International Application Checklist

Applicants must fulfill the following application requirements and submit the appropriate documents to be considered for admission.

- Completed application form, signed and dated by the applicant. Online applications may be printed out or completed online and are available at www.soka.edu/apply or www.commonapp.org.
- Official or certified true copies of all transcripts and exam scores from:
  - Secondary school(s) if attended in the U.S.
  - College or university if attended in the U.S.
  - Any Transcripts or national examinations completed MUST be forwarded to International Education Research Foundation (IERF) for conversion to U.S. equivalents. All transcripts submitted to IERF MUST document completion of the U.S. equivalent of the 11th grade.
- Two written academic recommendations from your principal, counselor or teacher. Three are recommended, but two are required.
- Two personal written essays that answer the questions put forth in the application.
- A list of extracurricular activities or talents demonstrating outside interests and leadership experience or potential.
- A U.S. $45 nonrefundable application fee paid only by bank draft or international money order MUST be submitted with the application. If you submit your application online, a reduced fee of U.S. $30 must be paid by credit card. When paying by credit card, make sure it is an international credit card that can be used outside of your home country.
- Official results of the SAT should be sent directly to Soka University by the testing agency.
- All accepted international students MUST complete the confidential Certification of Finances Form in order to receive the Form I-20 needed to obtain an F-1 Student Visa. This must be filled out regardless of whether or not the student is applying for financial aid. The Certification of Finances Form must be received by the Office of International Student Services (OISS) no later than June 1, 2013.

Applications will be evaluated only when all required materials have been received. It is your responsibility to ensure that all of your required documents that you have requested of your school are submitted by your school on time. Soka University does not accept faxes or copies of official documents. Please note that all documents submitted in support of your application become the property of Soka University.

Admission Timelines

Soka University employs both an Early Action period and a Regular Admission period. Early Action is non-binding and suggested for those applicants who would like to receive an early admission decision. Early Action decision notification letters are mailed on or before December 1, 2012. Applicants who are not admitted in the Early Action period will not be automatically rolled over to the Regular Admission process for that term. At the discretion of the Admission Committee, applicants may be re-assessed with the applicant pool for Regular Admission. Students who are denied admission for Early Action may not re-apply for Regular Admission. Regular Admission decision notification letters are mailed on or before March 1, 2013.

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<tr>
<th>Important Admission Dates</th>
<th>Early Action</th>
<th>Regular Admission</th>
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Admission Criteria

Soka University seeks students of intelligence and commitment who will provide leadership in the promotion of peace and human rights. Soka University is open to highly motivated students of all backgrounds and beliefs who have excelled in a range of academic courses. Admission to Soka University is competitive and selective. Although all successful Soka University applicants will have strong academic records, good grades and test scores are not enough by themselves for an applicant to be accepted. Soka University carefully considers a number of criteria without a rigid emphasis on any one factor.

Academic preparation

All applicants to Soka University must have earned a high school diploma or its equivalent prior to entering Soka University. Soka strongly recommends that applicants have completed the following college preparation program:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Requirement</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>A minimum of three years of college preparatory English that includes frequent writing and reading.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Three years of college preparatory mathematics with significant emphasis on fundamental mathematical skills, including trigonometry, geometry and algebra I and II. Calculus is recommended, but not required.</td>
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<tr>
<td>History/Social Sciences</td>
<td>Three years of college preparatory history/social science, including one year of U.S. government, and one year of world history, cultures and geography.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Science</td>
<td>Two years of laboratory science providing fundamental knowledge in at least two of these three disciplines: biology, chemistry and physics. The appropriate two years of an approved integrated science program may be used.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Language</td>
<td>Two years of the same language (other than English, if English is your primary language). Courses should emphasize speaking and understanding, and include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, reading and composition.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
SAT Testing
All applicants are required to take the SAT, including the associated SAT essay. Soka University’s SAT code is 4066. The SAT is administered throughout the year around the world. To obtain registration materials and test information, visit online at www.collegeboard.com.

Diversity
Soka University is open to students of all backgrounds and beliefs and is committed to diversity — including diversity of opinion – in its academic community. Soka University’s educational objectives are fostered at the University through the commitment to a non-sectarian curriculum, rigorous academic endeavors and free and open dialogue.

Disability Services
Soka University seeks to promote meaningful access to educational opportunities for all students. For information about Soka University’s disability policy and disability-related services, please contact the Office of the Dean of Students at 949.480.4130.

Home-Schooling
Soka University accepts applications from home-schooled students. In addition to receipt of all other admission requirements, applicants must have earned a high school diploma or its equivalent by successfully completing a college preparatory curriculum associated with an institution – such as a college or unified school district – which is accredited by a regional, state or national agency.

Advanced Placement (AP) Credits or International Baccalaureate (IB) Credits
Soka University does not accept AP or IB course credits in lieu of its own course requirements. However, AP and IB coursework are used in determining placement beyond introductory-level coursework at Soka.

Transfer Students
Soka University will only accept applications from first-year students for the fall term. If you are currently a college student, you may still apply as a first-year student, but please be aware that you may not transfer your college credits. However, applicants with completed college coursework must still submit college transcripts to be used as a part of the assessment process.

