

ADMISSION

Skidmore seeks students who demonstrate strong academic ability, intellectual curiosity, open-mindedness, and an energetic commitment to learning. Since students learn not only from the faculty but from each other, Skidmore also seeks diversity in its student body, looking for a wide geographical distribution and a variety of talents, interests, and backgrounds.

Because the number of qualified students applying for admission exceeds the limited size of each entering class, it is not possible to admit all candidates who could be expected to succeed at Skidmore. The Admissions Committee strives to admit those students whose abilities, interests, character, and background give them the greatest promise of profiting from and contributing to Skidmore College.

The committee's primary emphasis is on the strength of a student's academic record, as evidenced by quality of secondary school courses and classroom achievement. Personal qualities, accomplishments, interests, and capacity for growth are also strongly considered, so careful attention is paid to recommendations, the student's personal statement, cocurricular activities, and, where applicable, the interview.

Application Guidelines

The Admissions staff welcomes communication with prospective candidates, their parents, and school advisors. Correspondence should be addressed to:

Vice President and Dean of Admissions and Financial Aid
Skidmore College
815 North Broadway
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866-1632
e-mail: admissions@skidmore.edu

Students apply for admission by completing the Common Application or the Coalition Application online and submitting it to Skidmore, with a \$65 application fee. No application will be processed until this fee is received. The fee is a service charge and is not refundable, nor is it credited on any subsequent bill. In cases of economic hardship the application fee may be waived.

Students must submit a recommendation from their guidance counselor and assessments from two teachers. All supplementary forms should be submitted to the Admissions Office by January 15.

Economically and academically underserved students who apply may be referred to Skidmore's Opportunity Program (OP). Those who are eligible New York state residents will be referred to the Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP) for consideration. Those who are ineligible for HEOP will be referred to the Academic Opportunity Program (AOP) for consideration. To obtain information about the Opportunity Program, visit: www.skidmore.edu/opportunity_program/ (http://www.skidmore.edu/opportunity_program/)

Early Decision

Skidmore's Early Decision plan is designed for qualified high school seniors who have examined their college preferences thoroughly and have decided that Skidmore College is their first choice. Although candidates for Early Decision (ED) at Skidmore may initiate applications to other colleges, it is understood that they will immediately withdraw them and enroll at Skidmore if accepted under an early decision plan.

ED applicants should have their first set of senior grades sent to the Admissions Office as soon as they are available.

Students accepted under Early Decision will be required to maintain a schedule for the remainder of the year that includes all of the courses listed on their transcript as well as those reported on the Common Application or Coalition Application for the second semester at the time of their ED acceptance. Accepted ED students in violation of this policy will have their admission status reevaluated.

Skidmore offers both Early Decision I and Early Decision II deadlines. Round I early decision applications may be submitted any time up to November 15, with notification by December 15. The Round II application deadline is January 15, with notification by February 15. Any student may convert a submitted Regular Decision application to early decision up until February 1.

Some Early Decision candidates who are not admitted under an ED plan will be deferred for reconsideration without prejudice during the regular decision admissions process. ED applicants who clearly will not be competitive in the spring are given a final negative decision at the time of Early Decision.

Early Decision applicants who are applying for a Skidmore grant under ED must file the PROFILE form of the College Scholarship Service by the appropriate early decision application deadline, November 15 or January 15.

Requirements for Admission

Preparation for Skidmore should include a minimum of four years of English, three or more years of mathematics, three or more years of social science, three or more years of science, and three or more years of a world language.

Applications should be submitted as early as possible in the senior year but no later than January 15. High school transcripts and teacher recommendations should also be on file in the Admissions Office by January 15.

Campus Visits and Admission Interviews

Skidmore College encourages visits from prospective students and families. Although an interview is not required, a personal interview allows the Admissions Committee to learn more about the candidate and enables the candidate to learn more about Skidmore. For those reasons, high school seniors are urged to visit campus for an interview between May 1 and January 31. Interviews are typically preceded or followed by a campus tour with a student ambassador. Group information sessions are offered throughout the year. Appointments should be made in advance at www.skidmore.edu/admissions/visit/schedule.php (<http://www.skidmore.edu/admissions/visit/schedule.php>). If an on-campus interview is not possible, the Admissions Office can schedule an online interview with an Admissions counselor or help candidates arrange interviews with alumni admissions representatives in their home areas. Candidates planning to visit should verify group information and tour times posted on the Skidmore website.

In addition to general campus tours, specialized tours for the sciences and for the arts are available. Those times are also listed on the Admissions website.

