General Undergraduate Admission Requirements

The University of Alabama employs a competitive freshman admission process that includes reviewing and evaluating each application on an individual basis for an applicant’s abilities as a scholar. Decisions about the potential for a student’s academic success are based on ACT and/or SAT performance, high-school grade point average and high-school course schedule. The writing section of either the ACT or SAT is required. Applicants for freshman admission must submit official copies of their high-school transcripts. Transfer applicants must submit official transcripts of all college-level work attempted. Currently, there is a $40.00 nonrefundable application fee for freshman and transfer students. If admission is denied, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions may suggest alternative ways to meet admission criteria at a later time.

Applications for admission are accepted as early as one year prior to the anticipated date of enrollment. After an evaluation of the applicant’s credentials, admission is granted into various categories, depending on the strength of the applicant’s academic background. Once admitted, a student may enroll in courses for their admitted term and must submit a final transcript. For this reason, prospective students should ensure that their application credentials are submitted to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions as early as possible. Also, any student whose first language is not English will be required to provide proof of language proficiency.

An Immunization Form, to include proof of current measles (MMR) and meningitis vaccinations and a negative TB skin test, must be completed by a License Health Care Professional and submitted prior to enrollment for classes. The immunization form can be downloaded from shc.ua.edu/immunization-policy.

More specific requirements for freshman, undergraduate transfer, transient, special or international student admission appear in the sections that follow. Some University of Alabama academic divisions may have different policies or requirements regarding admission; see the appropriate division’s section of this catalog for details.

Freshman Admission

Freshman Orientation and Registration

An orientation/registration program (Bama Bound) is provided for all new freshman students to assist with the transition to college. Information about orientation and registration is sent to admitted students.

For all new undergraduate students, initial math placement will be based on ACT or SAT math score or previous college mathematics credit. If a student does not have one of these or wishes to try and improve his/her placement, he/she may take the online math assessment. Foreign language placement is determined by several factors. These factors include the following: the number of high-school units complete; language placement examination scores; or, for those with native or heritage competency, faculty evaluation. Students with more than two high school units of French, German, Spanish, or Latin should take a placement examination by logging in to their mybama account, under Academic tab, in the box titled Admissions, look for “Foreign language assessment.” All assessments should be completed one week prior to Bama Bound.

Each orientation session gives students the opportunity to learn about the University, as well as academic programs and services offered to students. Students also enroll in classes for their first term at the University. Several orientation sessions are provided each year. For more information, visit orientation.ua.edu.

Preparation for College-level Work

The University of Alabama Core Curriculum, required of all graduates, provides the foundation of every undergraduate degree program at the University. In addition to providing a solid understanding of the subjects covered, the core curriculum acquaints students with the ways knowledge is created.

The core curriculum includes academic courses in writing, humanities, fine arts, social sciences, natural sciences (including laboratory experience) and mathematics; it also requires knowledge of a language other than English. To prepare for the core curriculum, applicants are encouraged to take maximum advantage of their high-school experiences by accumulating as many academic units as is practical.

Minimum Requirements for Admission

In terms of educational preparation, the college preparatory curriculum minimum unit requirements for regular admissions are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4 units</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics (1)</td>
<td>3 units, beginning with algebra I, algebra II, and one unit of either geometry, trigonometry or calculus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies (1)</td>
<td>4 units, including world history or comparable course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Science (1)</td>
<td>3 units, including 2 units with a laboratory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Foreign Language 1 unit
Other academic courses 5 units (courses recommended are in fine arts or computer literacy, with additional courses in mathematics, science and foreign language)

The Advanced Academic Diploma awarded by Alabama high schools meets all University of Alabama course requirements. The Credit Based diploma awarded by Alabama high schools is accepted; however, students must have the preparatory curriculum minimum requirements as listed.

The University of Alabama employs a competitive admission process that includes reviewing and evaluating each application on an individual basis for an applicant’s abilities as a student and a scholar. Decisions about the potential for a student’s success at UA are based on ACT and/or SAT performance, high-school grade point average and high-school course schedule. The writing section of either the ACT or SAT is required.

The course/unit requirement also applies to transfer students who have completed fewer than 24 semester hours or 36 quarter hours of college-level courses.

Home-Schooled Students

The University of Alabama welcomes applications from students who are schooled in the home. Home-schooled applicants should meet the following requirements for admission:

1. Home-schooled applicants should meet the ACT/SAT requirement, including the writing section, as well as the grade point average (GPA) requirement and the college preparatory curriculum minimum unit requirements, if they present certified transcripts at the completion of their programs. Refer to the ‘Freshman Admissions’ tab and review Preparation for College-level Work and Minimum Requirements for Admission.

