Non-Degree Admissions

Maximum Enrollment—Non-degree students are limited to a maximum enrollment of two semesters and may not enroll in a degree-granting program at Cornell without formally applying and being approved for admission.

Tuition—Non-degree students enrolled during a regular semester are required to pay tuition. The graduate field should work with the college to determine if a tuition waiver is available. There is no tuition charge for the summer.

Health Insurance—Like degree-seeking students, non-degree graduate students are automatically enrolled in Cornell’s Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP). If a student has coverage through another health insurance plan that is comparable to the SHIP, s/he may file a written appeal with the Office of Student Health Insurance. International students are required to purchase SHIP. For more information visit: http://www.studentinsurance.cornell.edu/cms/insurance/.

Admissions Requirements—
  o **Education Credentials**—All students enrolled in the Graduate School must possess education credentials equivalent to a U.S. bachelor’s degree. At a minimum, international non-degree students must be pursuing graduate-level studies in their home country. On the application form, applicants should describe their postsecondary education history and provide applicable transcripts and diplomas.
  
  o **English Proficiency**—International applicants must demonstrate English proficiency even if they will not be taking classes or supervising students. Cornell’s English proficiency requirements are outlined at: http://www.gradschool.cornell.edu/admissions/applying/english-language-proficiency-requirement. Unlike degree-seeking applicants, non-degree applicants may submit old scores or copies of a paper score report.

Financial Resources—International students must provide evidence of adequate financial resources. These resources should be sufficient to cover the costs of attendance, including living expenses, for the duration of their stay at Cornell.

The Application—
  o The graduate field will need to supply each applicant with a single-use “Application Key” code. GFAs can request a key code from the Admissions team.
  o Next, the applicant will complete the streamlined “Quick Application” found at https://www.applyweb.com/cgi-bin/app?s=corngnd.
  o Once the applicant has applied, the graduate field should admit and release the admission decision in CollegeNET, just like for degree-seeking applicants.
  o Applicants should respond to the offer, online, at https://www.applyweb.com/cgi-bin/ustat?app_code=corngnd.

Upon Arrival—When they arrive on campus, non-degree graduate students MUST do the following:
  o Contact field of study or host department as soon as possible.
  o Visit the Graduate School’s Student Services Office in 143 Caldwell Hall for information about registration procedures. In order to comply with U.S. immigration law, international students must be registered with the university within 30 days of the I-20 start date.
  o Check in with the International Students & Scholars Office (ISSO) in B50 Caldwell Hall. This is also a U.S. immigration requirement.
  o Visit the Cornell Computer Center to activate their NetID. (CCC building is adjacent to Caldwell Hall.)
  o Visit the University Registrar’s office in B7 Day Hall to obtain a student ID card & update their local campus address.
  o Visit the University Bursar’s office in 260 Day Hall to pay any outstanding balance & sign the Bursar Disclosure Statement (mandatory to complete registration).

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