



# Frequently Asked Questions...

## *What will I find at Grand Canyon University?*

We are located in Phoenix, the fifth largest city in the United States. On campus you will find a vibrant community of friendly students from all across the globe.

- GCU's strong academic reputation and emphasis on character development has been recognized by national publications.
- A full program of activities is offered through many clubs, including the popular International Student Organization (ISO).
- Our small campus population allows you to meet new friends and interact directly with caring instructors who are dedicated to your success.
- Many recreational facilities are offered on campus such as tennis courts, a weight room, gymnasium, and a game room.

## *Will I be able to live on campus?*

Yes! You may live in the residence hall or the apartments. Students in the residence hall receive a full meal plan in the dining hall. Apartments are more difficult to arrange but international students with families and older students may be accommodated there.

## *Must I be a Christian to attend GCU?*

No. Since Phoenix is a large city, it has accommodations for many religions. Christianity will not be forced upon you. Approximately 25% of our students do not claim a religion. However, all undergraduate students attending GCU are expected to attend chapel programs each semester and take six credit hours of Bible study.

## *Are there scholarships for international students?*

We have a limited number of scholarships for international students. The scholarships which are available are small. We are unable to accommodate students who need full tuition in order to attend.

## *What English proficiency is required to study at GCU? Does GCU have an English as a second language program?*

If you do not have the proficiency to enter the full academic program, you may enter the American Language Program.

The American Language Program (ALP) offers 12 hours of instruction in English per week plus language instruction on computers.

- There is no **Test Of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)** requirement for entering the ALP, but you must speak enough English to be able to function on your own while studying.

- If you are near the end of the ALP, you may receive permission to enroll in some regular academic classes while still completing the English program.
- Once you have completed the ALP, you are not required to take the TOEFL to enter a regular academic program at GCU. If you transfer to another university you will need to take the TOEFL.

**To enroll directly in a regular academic program** (without taking the ALP), you must submit a TOEFL score.

- To enter a bachelor's program, you must score a minimum of 500 on the paper test, 173 on the computer test, or 61 on the Internet test.
- To enter a master's degree program, you must score a minimum of 550 on the paper test, 213 on the computer test, or 79 on the Internet test.

## *What must I do to be admitted?*

1. Submit an international student application. This may be completed on our website, or we will send you a paper application upon request.
2. Have your high school or previous college send us a copy of your official transcripts.
3. Send two letters of reference.
4. Submit a bank statement confirming that you have sufficient funds to pay for your first year of study and living expenses.
5. Upon your acceptance or upon your arrival, you will be expected to deposit the amount of \$5,000.

## *How do I receive a visa?*

1. Once we have accepted you as a student, we will issue you a form (I-20) which indicates that we are inviting you to be a student at GCU.
2. Next, you must take this form to the American Embassy in your country to request a visa (visas are issued at the discretion of the embassy). You will be required to pay a **Student & Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS)** fee.
3. Once you receive your visa, purchase a plane ticket to Phoenix, Arizona.
4. When you go through the immigration inspection and show your I-20 and the visa in your passport, you will receive another form (I-94) which will be fastened to your passport (the passport is issued by your country).

## *Will someone pick me up at the airport?*

Yes! If you inform us of your exact arrival time and the name of the airline in advance, our volunteers will be at the airport to welcome you to Grand Canyon University! In the event that a volunteer is unable to pick you up, there is a shuttle service that will bring you to campus.