Sponsored International Student Information

Michigan State University enrolls over 600 sponsored international students from a variety of countries and supported by a wide range of sponsors.

1) Who is a sponsored international student?

A student whose educational costs at MSU will be paid by:
- Your government
- Your university at home
- Your employer
- An international organization

If you are supported by your family or personal funds, then MSU does not consider you a sponsored student. If you are applying directly for Michigan State University funding, then you are not considered a sponsored student.

2) What kind of assistance does MSU provide for sponsored international students?

MSU has two full-time staff members to support degree seeking sponsored students. One staff member is here to assist you with the admissions processes and serve as a liaison with the MSU academic departments during the application process. The second staff member supports already enrolled sponsored students with issues such as billing and other sponsor requests.

3) Types of sponsorship

- **U.S. government**: If you are sponsored by the Fulbright program or other U.S. based organizations (LASPAU, AMIDEAST, IREX, American Councils, World Learning, etc.), then you can ask your sponsor to submit your application to MSU for you. Individuals do not submit their own applications.

- **International scholarships**: If you are sponsored directly by your government, university, employer, etc., then the Sponsored Student Recruitment Coordinator will work directly with you or your sponsor to assist with the application process. Contact information is at the end of this document.

4) What are some examples of sponsoring organizations to MSU works with?

- **Vietnam**: VEF, VIED
- **Thailand**: OCSC
- **Turkey**: Ministry of Education
- **Jordan**: government and universities
- **Libya**: Libyan government/embassy
- **Kazakhstan**: Bolashak program
- **Indonesia**: LPDP, DIKTI
- **Malaysia**: MARA
- **Saudi Arabia**: SACM, ARAMCO, SABIC, KAUST

**Multiple countries**: Fulbright, LASPAU, American Councils, World Learning
Does MSU give provisional or conditional admission for graduate programs?

If you have met all of the academic requirements but have low TOEFL scores or no GRE scores, some departments may consider you for provisional admissions. Not all graduate programs offer provisional admission, however. Please check with the Sponsored Student Recruitment Coordinator to check if your program of interest will consider provisional admission.

If you are given provisional admission, you will then complete the MSU English Language Center program. After completion of the English program, you will be admitted to your department with no additional TOEFL test.

Please note that we cannot tell you how long the English program will take for you to complete. You will take an English placement test after arrival at MSU, and that will determine your starting level of English. Each level takes one semester to complete. Please be sure that your sponsor will allow a provisional admission letter and will cover the cost of the English program.

Is there additional information on the application process for international students applying to graduate programs at MSU?

Yes, there is additional information at the following link: [http://www.grad.msu.edu/apply/docs/international.pdf](http://www.grad.msu.edu/apply/docs/international.pdf)

Each graduate program may have different requirements. Please be sure to read the application information on the graduate program website carefully.

If I am a sponsored international student, who do I contact for assistance on the application process?

Contact Information:
Dr. Julie Sinclair, Coordinator of Sponsored Student Recruitment
sincla53@msu.edu