Students visiting during the week and interested in meeting with a member of the faculty should contact the Admissions Office in advance of the visit to request those arrangements.

Information for Students with Disabilities

Skidmore employs a coordinator of student access Services who works as a member of the Office of Student Academic Services (SAS) team to ensure eligible students with disabilities are provided accommodations necessary to obtain full access to all Skidmore programs and activities. At any time during the admissions process, SAS staff and the coordinator are happy to consult with prospective students about available services. Students who wish to apply for academic or other accommodations are encouraged to contact the coordinator of student access services. Students who would like to request accommodations from the College will be asked to provide the following information to the coordinator at the time of enrollment:

- Documentation containing current information and diagnosis of a specific condition. The evaluation should be completed by a specialist in the area of the corresponding condition (e.g., educational psychologist, certified school psychologist, psychiatrist).
- Specific recommendations from the professional conducting the evaluation, which list reasonable accommodations and modifications that would benefit the student on a college campus.

Students with a documented disability should complete the application for accommodations and return it with the required documentation to the coordinator of student access services in the Office of Student Academic Services. Using the information from the application and the diagnostic materials provided, the coordinator will evaluate requests and work in cooperation with students to determine reasonable accommodations. After their arrival at Skidmore, students are encouraged to meet with the coordinator to review approved accommodations and discuss implementation strategies and other SAS services.

Student Academic Services also provides an excellent range of academic support services for the general student population that may also be of help to students with disabilities. For example, SAS provides peer tutoring for most courses offered by the College, assistance with time management, and individualized academic support.

All students are required to fulfill world language, expository writing, mathematics, laboratory science, and other requirements of the Skidmore curriculum. Since the curriculum represents Skidmore's definition of a sound liberal arts education, requirements are never waived. However, under a few exceptional and individualized circumstances, the College may consider substituting a course or courses for a curriculum requirement. Students should meet with the coordinator to discuss specific steps as necessary.

For more information, contact the coordinator for student access services in Student Academic Services: 518-580-8150.

Standardized Testing

Skidmore College is test-optional for most applicants. This policy aligns with our commitment to wider access, responds to growing concern over the stress of the college admissions process, and mitigates the advantages of pre-test coaching that some applicants may have over others. Our emphasis in making admissions decisions has always been on students' academic records, the courses they have taken, the grades they have received, and trends in their courses and grades, all within the context of the strength of the school they have attended and the

many outstanding qualities and interests they will bring to our campus community.

Students may submit the SAT and/or the ACT if they feel their standardized testing results represent their academic potential.

We will not make any assumptions as to why some students choose to submit scores while others do not; all applicants will be given equal consideration in our holistic evaluation approach.

The College will, however, continue to require standardized testing (SAT or ACT) for the following populations of applicants:

- International students other than those who have attended an English-language-based school for at least three years (see policy below)
- homeschooled students
- students attending secondary schools offering written evaluations without accompanying grades

Applicants for the Porter/Wachenheim Presidential Scholarship in Science and Mathematics are encouraged to submit SAT/ACT and any SAT subject tests in math and science.

Specifically, for international students, we require applicants to submit SAT I or ACT scores if English is not your first language and you have not attended a high school for at least three years where English is the language of instruction. The TOEFL or IELTS is also required if English is not your first language. If you have attended a high school for at least three years where English is the language of instruction, or if you are enrolled in an IB diploma program, neither the TOEFL nor IELTS is required.

The Admissions Office requests that the results of all standardized testing be sent directly to Skidmore College from the appropriate testing service.

Self-Reported Scores

Those students who choose to submit standardized testing as part of their application may self-report their scores in any of the following ways at the time of application:

- Included on the Common Application or the Coalition Application
- Sending a screen shot or PDF of the Student Score Report to admissions@skidmore.edu (Name must be visible.)

If admitted and subsequently enroll based on self-reported scores, applicants must submit official test scores and can do so in the following ways:

- Official report from the testing agency
- High school transcript
- Your school counselor

Please note, admission could be at risk if official scores are not consistent with self-reported scores.

Midyear Admission

Skidmore welcomes applications for midyear admission from transfer students. Students interested in midyear admission should submit their transfer applications by November 1.

Early Admission

The Admissions Committee will consider applications for fall admission from candidates who wish to enter college prior to the normal completion of a secondary school program of study, i.e., at the end of the junior year of high school. In such a case, the committee gives special consideration to the reasons for the candidate's desiring such admission, the recommendation of secondary school guidance officials, and the candidate's maturity and potential for dealing with both the academic and social demands of college life. An interview with a member of the Admissions staff is strongly recommended for all candidates seeking admission under the Early Admission plan.