ESL Program for Accepted Students
For international students accepted into Soka’s undergraduate program, the University offers an optional eight-week intensive English language program at the Soka University campus. This Soka University Bridge Program will help students to strengthen and advance the academic English skills needed to succeed at the university level. This program will provide on-campus housing and will be held prior to enrollment at Soka University. For more details on our ESL program, including dates and cost, please visit our website at www.soka.edu.

Extended University Bridge Program (EUBP)
For international students who have been conditionally accepted into the Soka University of America undergraduate program, the University offers a 30-week intensive English language program. The Extended University Bridge Program offers preparation that strengthens and advances the academic English, communication and critical thinking skills necessary for success in the undergraduate program. The Extended University Bridge Program will provide on-campus housing, and the program will be held prior to enrollment in the undergraduate program.

Immigration Information
Certificate of Eligibility - Form I-20
Soka University can only issue an I-20 form to a student who has been accepted by the University, who has made an enrollment commitment with a tuition deposit and who has verified financial ability to pay the first year’s cost. (This may include your Soka University Financial Aid award.) If an I-20 form is mailed outside of the United States, it will be sent via express mail, which cannot be delivered to a P.O. Box. Therefore, please include in your application an address where an I-20 form can be directly sent.

Passports and Visas
To enter this country, you will need a visa from the United States Consulate. To apply for a visa, take your passport and Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20), issued by Soka University, plus proof of adequate financial support for your studies and living expenses to the nearest United States Consulate. The Consulate will advise you on any changes in immigration law that might affect your stay in the United States.

International Certification of Finances Form
Prior to issuing the Form I-20 (Certificate of Eligibility for Non-immigrant [F-1] Student Status for Academic and Language Students), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) requires that a U.S. university or college fully assess each international student’s ability to meet all the expenses during the course of study. Compliance with DHS regulations further requires a U.S. university or college to obtain verification from the student that he/she has officially proven financial ability to cover the cost of education and living expenses in the U.S. for at least the first year of study. Verification of a student’s financial ability to cover the cost of education and living expenses in the U.S. is declared through the Financial Aid Application and the Certification of Finances Form. These confidential documents remain in the student file for both university and DHS purposes.
Each international student must verify that he/she has the financial ability to cover the total sum of U.S. $43,076 for the first year of study at Soka University. Therefore, a student can only receive an I-20 form if this is proven either through the full amount shown in the bank account and/or through their financial aid awards. (Please note that the Health Insurance Fee is subject to change.)

Questions regarding the Certification of Finances Form should be directed to the Office of International Student Services:
E-mail: internationaladmission@soka.edu
Telephone: 949.480.4135
Fax: 949.480.4151

Estimated Cost of Attendance for Academic Year 2013–2014

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuition</td>
<td>$27,950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room and Board</td>
<td>$10,916</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books and Supplies</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
<td>$1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal</td>
<td>$568</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Insurance Fee</td>
<td>$1,142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$43,076</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Financial Aid

Meeting the costs of an undergraduate education represents a significant investment for most families. At Soka University, however, we are committed to providing comprehensive merit- and need-based financial aid programs that make it possible for admitted students who meet specific requirements and deadlines to attend Soka University. Most importantly, Soka University admits students without regard to their ability to pay. Soka University’s need-blind admission policy means that a student’s financial aid status will not affect his or her possible admission to the University.

How to Apply for Financial Aid

If you are an international applicant applying for financial assistance, you must complete the enclosed International Student Financial Aid Application, which can also be downloaded from our Web site, www.soka.edu/financialaid, or you may request a form from the Financial Aid Office at 949.480.4042 or financialaid@soka.edu.

Financial Aid Deadlines

All financial aid applications must be postmarked on or before March 2, 2013. In addition to a completed International Student Financial Aid Application, applicants must also submit copies, officially translated into English and U.S. dollars, of the applicant and his/her parents’ 2012 income taxes and most current bank statements by May 1, 2013.

March 2, 2013  International Student Financial Aid Application due to Financial Aid Office
May 1, 2013  Tax Forms and Bank Statements due to Financial Aid Office

Available Financial Aid

**Soka Opportunity Scholarships:** All admitted students to the BA in Liberal Arts program whose annual earned family income is $60,000, or less, and who have neither graduated from college nor completed more than 3/4 of their required coursework towards their first undergraduate degree (e.g., BA/BS) at the time of application to SUA, will receive free tuition (room and board fees will still apply). Additional scholarships are available for higher incomes as well that may be prorated.

**Global Merit Scholarships:** Full-ride scholarships that are automatically renewed annually.

**Soka Merit Scholarships:** Awards ranging from $2,000 to $20,000 that are automatically renewed annually.

**Soka Makiguchi Scholarship for Global Citizens:** This scholarship is granted to one student who has graduated from a high school in an African nation and has been accepted by Soka University of America. The recipient will demonstrate exemplary character, outstanding academic performance, and difficulty studying at the University due to financial situations.

**Soka Access Loans:** An institutional loan available to students with demonstrated need.

**Soka Parent Loans:** An institutional loan available to parents to assist with educational expenses.

We recommend that you submit your financial aid documents as soon as possible, even if you have not yet received an admission decision.