

Cumberland School of Law

Graduate Programs

Information for International Applicants

All international applicants must complete the same application for admission that is required of domestic students. We cannot accept emailed or faxed copies of transcript or test score documentation from applicants. Only documentation sealed by the issuing institution or evaluation agency can be accepted as official by the university.

Any student whose law degree was earned outside the United States will only be considered for admission to the Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.) degree program. Only under extraordinary circumstances, and at the discretion of the Admissions Committee and with prior approval, will a student whose law degree was earned outside the United States be considered for admission to the Master of Laws (LL.M.) degree program.

Visa Considerations

If you are an international student currently living abroad and wish to participate in the Master of Studies in Law program, Samford University is unable to provide documents for F-1 or J-1 Visa application as you will not take physical classes in the US.

If you are currently in the U.S. on an F1 or F2 student visa, a J1 or J2 exchange visitor visa, or a G series visa (pertaining to international organizations), you are neither a citizen nor an eligible noncitizen, and are not eligible for federal student aid.

Qualifying Degree

Students who earned a bachelor's degree (or equivalent) outside of the United States must have their transcripts evaluated by one of the following organizations to determine U.S. equivalency and Grade Point Average. Only students who have earned the equivalent of a U.S. bachelor's degree will be considered for admission.

[World Education Services \(WES\)](#)

[Educational Credential Evaluators \(ECE\)](#)

Only official transcript evaluations submitted directly from one of the above agencies directly to Cumberland School of Law will be considered

English Proficiency

Students whose qualifying degree was earned at a non-English speaking institution must demonstrate English proficiency by earning the score listed below on any one of the following exams. Only official score reports will be considered.

- TOEFL - 575
- TOEFL IBT - 90
- IELTS - 6.5

Financial Aid

Under most circumstances, Federal Financial Aid is not available to noncitizens. Generally, you are considered an *eligible* noncitizen for federal aid purposes if you are:

- a U.S. permanent resident with a permanent resident card (I-551);
- a conditional permanent resident (I-551C); or
- the holder of an Arrival-Departure Record (I-94) from the Department of Homeland Security showing any one of the following designations:
 - "Refugee," "Asylum Granted"
 - "Parolee" (I-94 confirms paroled for a minimum of one year and status has not expired), or
 - "Cuban-Haitian Entrant"