



Admissions Policy

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Owner: Director of Admissions

Summary: This policy describes the admissions requirements and processing of an application to University of the People.

Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to define an application process that enables the University to achieve its mission, meet the standards of accrediting agencies, support the goal of providing universal access to qualified students, and ensure that University of the People (“UoPeople” or “the University”) admits students of high caliber who have the capability to successfully complete their studies at UoPeople.

Policy Statement

UoPeople is committed to ensuring that each and every applicant to its courses and programs is individually assessed, without partiality. Detailed selection criteria may vary from program to program. During the selection process, every applicant is considered individually using all the information available to us. This includes an applicant’s academic records, test results (if any), and any additional information given during the application process.

UoPeople is committed to equal opportunity and does not discriminate on the basis of nationality, race, religion, gender, class, age (except with respect to minors) or sexual orientation. We believe that a diverse student population is important from an educational and social perspective and enhances the educational experience for all. To this end, UoPeople encourages applications from groups that are, at present, underrepresented in our university.

To ensure that each applicant is ready to study in a degree program, all accepted applicants will first study in UoPeople Foundations. Upon successful completion of studies in UoPeople Foundations, they may be considered for admission as a degree student to study in their desired degree program.



Admission to an Undergraduate Degree Program

Admission Criteria

All students who wish to apply to UoPeople must:

- Be 16 years old or older. Applications from younger applicants will be considered under special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.
- Have graduated high school and be able to provide proof of high school completion (high school diploma or its official functional equivalent).
- Prove English language proficiency or pass UoPeople's introductory English course (please see the English language Proficiency Requirement below).

Admission Requirements

1. Complete the online application:

- a. Applicants must submit their education history online. The history must include names, locations, high school enrollment dates, and the name of diploma earned. Additionally, applicants may provide information about colleges and/or universities that they have attended.
- b. Submit the School Performance Fact Sheet with their application.
- c. Pay the Application Processing Fee; University Grants may be available to qualifying applicants.

2. Successfully complete courses in UoPeople Foundations according to the following:

- a. A student who wishes to be accepted must enroll in at least two (2) and up to five (5) courses in UoPeople Foundations.
- b. A student may successfully complete the requirement by earning a grade of at least 2.00 in each of the first two courses taken in UoPeople Foundations.
- c. A student may successfully complete courses in UoPeople Foundations even if the student earns less than a grade of 2.00 in one of the first two courses, and if the student takes additional courses and earns a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 2.00 or above in UoPeople Foundations.
- d. A student who has completed five (5) courses in UoPeople Foundations and has not achieved a CGPA of 2.00 will not be accepted to the University as a degree student.



- e. Applicants who submit a complete transfer credit request within seven days of receiving a qualifying email from the Office of Admissions may be able to complete the Transfer Credit Foundations Pathway, if they have at least one course approved. This pathway permits the applicant to only complete UNIV 1001 with a grade of at least 2.00, rather than completing the above requirements.

Note: Students enrolled in courses in UoPeople Foundations are completing their applications for degree study. Policies, protocols and decisions regarding these students are under the responsibility of the Admissions Department, in accordance with the academic policies at the University.

3. Provide proof of High School completion. This requirement may be satisfied through submission of:
 - a. Diploma (or transcript showing graduation) sent directly to UoPeople (either mailed or submitted through the Self-Services portal online); or
 - b. High school completion functional equivalent, like proof of GED or U.S. Department of Education approved test. The GED is a nationally recognized High School equivalent in the U.S., but each state may offer additional equivalency tests. You can find a list of your state's equivalency test by visiting your state's Department of Education website.
 - c. If an applicant, such as a refugee or asylum seeker, is unable to provide the documents listed above, the applicant shall take an Ability to Benefit test approved by the US Department of Education. For additional information, please contact your Advisor.
 - d. UoPeople also accepts the following post-secondary credentials for admissions consideration: Bachelor's, Master's, and Doctorate degrees.
 - e. Note: Documents that are not in the English language must be submitted along with an official notarized translation sent directly to UoPeople. Notarization will only be accepted from an official member of [NACES](#).