2. Students who do not present certified transcripts must take the GED and meet the admission requirements as outlined in The University of Alabama GED Admission Policy. See the ‘Non-graduates of High School’ section under the ‘Special Programs’ tab.

Special Programs

Early Admission

Students who have exceptionally high grades (B+ or higher grade point average) and at least a 28 ACT or a 1250 SAT (math and critical reading only) and who have strong endorsements from their high school principal, guidance counselor, and parents or legal guardians may be considered for admission without completing their senior year of high school.

Concurrent Enrollment

Students who meet the necessary requirements may attend The University of Alabama while still in high school. Students in area high schools may enroll as concurrent high school students/University freshmen. Typical students admitted to this program have a ‘B+’ grade point average, at least a 26 ACT or 1170 SAT (math and critical reading only) and the recommendation of their high school principal or guidance counselor and parents or legal guardians. Students take coursework in areas for which they have adequate preparation and the approval of their principal and/or counselor.

Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit Agreement

The University of Alabama participates in dual enrollment/dual credit programs with local boards of secondary education. Through these programs, certain high school students are allowed to enroll in college-level courses in order to earn credits that apply to both undergraduate degrees and high school diplomas. Students are eligible under the following conditions:

1. The student must be in grade 11 or 12 or have an exception granted by UA based on the written recommendation of the student’s principal and the local superintendent of education and in accordance with Alabama administrative code regarding gifted and talented students.

2. The student must have a ‘B+’ average, as defined by local board policy, in completed high-school courses.

3. The student must meet the entrance requirements established by UA.

Students who are currently in high school and have concurrent college credit, or dual enrollment or concurrent college credit, are not considered transfer students. Students must have one official transcript sent to the Office of the University Registrar directly from each college or university previously attended.
Non-graduates of High School

Admission may be granted to non-graduates of high school who are 18 years of age and have been out of high school for a minimum of one year. Applicants must score at least 510 on the General Educational Development (GED) Test and submit acceptable ACT or SAT scores. Applicants 23 years of age and older are required to score at least 510 on the GED test. In addition, they may be required to submit ACT or SAT scores for advising purposes.

Undergraduate Transfer Admission

Applicants who have attended other colleges or universities are considered transfer students, regardless of the period of enrollment or amount of credit earned. Students who are currently in high school and have dual enrollment or concurrent college credit are not considered transfer students. Students seeking to transfer to The University of Alabama must meet the following requirements:

- Students must have one official transcript sent directly to the Office of the University Registrar from each college or university previously attended. Fixed transcripts are not considered official transcripts.
- Students who have attempted fewer than 24 semester hours (or 36 quarter hours) of collegiate work must also have official copies of their ACT or SAT scores and final high-school transcript submitted directly to the Office of Undergraduate Admissions.
- An average of C (2.0 on a 4.0 scale) or higher for all college-level work attempted is required for admission. College-level work does not include vocational, technical or remedial/developmental course work. Some divisions may set slightly higher admissions standards. Students must be able to return to the last collegiate institution they attended.

Transferring from Two-year Colleges in Alabama

Students transferring from two-year colleges in the Alabama College System may contract with The University of Alabama under STARS (Statewide Articulation Reporting System). The STARS program will guarantee the transfer and applicability of the two-year college credit under the following restrictions:

- This agreement will be honored for a period of four years from the date of the agreement. The student will be required to satisfy the requirements for graduation as described in the undergraduate catalog in effect at the time of execution of this agreement. However, UA may change such requirements if the student is given a reasonable opportunity to comply with the changed requirements. The student may choose to comply with the requirements in effect at the time of transfer.
- Under this agreement, the student must be officially admitted and enrolled at UA immediately following his or her tenure at the two-year college at which the contract was initiated. Should the student enroll in another post-secondary institution during the interim, this agreement is void.

This agreement is subject to termination should changes in UA requirements be initiated by any agency outside University control. Such agencies include, but are not limited to, the State Department of Education, ACHE, SACS, NCATE, CLN, AACSB, ABET and other accrediting agencies.

Conversion of Credits

The University of Alabama is on the semester system. Credits earned as quarter hours will be evaluated as semester hours. One quarter hour is equal to two-thirds of one semester hour; for example, a five-quarter-hours course equals three and one-third semester hours. However, when a student is seeking to transfer credit that will be applied toward degree requirements, final authority for evaluating that credit rests with the academic division, which may use a different formula.

