

## Elgin Community College

### School Introduction:

- **Location**

Elgin Community College is located in the state of Illinois, only 60 km northwest of Chicago, in a suburban environment. The campus is situated in a park-like setting with close shopping nearby. The college is centrally located with easy access to O'Hare International Airport and Midway International Airport.



- **Programs available**

ECC offers direct admission, transfer direct admission, pathways, and preparatory courses.

- **School starting dates/times and application deadlines**

Elgin Community College operates on a semester system. All credit is awarded in semester hours.

- Fall semester: August through December
- Spring semester: January through May
- Summer term: May through August

The Intensive English Program offers four, four-week sessions in the fall and spring semesters. A six-week summer program is also available.

Application deadlines: applications are accepted on a rolling basis. However, priority deadlines are June 15 for fall semester, November 1 for spring semester, and April 1 for summer semester. Students are encouraged to apply early to expedite processing of the visa.



- **Course/degree highlights and summary**

ECC offers an Intensive English Program (IEP) for students needing English language training. The courses offer in IEP program are non-credit courses.

ECC also offers an Associate in Arts, Associate in Engineering Science, Associate in Fine Arts, Associate in Liberal Studies, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science. ECC also has 2+2 agreements with many universities. Here is the list of four years universities that we have agreements with:

- Argosy University
- Aurora University





- Benedictine University
- Bradley University
- California University of Pennsylvania
- Chicago College of Pharmacy
- Columbia College Chicago
- Columbia College of Missouri Crystal Lake
- Columbia College of Missouri Elgin (at ECC)
- Concordia University
- DePaul University
- DeVry University
- Eastern Illinois University
- Elmhurst College
- Ferris State University
- Franklin University
- Illinois Institute of Art
- Illinois Institute of Technology
- Illinois State University
- Indiana State University
- Iowa State University
- Judson University
- Kaplan University
- Kendall College
- Lewis University
- Loyola University
- Methodist College of Nursing
- Midwestern University
- National-Louis University
- National University of Health Sciences
- North Central College
- North Park University
- Northeastern Illinois University
- Northern Illinois University
- Northwood University
- Olivet Nazarene University
- Palmer College
- Rasmussen College
- Resurrection University
- Robert Morris University
- Rockford College
- Roosevelt University
- Southern Illinois University Carbondale
- Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
- St. Anthony College of Nursing
- St. Johns College in Springfield, IL
- St. Louis College of Pharmacy



- United States Sports Academy
- University of Illinois Champaign**
- University of Illinois Chicago
- University of Illinois Online UIC
- University of Illinois Springfield
- University of Iowa
- University of St. Francis
- University of Wisconsin - Green Bay
- University of Wisconsin - Superior
- Western Illinois University

- **Minimum age requirement**

Students must show proof of age in the form of a valid birth date on their passport or state id. Students must be at least 17 years old by the start of classes to be issued an I-20 by ECC.

- **High school diploma certificate and curriculum**

ECC does not require a high school diploma certificate; however, students must submit official, certified, English-translated copies of high school and college academic transcripts. Translation or evaluation services may require an additional fee to an outside credential evaluation service. ECC conducts evaluation of secondary transcripts in-house, free of charge. Some transcripts may require outside evaluation. All postsecondary evaluations must be completed by a NACES-certified evaluation service (e.g. WES, ECE, etc.).

- **Placement test**

Yes, all international students are required to complete ECC's placement tests upon admission.

- English as a Second Language (ESL) Placement Test (for International students not yet proficient in English)
- English/Writing Placement Test (local and international students)
- Math Placement Test (local and international students)
- Reading Placement Test (local and international students)

- **Scholarship**

Yes, ECC does offer scholarships for international students, but selection is very limited and competitive.

