



Dear Prospective International Student:

Thank you for your interest in Howard Community College (HCC). This application is for those interested in F1 admission for an associate's degree (full-time study in the Fall and Spring semesters is required). Completion of the admissions process will result in the issuance of an I-20, the document required to apply for the F1 visa or F1 student status.

Application Deadlines

Semester/Term	Application Deadlines*
Fall	July 1
Spring	December 1
Summer/Winter	F1 applications are not processed for Summer or Winter terms

****Application deadlines are strictly upheld.***

Please note that admission is not granted, and an I-20 cannot be issued until all requirements are met. To understand the admissions requirements and process involved in receiving an I-20, ***please read the following information carefully and completely.***

Room & Board/Travel Accommodation Information: Howard Community College students are responsible for finding their own place to live off-campus and arranging their own travel to and from campus each day. It is recommended that students have local family support to assist with these arrangements.

Financial Aid/Scholarship Information: Students must verify available funding or sponsorship for the duration of their studies at HCC. HCC is not able provide financial support or scholarships for new F1 students. After attending HCC for at least one semester, students may be eligible for consideration for academic scholarships.

Employment: F1 students may not work off-campus without approval from USCIS and may not depend on any form of employment (including childcare, working for a family or business) to cover their expenses. F1 students are allowed to work part-time on campus; however, employment is not guaranteed, and those funds cannot be used toward the certification of finances.

INTERNATIONAL (F1) ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:

1. International (F1) Student Application for Associate Degree Study

- Please complete the entire application (www.howardcc.edu/gorecruiter)

2. \$50 non-refundable application fee

- Pay online with a credit or debit card

3. Official high school diploma or completion certificate verifying high school graduation

- Must include English translation, if applicable

4. Visa/Immigration Documents

- All applicants must provide a copy of their **passport ID page**
- Applicants ***in the U.S.*** must also submit copies of all documentation regarding U.S. visas or immigration to the United States, including **visa, I-94, and previous I-20's (if applicable)**

5. Official college/university transcripts

- U.S. transcripts must be official (sent directly to HCC by the college/university or presented in a sealed envelope)

6. Certification of funding for \$44,000

ITEM	ESTIMATED EXPENSES	BASED ON
Tuition and Fees	\$12,500	Maximum full-time enrollment
Books	\$1,800	Costs vary
Personal Expenses	\$4,200	This is a minimal estimate depending on personal needs and interests.
Health Insurance	\$1,000	Applicants must provide proof of health insurance to cover medical care in the United States. Health insurance policies that cover medical evacuation are strongly recommended.
Room and Board	\$24,500	<i>HCC does not provide housing. Students must arrange room and board off-campus.</i>
Minimum Total Cost*:	\$44,000**	

*Subject to change

****Dependent Information:** Students accompanied by dependents (spouse and/or child) must provide proof of **additional** financial support of \$5,000 per spouse and/or child.

7. English Proficiency Requirement

- All F1 applicants must meet one of the following criteria, dated within the last 2 years, even if English is the native language:
 - **Official TOEFL report** – iBT score of 74 or higher
- Use code 5308 to request official TOEFL scores to be sent to HCC
 - **Official IELTS report** – score of 6.0 or higher
 - **Official Duolingo report** – score of 110 or higher
 - **Official SAT Evidence-Based Reading and Writing report** – score of 480 or higher
- Use code 5308 to request official SAT scores to be sent to HCC
 - **Official ACT Reading Subtest report** – score of 21 or higher
- Use code 1703 to request official ACT scores to be sent to HCC
 - **U.S. high school transcript showing an unweighted GPA of 3.0 or higher**
 - **Successful completion of the equivalent of ENGL-121 at another U.S. college or university**
 - **Official transcript showing completion of U.S. bachelor's degree or higher**
 - **HCC English Placement Test** *- Reading score of 243 or higher is required

***HCC staff will assist with the arrangement of the HCC Placement Test AFTER all other documents for admission have been received and reviewed.**

***Please do NOT contact the Test Center about testing.**

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must demonstrate the ability to afford one year of academic, living, and personal expenses for the cost of attendance at Howard Community College. ***Students are expected to have available funding or sponsorship for the duration of their studies at HCC.***

Please be certain that you and your sponsors can accept the financial responsibility of being a full-time student in the U. S.

Supporting Documents:

a) Current Bank Statement (Checking/Savings Account) in English

Applicants must submit an official bank statement (on bank letterhead) with a minimum balance of \$44,000 USD. The bank statement must be prepared within the following date ranges:

Acceptable Dates for Bank Statements	
Fall	March 1 or later
Spring	July 1 or later

- HCC does not accept salary letters, investment portfolios, or cryptocurrency for the certification of finances.
- HCC reserves the right to request the submission of an original document to verify funding.

b) Sponsor's Affidavit of Support

Submit one form for each sponsor providing a bank statement. The sponsor's name must match the name of the account holder on the bank statement. ***Original bank statements in English and on bank letterhead must accompany each Affidavit of Support.***

c) Sponsor's Affidavit of Room and Board (if applicable)

U.S. Sponsors providing FREE room and board (housing and meals) should complete and sign the Sponsor's Affidavit of Room and Board.

Business, Government, or Organization Sponsorship

Students using business, government, or organization sponsorships must provide official documentation that confirms such support is available and the amount of support. Business accounts are only accepted with documentation from the bank indicating the name of the person who controls the business account and an Affidavit of Financial Support signed by the account controller.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

Applicants Outside the U.S.:

After completing admission to Howard Community College, an HCC Designated School Official (DSO) will prepare an I-20, the document required to apply for an F1 student visa at a U.S. Embassy or consulate. The I-20 will be emailed to the student using the email address entered on their application. Students are required to pay the I-901 fee (www.fmjfee.com) and follow the instructions in their HCC acceptance letter. If approved for the F1 visa, students can arrive in the U.S. up to 30 days before the program start date on the I-20. It is recommended that students register for classes as early as possible. Enrollment processes may be completed from overseas.

Applicants Currently in the U.S. Changing Visa Status: *

After completing admission to Howard Community College, an HCC Designated School Official (DSO) will prepare the I-20. Students are required to pay the I-901 fee (www.fmjfee.com) and then submit an I-539 application to USCIS. HCC staff cannot provide I-539 filing guidance; ***we recommend seeking the services of an experienced immigration attorney if you require assistance with the I-539 application.***

**** Please note the important information regarding change of visa status below:***

- Please see the USCIS website for detailed information about changing to F1 visa status: <https://www.uscis.gov/working-united-states/students-and-exchange-visitors/students-and-employment/changing-nonimmigrant-f-or-m-student-status>.
- Change of Status applicants who are approved for F1 status must follow the enrollment regulations which are in effect at the time of F1 approval.

- Applicants with B1/B2 status cannot enroll in classes until the change to F1 status has been approved. If approved for F1 status after the term has started, students must wait until the next starting term to begin classes.
- Applicants with F2 status can enroll in classes before F1 status is approved but are authorized for part-time enrollment (11 credits or less per semester).
- Applicants with visa categories other than B1 or B2 are generally authorized to enroll in classes before F1 status is approved with no restrictions.

Transfer Applicants:

After completing admission to Howard Community College, you will receive an HCC acceptance letter, and we will work with you to have your I-20 transferred to HCC.

Change of Level Applicants from HCC's English Institute:

After completing your application, you will receive an HCC acceptance letter and a new I-20 for degree program study.

Please contact intlstudent@howardcc.edu if you have any questions.
We look forward to meeting you!