Transfer Student Orientation and Registration

Attendance at an orientation/registration session (Bama Bound) is required of each newly admitted transfer student. Considerable assistance is available at each session, and the groups are kept small to encourage individual attention. For more information, visit orientation.ua.edu.

Distance Learning students are not required to attend orientation/registration. Distance Learning students should contact Academic Outreach at bamabyn@distance.ua.edu.

Transfers within the University

Procedures governing transfers between academic divisions of the University are administered by the Office of the University Registrar. For further information, please refer to the section ‘Academic Records and General Academic Policies’ section of this catalog.
The University of Alabama requires that all freshman international students perform above the average; they must have completed their secondary school cycle or must have qualified by examination for admission to a university in their home country. All academic documents from outside the U.S. must be evaluated by a National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) member agency and the detailed evaluation along with a copy of the evaluated transcript with grade point average be sent directly to UA. (Find a NACES member agency)

Students wishing to transfer to the University from other accredited institutions outside the U.S. should submit a detailed syllabus sent to The University of Alabama so that evaluations of transfer credit may be completed. Such evaluations are made by the registrar of the college the student plans to enter, after the student has been officially admitted.

More information regarding the admission requirements and deadlines is available at: http://gobama.ua.edu/international/checklist/

The University of Alabama requires students to obtain a minimum English test score TOEFL iBT of 71, IELTS overall score of 6.0, PTE overall score of 54 or a satisfactory completion of the English Language Institute (ELI) before a student may begin an academic program.

Students who meet the academic and financial qualifications, but do not meet the TOEFL, IELTS or PTE score requirement may apply for conditional admission. Conditionally admitted students will begin their studies in the English Language Institute and then enter directly into their academic coursework once they have satisfied English proficiency.

**English placement for non-native speakers of English**

In order to place non-native speakers of English in appropriate writing courses, each such student who does not have credit from a regionally accredited U.S. institution with a C or better will be given a University of Alabama language proficiency exam (EPPE) prior to enrollment. Results for the EPPE determine whether student must enroll in either an English Language Institute (ELI) course, or in the Department of English course that suits their demonstrated abilities.

The English courses prescribed (ELI, EN 120 English Comp I Non-Native Speaker, EN 121 English Comp II Non-Native Speaker or a combination of these) must be completed in sequence, beginning with the first semester of the student’s enrollment or when the course is offered at The University of Alabama, and the student must be continuously enrolled in these undergraduate courses until they are successfully completed. This policy applies to all non-native speakers entering The University of Alabama for the first time who do not have credit from a regionally accredited U.S. institution.

Students who have credit for EN 101 English Composition from a regionally accredited U.S. institution but do not have credit for the second EN course in the series at that institution should register for EN 121 English Comp II Non-Native Speaker (rather than ) at The University of Alabama.

Non-native speakers who have attended and graduate from a high school in the United States may choose either the English 120/121 track or the English 101/102 track. To take English 102/121, non-native speakers must demonstrate the required English speaking and writing abilities through one of the following:

- have a score of at least 18 on both the speaking and writing sections of TOEFL
- have a score of at least 6 on speaking and writing sections of the IELTS
- pass the English Proficiency Exam given by the TESOL program
- complete the relevant courses in the English Language Institute (ELI is an intensive English program under The University of Alabama’s Office of International Programs).

**Academic Second Opportunity**

A student who has been separated from The University of Alabama for at least three academic years may petition the dean of his or her college to apply for readmission through Academic Second Opportunity. The petition must be received in the dean’s office prior to the last day of class for the semester in which the student returns to the University. If the petition is approved, the student will be readmitted regardless of previous scholastic performance, unless separation from the University resulted from academic misconduct. In cases of academic misconduct, readmission will be reviewed by the academic dean (or his or her designee) for the school or college in which readmission is sought.

If the application for Academic Second Opportunity is accepted, all previous academic work remains on the student’s permanent record, but the grades for previous work are not used in computing the grade point average. Grades of ‘C’ or higher earned during previous college attendance are computed as ‘passing hours’ (P) and may be applied to major program, distribution and graduation requirements. Grades of ‘D’ earned during previous college attendance may not be applied to major program, distribution or graduation requirements. The student pursues his or her academic program with no University of Alabama or higher education grade point average, and thereafter is subject to the conditions of warning, probation and dismissal that govern all students. Once invoked, Academic Second Opportunity cannot be revoked and it may be awarded only once and may not be awarded retroactively. Students who are awarded Academic Second Opportunity are excluded from candidacy for the Latin honors designations of cum laude, magna cum laude and summa cum laude. These honors may also be referred to as University Honors.

A student who has a degree from another institution but was previously a student at UA or who has a degree from UA is not eligible for consideration.