- **Costs, tuition fees, and accommodation**

Students on an F-1 visa are required to show enough funding for the first year of studies. For 2015-2016 academic year, tuition fee is \$497.79 per credit hour. The following is a minimum estimate of costs for an academic year (fall and spring semesters only) at ECC. Tuition and Fees: \$11,950 (24 credit hours); books/supplies/insurance: \$1,400; living expenses: \$7,650. Total estimate is \$21,000 annually. Tuition and fees are subject to change. Additionally, all students are required to show proof of health insurance by the start of classes.







- **Internship opportunities**

Yes. ECC provides career development services for graduates; however, most of our international students transfer to four year universities to continue their education.

- **Employment**

International students are not permitted to work off-campus without prior permission. Limited on-campus employment opportunities are available. Please note that on-campus employment is not guaranteed and should not be viewed as a significant source of income.

- **Is there any nursing courses or degrees in nursing? If so, is there direct or conditional admission?**

ECC does offer a nursing program. International students can apply, but admission is extremely competitive. Please note the nursing department is obligated to accept in-state students first.

- **Famous Alumni**

Michael D. Smigiel, Sr., Maryland politician  
Alan M. Ladwig, Senior official at NASA  
Sandro Miller, Internationally known photographer  
Richard C. Alberding, Senior Executive Vice President of Worldwide Marketing

- **List of majors/courses offered**

- Accounting
- Actuarial Science
- Animal Science
- Architectural Technology
- Architecture
- Art & Art Education
- Art Business
- Athletic Training
- Automotive
- Bilingual-Bicultural Education
- Biology & Biology Education
- Business
- Business Education





- Business Forensics
- Chemistry & Chemistry Education
- Communication
- Communication Disorders
- Communications Management
- Computer Gaming
- Computer Science
- Construction Management
- Criminal Justice
- Culinary Arts & Hospitality
- Dietetics & Human Nutrition
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Engineering
- Engineering Technology
- English
- English Education
- Family Studies
- Financial Planning
- Forensics
- Graphics and Animation
- Health Information Management
- Healthcare Management
- History
- History Education
- Human Resources Management
- Human Services
- HVAC
- Industrial Management & Technology
- Information Systems
- Information Technology
- Interactive Media Design
- Kinesiology
- Management
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing
- Math/Math Education
- Meteorology
- Movement Sciences & Kinesiology
- Nursing
- Nutrition Science
- Organizational Leadership
- Operation and Supply Chain Management
- Paralegal
- Physical Education - Teaching



- Physics
- Political Science / Pre-Law
- Pre-Chiropractic
- Pre-Naturopathic
- Pre-Pharmacy
- Pre-Physical Therapy
- Pre-Professional Health Science Programs
- Pre-Vet
- Psychology
- Public Relations
- Public Safety Management
- Radio & Television
- Recreation/Park Administration
- Secondary Education
- Social Science Education
- Social Work
- Sociology
- Special Education
- Speech Pathology
- Sports Management
- Sustainability Studies
- Technical Management
- Theatre
- Therapeutic Recreation
- Web Design



- **Program highlights**

ECC is one of the Achieving the Dream Leader Colleges and a Bellwether Award winner. ECC is also one of the eligible community colleges for the Aspen Award. ECC receives clean audits annually. ECC has earned an AAA credit rating from Moody's Investors Service and a +AA rating from Standard & Poor's.

## Admission Requirements:

- **Admission requirements**

Students who need English language instruction do not need to submit proof of English proficiency. Students not yet proficient in English will be tested upon arrival at ECC and placed into the appropriate level in the Intensive English Program. Students who believe they satisfy the English language proficiency requirement as required by federal law must present proof of such proficiency by submitting one of the following:

- Minimum Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) score of 550 (paper-based), 213 (computer-based) or 79 (internet-based);
- Minimum International English Language Testing System (IELTS) overall band score of 6.5;







- Proof of graduation from a high school where English was the language of instruction; OR
- Successful completion of college-level English composition where English was the language of instruction.

Additionally, all students are required to complete ECC's placement tests upon admission. The tests determine placement into proper academic courses.

