as defined by Federal and State laws and rules established by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Appropriate visa status must be documented at the time of admission and will be monitored throughout enrollment at the College. Students not meeting the requirements of this rule may be restricted from registration.
6. Enrollment of non-immigrant students holding an "F" or "M" visa will be monitored by College Admissions and Student Records staff for enrollment under this rule. Those who fail to meet the requirements of this rule, either by not enrolling or by enrolling in an insufficient number of semester hours, will be reported to the USCIS following the drop date of the term.

Rule Adopted: 9/15/75; 1/16/78; 11/19/79; 6/23/86; *4/28/92; 6/16/92; 11/14/95; 2/18/02; 2/17/03; 11/18/03; 1/20/09; 11/20/18

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Administratively Reviewed – No Recommended Changes: 7/9/25

Legal Authority:

General Authority: FS 1001.64; 1001.65

Other References: SBE 6A-14.0262 (8)

Law Implemented: Florida Statutes: 1001.64(1)(2)(4)(8)(43)(44);
1001.65(1)(4)(16)(24); 1009.21

Proposer: Eric Hall, President

*Emergency Adoption