Homeschooled Applicants

Homeschooled applicants must provide proof of high school completion and must meet the requirements for English language proficiency.

Homeschooled applicants who were supervised by their school district or Education Department must send their official diploma and transcript. Other homeschooled applicants must send an official GED diploma and transcript or the equivalent. In addition, homeschooled applicants may be asked to submit additional information about their academic preparation and high school curriculum.



Admission to Graduate Degree Programs

Admission Criteria

All students who wish to apply to UoPeople must:

- Be 18 years old or older. Applications from younger applicants will be considered under special circumstances on a case-by-case basis.
- Have a bachelor's degree and be able to provide proof of degree completion (diploma or its official functional equivalent).
- Prove English language proficiency or pass UoPeople's introductory English course (please see the English language Proficiency Requirement below).

Admission Requirements

1. Complete the online application
 - a. Applicants must submit their education history online. The history must include names, locations, institution enrollment dates, and the name of degree earned.
 - b. Submit the School Performance Fact Sheet with their application.
 - c. Pay the Application Processing Fee; University Grants may be available to qualifying applicants.
2. Successfully complete courses in UoPeople Foundations according to the following:
 - a. A student who wishes to be accepted as degree students must enroll in at least three (3) and up to four (4) courses in UoPeople Foundations.
 - b. A student may successfully complete the requirement by earning a grade of at least 2.67 in each of the first three courses taken in UoPeople Foundations.
 - c. A student may successfully complete courses in UoPeople Foundations even if the student earns less than a grade of 2.67 in one of the first three courses, and the student takes additional courses and earns a Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) of 2.67 or above in UoPeople Graduate Foundations.
 - d. A student who has completed four (4) courses in UoPeople Foundations and has not achieved at least 2.67 CGPA will not be accepted to the University as a degree student.
 - e. Applicants who submit a complete transfer credit request within seven days of receiving a qualifying email from the Office of Admissions may be able to complete the Transfer Credit



Graduate Foundations Pathway, if they have at least one course approved. This pathway permits the applicant to only complete one course with a grade of at least 2.67, rather than completing the above requirements.

Note: Students enrolled in courses in UoPeople Foundations are completing their applications for degree study. Policies, protocols and decisions regarding these students are under the responsibility of the Admissions Department, in accordance with the academic policies at the University.

3. The applicant must submit the following documents:

- a. Proof of completion of a Bachelor's degree. This requirement may be satisfied through submission of:
 - i. original diploma (or transcript showing graduation) sent directly to UoPeople (either mailed or submitted through the Self-Services portal online); or
 - ii. a photocopy of the original diploma (or transcript showing graduation) certified by a notary sent directly to UoPeople (either mailed or submitted online);
 - iii. UoPeople also accepts the following official post-secondary credentials for admissions consideration: Master's and Doctorate degrees.

Note: Documents that are not in the English language must be submitted along with an official notarized translation sent directly to UoPeople. Notarization will only be accepted from an official member of [NACES](#).

Additional Requirements for Admission to the MBA Degree:

- b. Resume showing at least two years of work experience including dates of employment (e.g. month and year).
- c. One letter of recommendation (academic or employer).

English Language Proficiency Requirement

To be considered for acceptance, the applicant must:

- a. be a native English speaker; or
- b. present a diploma from an institution where English was the primary language of instruction; or
- c. provide an official transcript indicating completion of at least 30 semester credit hours with an average grade of "C" (2.00) or higher at an accredited college or university where the language of instruction was English for degree study at the undergraduate level; provide an official transcript indicating completion of at least 30 semester credit hours with an average grade of "B" (3.00) or higher at an accredited college or university where the language of instruction was English for degree study at the graduate level.



- d. demonstrate English proficiency through one of several approved English qualification exams, which are listed below.

