Admission requirements vary, so be sure to learn the specific requirements from the college you want to attend. You must provide everything that the college requests before your application will be considered complete. Read the application materials carefully and ask questions about anything you do not understand. You may apply for admission to a community college during your final year of secondary school. Prior to enrolling in college classes, you will be required to send confirmation that you graduated. This section describes the items typically required for admission to a community college.

**Application Forms**

Community colleges often have a separate application form for international students, sometimes found on the college’s Web site. If you have difficulty locating the application online, send an e-mail to the college admissions office or write to the international office and ask that application materials be sent to you.

Community colleges are flexible, and many accept applications shortly before the start of a semester. Others have rolling admission, which means that you can apply at any time.

**Test Scores**

Community colleges may require that you submit your test scores from the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language).
English as a Foreign Language) or IELTS (International English Language Testing System). To learn where the tests are given in your country, contact your local EducationUSA advising center or visit the EducationUSA Web site. Whether you take the TOEFL or IELTS exam, most colleges will also require that you take their own English placement test after you arrive on campus and before registering for classes. If your score shows an adequate skill level, you will be allowed to begin your academic program. If not, you will be required to attend an IEP until the language requirement has been met. The SAT Reasoning Test (SAT), a standardized English and mathematics exam, is seldom required by community colleges. Taking the SAT does, however, show your interest in and commitment to studying in the United States. Similarly, Advanced Placement tests are not required by community colleges. However, some community colleges or 4-year institutions to which students will transfer may accept some Advanced Placement course credits.

Special Arrangements for Students With Disabilities
The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a law passed by the U.S. federal government, requires that every U.S. college and university make reasonable accommodations for students with disabilities. Students can take advantage of the ADA even before they are accepted to a college. If you have a documented disability, you may qualify for nonstandard testing arrangements for the TOEFL, IELTS, or SAT. Accommodations may include extended time or additional breaks during an exam, a separate testing room, special editions of the test, or provision for a reader or scribe. Because higher education institutions must consider all applicants solely on the basis of their qualifications, an applicant’s disability status is not either an advantage or a disadvantage. For general information about accommodations and services for students with disabilities, contact the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange at Mobility International USA.

Statement of Financial Support
You must submit a statement of financial support to show that you have the financial resources
adequate to meet your expenses while studying at a college in the United States. Financial resources may come from any dependable source, including scholarships, fellowships, sponsoring agencies, your personal funds, or your family’s funds. This statement is required by law to apply for a visa as well as to apply to a college. The international student application form for each college explains which documents you must submit. If you have questions, contact the college’s international office by e-mail, telephone, or in writing.

**Academic Transcripts and Records**
You must submit academic transcripts and other documents that show your previous education and grades. You must have completed secondary school before you can enroll at a community college. These documents are usually required in English, and colleges may have them professionally evaluated before offering admission.

**Proof of Immunization**
Most community colleges require that you submit a record of your immunizations, signed by a physician. Contact the college’s international office to find out what is required.

**Extracurricular Activities**
Extracurricular activities are those you pursue outside of your academic studies. These activities do not need to be directly related to your college course work or future education goals. Examples include membership in clubs, working as a volunteer, or spending time on personal interests such as playing a musical instrument. Make sure to mention any prizes, awards, certificates, or medals you have won in competitions. Even if you are not asked specifically on the application form about your extracurricular activities, try to include that information. Colleges regard these kinds of activities highly because they demonstrate your commitment, areas of interest, ability to work with others, and potential as a future leader.

**Letters of Recommendation**
Colleges may ask you for letters of recommendation. Make sure to read each college’s request carefully; some have specific requirements regarding who may submit a letter on your behalf. These letters are usually written by teachers, employers, or others who know you well enough to describe your talents, goals, interests, aptitude, or character. Family members are not usually allowed to write these letters.

**Personal Essays**
Colleges may require that you write an essay, either on a specific topic or on a topic of your choice. Essays are often an important part of the application process; if
you are asked to write an essay, take the assignment seriously. In your essay, describe yourself in a positive way, answer questions directly, and give specific examples to illustrate what you say about yourself. Ask people who know you to read your essay and give you advice so that the essay presents you, your talents, and your goals accurately. Make sure to check your grammar and spelling so that your essay is easy for an admissions officer to read. You may want to ask someone to proofread it for you.

Interviews
Most community colleges do not require that you interview with the admissions committee. If you are asked to participate in an interview, the college will give you details about the process and what to expect. If you participate in an interview, you should practice your responses to some common questions prior to the scheduled interview. A teacher or counselor may be able to help by providing sample questions that are similar to interview questions you may be asked.

ABOUT CENTRALIA COLLEGE
Established in 1925, Centralia College is located in the small friendly town of Centralia in the state of Washington, 140 km north and south of two major cities (Seattle and Portland). Intensive English Program, two-year Associate of Arts and Associate of Science transfer degrees, one- and two-year technical certificates and technical degree programs are available to all international students.

Recent international students who have graduated from Centralia College have transferred to the following universities:

- University of Washington
- University of Oregon
- Penn State University
- Indiana University
- Washington State University
- University of Oregon
- Michigan State University
- and more

10 REASONS TO CHOOSE CENTRALIA COLLEGE
1. No TOEFL for admission into our Intensive English Program
2. More than 50 academic degrees and transfer programs
3. Personal attention from admission to graduation
4. Lower cost than universities; SAVE MONEY!
5. On-campus jobs available for international students
6. Host families and international houses for males and females near campus.
7. Successful transfers to four-year colleges and universities in the United States
8. Active International Club
9. Welcoming and safe campus
10. More than 80 years of academic excellence

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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E-brochure:
http://www.i-studentadvisor.com/centralia
College website: http://www.centralia.edu

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Download application form and instructions from our website:
http://www.centralia.edu/international

INTERNET RESOURCES
“Internet Resources for International Students,” on page 127, is a comprehensive list of Web sites and URLs you can visit to find information on all of the topics covered in this Guide. You will occasionally notice that the name of an organization is printed in blue. This means you will find a related URL in the list on page 127.