

Florida Atlantic University

Regulation 4.009 Health Insurance for International Students and Scholars and English Language Proficiency

(1) The University sponsors International Students and International Scholars in the F and J non-immigrant visa categories with permission from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of State. International Students and International Scholars sponsored by the University must comply with health insurance requirements of the Florida Board of Governors (BOG) (F/J students), the U.S. Department of State (all J visa holders), and the University Board of Trustees in order to maintain eligibility for the non-immigrant visa programs in which they participate. Authority to establish procedures for verifying compliance is delegated to the Office of New Student Transitions and Family Engagement and the Office of International Services. Failure to maintain the required insurance coverage will result in termination of participation in University Programs, including restriction or withdrawal of University registration.

(2) Definitions:

Exchange Visitor: A citizen of a foreign country who is sponsored or hosted by the University under the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program as a degree/non-degree student, student intern, professor, researcher, short-term scholar, specialist, or other category of exchange visitor status as defined by the Exchange Visitor Program.

Exchange Visitor Program: A program administered by the U.S. Department of State that provides qualified foreign nationals with opportunities to participate in educational and cultural exchange programs under a J-1 Exchange Visitor visa. The University is designated by the U.S. Department of State to sponsor Exchange Visitors in the following J-1 visa categories: Professor, Research Scholar, Short-Term Scholar, Specialist, Student Intern or Student.

International Applicant: A prospective International Student who seeks admission to the University and who requires a student visa or other non-immigrant temporary immigration status.

International Student: An enrolled student sponsored or hosted by the University who is not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident of the U.S. and who holds a temporary U.S. non-immigrant visa (e.g., F visa or J-1 Student designation).

International Scholar: A J-1 Exchange Visitor who is sponsored or hosted by the University under the J-1 Exchange Visitor Program in a category of the Exchange Visitor Program other than Student.

Non-Native English Speaker: A prospective student whose native language is not English, or for whom English was not the language of instruction from the primary grades.

(3) All International Students in F or J non-immigrant status shall be required to demonstrate that the student has adequate medical insurance coverage for illness or accidental injury. Adequate medical insurance coverage must meet or exceed the requirements of Board of Governors Regulations and include the following:

- (a) Policy must have a maximum \$50 deductible per occurrence if treatment or services are rendered at the Student Health Center and a maximum \$100 deductible per occurrence if the treatment or services are rendered at an off-campus ambulatory care or hospital emergency department facility; and
- (b) Policy must have a minimum coverage of \$200,000 for covered injuries/illnesses per accident or illness per policy year with no internal caps or limitations for covered injuries or illnesses.

(4) All International Students will be automatically enrolled in and billed for the University Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) upon enrollment at the University, and are responsible for paying all health care costs associated with the SHIP. International Students may seek waiver of the SHIP requirements by providing proof of adequate coverage prior to the University's published deadlines for the payment of fees. Failure to provide proof of adequate coverage will result in Student's continued enrollment in the SHIP, and the student will remain responsible for all associated costs.

(5) All International Scholars and all accompanying dependents on J-2 visas are required to have health insurance coverage during their period of stay on the University's J-1 program. The health insurance must meet or exceed the minimum requirements set forth in [22 C.F.R. § 62.14](#).

(6) International Applicants and Non-Native English Speakers seeking admission at the University must demonstrate adequate English language proficiency in compliance with Board of Governors Regulations. The University will assess English language proficiency utilizing one of the following:

- (a) University-approved standardized English language proficiency tests commonly used in U.S. university admissions including, but not limited to, TOEFL, IELTS, Cambridge and PTE, as published in the University Catalog. Selection of standardized English language proficiency tests shall be consistent with Board of Governors Regulations and University admission standards.
- (b) Successful completion of Level VI in the Academic Track of the University's Intensive English Institute.

(7) Non-Native English Speakers are not required to submit proof of English language proficiency if they meet one of the following:

- (a) Completion of at least three years of secondary education from a high school based in the United States or abroad with full curriculum of instruction in English.

- (b) Completion of at least three years of secondary education from a high school based in a country where English is the majority native-speaking language, or where English is the primary language of instruction starting in the primary grades.
 - (c) For undergraduate applicants only, completion of at least thirty (30) post-secondary credits, including ENC 1101 and ENC 1102, or the equivalent, with a grade of C or higher, from a U.S. regionally accredited post-secondary institution or from a recognized post-secondary institution abroad with full curriculum of instruction in English.
 - (d) Completion of at least sixty (60) post-secondary credits or an associate degree or higher from a U.S. regionally accredited postsecondary institution or from a recognized post-secondary institution abroad with full curriculum of instruction in English.
- (8) Minimum English language proficiency requirements, including minimum scores for any approved standardized language proficiency tests, must be published annually in the University Catalog.

Specific Authority: Article IX of the Florida Constitution, 1001.706, F.S., Board of Governors Regulations 1.001 and 6.009; and [22 C.F.R. § 62.14](#). History—New 4-19-82, Formerly 6C5-4.10. Formerly 6C5-4.010. Amended 3-10-11; 6-4-19.