

Request for Deferral of Admission

International Admissions



Office of
INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
University of NORTH ALABAMA

At University of North Alabama, we understand that circumstances can sometimes necessitate a deferral of admission for incoming students. We have established clear and equitable admissions deferral guidelines to accommodate students facing exceptional situations or needing additional time to prepare for their academic journey.

Deferral Process

To request an admissions deferral, international students should adhere to the following steps:

- **Submit a Deferral Request:** Applicants must submit deferral form (page two). This request should include a detailed explanation of the circumstances or reasons for the deferral and all required attachments.
- **Submit Updated Bank Statement & Sponsorship Form:** Dated within the last 6 months. Making sure both the student, and sponsor have signed the form.
- **Review Process:** International admissions will carefully review each deferral request, taking into consideration the applicant's specific circumstances and the overall impact on the incoming class.

Deferral Considerations

- **Personal Circumstances:** If an international student experiences unforeseen personal challenges, such as a medical emergency, family needs, financial concerns, or other extenuating circumstances, they may request an admissions deferral.
- **Delay in visa appointment:** If an international student experiences delays in obtaining a visa appointment or faces a prolonged visa processing times that jeopardize their ability to arrive on campus by the start of the academic term, they may request an admission deferral.
- **Denied Visa:** If an international student experiences a visa denial, they may request an admissions deferral to allow additional time to address the visa issue and reapply for a visa.
- **Restrictions on Visa and Entry:** Students from certain countries and regions may seek deferral due to their unique visa/arrival time frame imposed by U.S government departments and agencies.
- **Participation in the Pre-Arrival Required Course:** Upon issuance of a Form I-20 or DS-2019, an international student is expected to participate in the online Pre-Arrival Required Course and submit the assignments within deadlines. Failure to participate and/or submit the assignments may be grounds for refusal of a deferral request.
- **Communication with the Office of International Affairs:** an admitted international student is expected to communicate with International Student Services (internationalstudentservices@una.edu) regarding the assignments in the Pre-Arrival Required Course, especially if the student is facing challenges in completing the assignments. Failure to initiate or reply to email communications may be grounds for refusal of a deferral request.

Deferral Terms and Conditions

- **Limit on Deferral Requests:** International students may submit up to a maximum of two deferral requests during the course of their admission process. These deferrals are only accepted for the **next subsequent semester** that the student currently has an I-20 for. Students are encouraged to carefully consider this limitation when selecting the future term in their deferral request.
 - **Initial deferral:** The first deferral request is generally granted without exceptional scrutiny, provided the reasons for deferral align with our deferral considerations listed above.
 - **Second deferral:** The second deferral request is the final deferral allowed. It will only be approved if there are compelling and well-documented reasons align with deferral procedures.
- **Right to Revise:** International Admissions cannot guarantee that an international student will be accepted without changes. The university administration has the right to revise all parts of the admission. Such changes might include, but are not limited to, changes to program of study (major), tuition, fee, room and board expenses or scholarship offers.

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After completing this form, please submit form and all attachments to: International Admissions at internationaladmissions@una.edu

Student Information

Last (Family) Name: _____ Given Name(s): _____

Student ID Number: _____ (on your admission letter)

SEVIS Number: N (on your current I-20)

Contact Information

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Country: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Admission and Deferral Information

I was admitted to study (major) _____

I was admitted for: ☐ Fall (August start) Year: _____

☐ Spring (January start)

I want to defer my admission to: ☐ Fall (August start) Year: _____

☐ Spring (January start)

Please state your reasons for requesting a deferral

Attachments:

Attach both documents to this form.

☐ updated financial statement(s)

☐ updated [Funding and Sponsorship Form](#) (live link to take you to sponsorship form)

Signature: _____ Date: _____