The following are the approved English proficiency examinations and their associated minimum scores required for consideration for admission:

English Proficiency Qualification	Minimum score required	
	Undergraduate Degree	Graduate Degree
Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL*) Paper-based Test (PBT)	500	530
TOEFL* Internet-based Test (iBT)	61	71
International English Language Testing System (IELTS)	6.0	6.5
Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic Test	44	50
Eiken English Proficiency Exam	Pre-1	Pre-1
ACT COMPASS	Level 3	Level 3
Exams identified within the Common European Framework of Reference (CEFR)	B-2	B-2

An applicant who does not meet these English Proficiency requirements may be considered for admission. If accepted, these applicants will be required to take a University-approved English course and an examination to demonstrate a proficient level of English. Upon successful completion of the course and examination, students may then continue to complete UoPeople Foundations, as described in the previous section. Kindly notice that UoPeople will only accept certificates earned within the last five (5) years.

Admissions Decisions

Submission of materials does not guarantee admission, as the Admissions Department will assess each of these required submissions on an individual basis to determine acceptance. Admissions will keep a full record of the submissions and reasons for acceptance or rejection.

The Admissions Department will review the applicant’s submission and determine whether he or she meets the eligibility requirement. The Admissions Department’s determination will be final.



Any falsified or misleading submissions will be grounds for automatic denial of applications or removal from UoPeople.

Review of Documentation

Any document sent by an applicant and/or student in support of their application may be reviewed by relevant institutions, including the institution issuing the documentation and/or by an established foreign evaluation service that the University utilizes to confirm degree comparability. One credible provider of credential evaluations are World Education Services (WES - www.wes.org). The University may also accept evaluations from other credible sources at the discretion of the Admissions Committee. If third-party evaluation is required, applicants may be asked to pay an additional fee.

All documents submitted to UoPeople become the permanent property of UoPeople and will not be returned.

Admissions - Making the Decision

UoPeople accepts applications to the University five times a year and prospective students may apply for admission to any of the five terms. For admissions consideration, the online application and any required documentation must be received by the application deadline.

Every application is reviewed by the Office of Admissions to determine an applicant and/or student's overall readiness to study and ability to successfully complete a degree program. Admittance is at the University's sole discretion. Meeting minimum admissions requirements does not guarantee placement; decisions are made on an individual basis.

The Admissions Committee will meet and review applications at least once every term to seek to process all applications fairly, in conformity with admissions requirements and in the same manner.

UoPeople announces its decisions on a rolling basis. All relevant applicants will be informed of their admission status by the final Notice of Admission Day, unless the Admissions Office will communicate differently.

Confirming Enrollment

Applicants admitted to the University must save their spot by signing an enrollment agreement within seven days of being informed of their admission. Accepted applicants are required to sign and submit an enrollment agreement to the University as part of their enrollment confirmation. Enrollment agreements are then signed by a UoPeople official administrator on behalf of the University. Applicants who fail to confirm their enrollment within the required timeframe can be assumed to have declined the offer of acceptance and the application will be closed.

Deadlines

Applications that are not completed by the deadline specified may be closed.

Deferrals

Admissions deferrals are allowed routinely for up to one term. Requests for deferral for longer than one term require a showing of special circumstances and will be considered on a case-by-case basis.



Closed Applications

Rejected applicants are not provided with a reason for not being admitted to the University. There is no right to appeal.

However, applicants may apply again in future terms under the following conditions. At its discretion, the University will review applications from rejected applicants who wish to apply again. All documents are maintained by the University for three years following submission; documentation need not be re-submitted within this time frame unless there has been a change in the University's admission requirements.

Any applicant and/or student found to have plagiarized or falsified any portion of their application will be denied admission. Any discovery of misleading submissions will be grounds for automatic denial of applications. Any discovery of misleading submissions after an applicant has been admitted will be grounds for automatic and immediate expulsion from the University.

If you have previously applied and/or studied at UoPeople, and would like to re-enroll, please email us before reapplying. The original email linked to your applicant/student record should be the only email used in your application. Applying again using a different email address will be looked upon as plagiarism and your application will not be considered for admissions.