- **GPA requirements for new students and transfer students**

ECC does not have GPA requirements for general admission. Some academic programs have additional departmental admission requirements that students must meet: clinical laboratory technology, histotechnology, physical therapy assistant, radiography, surgical technology, and nursing program.



- **TOEFL and SAT requirements for students studying in high school in America**

For international students who graduated from high schools in the United States, no matter how long they have been studied, ECC does not require TOEFL or SAT. However, the students are required to complete ECC's placement tests upon admission, the same as other local high school students. The tests determine placement into proper academic courses.

For international students without US high school certificates or TOEFL or SAT test scores, they need to take the English language proficiency test upon arrival at ECC.

- **Do students need official authorized high school transcript to transfer?**

Students must submit official, certified, English-translated copies of high school and college academic transcripts. Translation or evaluation services may require an additional fee to an outside credential evaluation service. ECC conducts evaluation of secondary transcripts in-house, free of charge. Some transcripts may require outside evaluation. All postsecondary evaluations must be completed by a NACES-certified evaluation service (e.g. WES, ECE, etc.).



- **How long will it take to send over the I-20?**

ECC issues an I-20 in five business days for contracted agents. We will mail the I-20 to the agent by DHL, and it usually takes a week to arrive.

- **Can students without a high school graduation certificate be accepted?**

Yes. ECC only requires a minimum of 11 years of education. We do not require a high school graduation certificate before being eligible for a degree.

- **Can career development diplomas be accepted?**

ECC accepts international students with a minimum of at least 11 years of secondary education (equivalent to junior level standing in high school). Career development diplomas can be accepted, too.



- **Artwork portfolio required for art degree applications?**  
No, ECC does not require an artwork portfolio for art degree applicants.

## Application:

- **Application process**  
Online application, paper application or offline application formats are accepted.
- **Duration of acceptance period**  
Our maximum turnaround time for processing an I-20 is five days for contracted agents.
- **Application materials list**
  - Complete an application for admission – [www.elgin.edu/f1apply](http://www.elgin.edu/f1apply)
  - Pay processing fee (\$50.00 USD)
  - Submit evidence of financial support showing \$21,000 USD available for funding your study in the U.S.
  - Complete an Affidavit of Sponsorship
  - Evidence of a minimum of 11 years of education or high school graduate
  - Copy of passport pages
- **Scholarship application process**  
Students must meet with the financial aid office upon acceptance for further instruction.
- **Direct liaison person contact details**  
Wendy Chen, [wchen@elgin.edu](mailto:wchen@elgin.edu), +1-847-214-7379
- **Emergency contact person**  
Wendy Chen, [wchen@elgin.edu](mailto:wchen@elgin.edu), +1-847-214-7379



## Housing:

- **Housing options**  
As with many community colleges, ECC does not have residence halls on campus. However, the college provides housing support services for international students. International students can choose from a variety of housing options: homestay, apartment living, off-campus dormitory, or in an extended-stay hotel. Students may also live with family or friends. Living in the community is important to acclimating to life in the United States.
- **Why homestay**  
Homestay program provides a unique opportunity for full-time international students on an F-1 visa to reside in an American home as a member of the family while providing local residents with the opportunity to host an international student and learn about a new culture. The ultimate goal of







the program is to build bridges of cultural appreciation. Living with a host family allows an international student to improve his or her English through daily interactions and experience American culture by participating in day-to-day activities. The student lives with the family for a predetermined amount of time, provided with meals and, if requested, transportation. The family is provided a modest stipend.

- **Homestay Cost**

For the 2015-2016 academic year, homestay monthly fee is \$800 per month with transportation and \$600 per month without transportation.

- **Transportation**

The college is serviced by a public bus system called PACE ([pacebus.com](http://pacebus.com)). PACE connects to other buses and also provides easy access to downtown Chicago through the METRA train system that connects downtown Elgin with Chicago. Many students also choose to purchase personal automobiles. Students in the homestay program may choose a homestay that provides transportation.

