

TRANSFER STUDENTS



Admissions Office
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AT HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

Students considering transferring to Hampshire often feel they have outgrown the restrictions of majors as offered by traditional colleges and universities. At Hampshire, students have the opportunity to combine two or more interests, engage in experiential learning activities (such as internships, independent study, or fieldwork), and receive meaningful narrative evaluations of their academic achievements. Additionally, through the Five College consortium, Hampshire students have access to the courses, facilities, student organizations, and faculty of our four distinguished neighboring colleges: Amherst, Mount Holyoke, and Smith Colleges and the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Transfer Qualifications

To be considered for transfer status, students must have completed at least 15 transferable semester credits (or 23 quarter credits) in a variety of academic (liberal arts and sciences) disciplines prior to enrollment at Hampshire. Courses must have been completed at a regionally accredited college, be comparable in academic demands and disciplines to courses offered at Hampshire, be at least a grade of “C,” and not recorded as high school credit, unless you will receive an associate’s degree.

How Hampshire Uses Transfer Credit

Prior to matriculation, transfer students’ transcripts are evaluated to determine which Division I (first-year program) course requirements have been fulfilled through transfer work. Any remaining Division I requirements must be fulfilled during the first semester of enrollment.

Transfer courses not used for completion of Division I will be evaluated for possible inclusion in the Division II portfolio by the student’s Division II committee. The number of courses and learning activities necessary to complete Division II will be determined by the individual student’s committee.

Each transfer student will negotiate a plan of study with his or her advisor. This plan, and the rate of academic progress, will be determined in part on the basis of progress toward Hampshire graduation requirements, as well as the amount of transferable credit applicable to the Division II concentration. As each student’s program is individually designed, rates of progress vary.

Residency

The minimum residency requirement for graduation is three semesters, regardless of how many credits are transferable. Students receiving financial aid should consult with the financial aid office regarding the number of semesters of financial aid eligibility.

Advising

Close student-faculty relationships are a central feature of a Hampshire education. As Hampshire gives students extraordinary freedom in shaping their academic pathways, personal guidance is an integral component of the planning process.

In addition to Hampshire’s system of faculty advising, the Center for Academic Support and Advising (CASA) provides several guidance services including workshops, individual academic counseling, and support for students with learning disabilities.

Visiting Students

Hampshire welcomes students who wish to take a leave of absence from their home college to spend a semester or academic year at Hampshire. Visiting students should have completed two to five semesters of college work and be prepared to pursue Division II-level study. Students should submit written permission from their home institution and apply by the stated admission deadline for September or February entrance. Admission is granted for up to one year. To transfer to Hampshire, formal reapplication must be made through the admissions office. Note: Visiting students are not eligible for financial aid.

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Admission

Admission to Hampshire is very selective. While Hampshire does not specifically state minimum criteria, the admissions committee thoroughly reviews all applicants for their potential success in Hampshire's program. Applicants' files are carefully assessed for academic breadth, rigor, and performance. Essays are evaluated for content and critical thought as well as college-level writing skills. Other factors considered include demonstrated community involvement, intellectual curiosity, independence, and self-direction.

As part of Hampshire's Common Application Supplement, transfer students must submit a general proposed program of study. Transfer students who are currently enrolled in college must submit a list of current courses and courses they plan to take prior to matriculation at Hampshire. Progress reports must be submitted by each faculty member from all current courses with original signatures. Transfer students who have earned 60 or more transferable semester credits are not required to submit a high school transcript.

The admission deadline for spring (February) enrollment is November 1. The admission deadline for fall (September) enrollment is March 1. Hampshire uses the Common Application along with a Supplement. Candidates may apply online or download, print, and mail forms through Hampshire's Web site at: <http://apply.hampshire.edu>.

Financial Aid

Hampshire is committed to making its programs accessible through a generous financial aid program. More than half of Hampshire students receive need-based financial aid. Packages range from \$8,000 to \$40,000 per year. Applying for financial aid entails submitting the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), the PROFILE, and the Noncustodial Parent Statement (if applicable). Students should submit their financial aid materials prior to or simultaneously with their application for admission. Detailed information regarding the financial aid process can be found in our publication, *Meeting the Costs of a Hampshire Education*, which is available online and can be obtained by request from the admissions office.

Financial aid deadlines

Spring: November 1

Fall: March 1