Deferred Enrollment Policy

Requests for deferred enrollment should be directed to deanbates@skidmore.edu by June 1. Students requesting a deferral need to enroll and then present the plan of what they will do during the upcoming year. Students who have been approved for deferred admission may take courses at another institution but may not enroll as a degree candidate elsewhere. They may not apply to other colleges during this gap year while holding a place in the next incoming class at Skidmore. We will request they submit another non-refundable \$500 deposit the January following their approved deferral in order to confirm their place in the class.

Applicants for financial aid must reapply for aid during the upcoming cycle by filing the CSS Profile and the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by the appropriate deadlines.

Transferring to Skidmore

Each year, Skidmore admits students who wish to transfer from other accredited colleges or universities. Such students should have maintained a strong record of achievement in liberal arts courses taken at colleges previously attended.

A candidate for admission with advanced standing should complete and return the Transfer Common Application or the Transfer Coalition Application, accompanied by a fee of \$65, to the Office of Admissions by November 1 for admission in January or by April 1 for admission in September. In cases of economic hardship the application fee may be waived.

An official transcript (or transcripts) of all college-level work done through the most recently completed semester must be submitted. A midterm report of college work currently in progress is required, and a transcript of such work should be sent as soon as one is available in the event that the Admissions Committee feels it is necessary to review final grades for those courses before rendering a decision. Applicants should also submit a final high school transcript and two recommendations from college professors who have taught the applicant in academic courses. Also required are two additional forms provided by the Common Application: the Official College Report and two Transfer Supplement questions. The Coalition Application form required is the Transfer Report.

Transfer candidates will be notified of the Admissions Committee's decision as soon after the pertinent deadline as possible. The committee expects that final records will be consistent with the record available at the time an offer of admission is made.

A limited number of financial aid packages are available to transfer students applying to Skidmore. Students are required to file the PROFILE

form of the College Scholarship Service (CSS) no later than April 1 for fall admission and no later than November 1 for spring admission.

Students can make an account with the website Transferology for a preliminary evaluation of transfer credit. A tentative evaluation of transfer credit will be available upon request at the time of an acceptance; the definitive evaluation is done by the Office of the Registrar and is not available until after the student has enrolled at Skidmore. Only courses in which a student has received a grade of C or better are transferable. (See Transfer of Credit.)

At least 60 semester hours of the 120 semester hours required for graduation from Skidmore must be earned through enrollment in Skidmore College courses.

Articulation Agreement

Skidmore maintains an articulation agreement with Schenectady County Community College (SCCC). Candidates for admission are provided complete information on SCCC course articulations for the Skidmore degree program prior to the student's acceptance of an admission offer. Students admitted under this articulation agreement will be awarded financial aid meeting their full demonstrated need. Students may contact the Office of Admissions for questions regarding application procedures and the Registrar's Office for questions regarding course articulations.

Admission of International Students ¹

Applications from international students and U.S. citizens studying abroad are welcomed and receive special attention throughout the evaluation process.

International students and U.S. citizens studying abroad must submit:

- Transcripts of all secondary-and university-level work completed or currently in progress;
- SAT or ACT examination results are required if English is not your first language and you have not attended a high school for at least three years where English is the primary language of instruction;
- The TOEFL or IELTS or DuoLingo English Test (DET) is also required if English is not your first language. If you have attended a high school for at least three years where English is the primary language of instruction, or if you are enrolled in an IB diploma program, TOEFL/ IELTS/DET is not required;
- Two academic teacher recommendation letters;
- One guidance counselor or school official recommendation letter.

Arrangements for SAT, ACT, and TOEFL examinations must be made at least two months in advance of the test dates. All tests should be taken before Skidmore's January 15 application deadline.

English is the language of instruction at Skidmore, and it is necessary that all students be proficient in reading, writing, and speaking English. Generally, a score of 96-97 on the TOEFL or a 7.0/7.5 on the IELTS, or a 120 on the DET is regarded as an indicator of minimal proficiency for study at Skidmore. We also review the student's application, admissions essay, SAT/ACT scores, or an interview or writing sample through an interview service to determine that the student could be successful. Support for English Language Learners (ELL) is available through the English Department's Writing Center and Student Academic Services. Incoming ELL students may also wish to register for the Interdisciplinary course English for Academic Engagement.

Skidmore is able to offer a very limited number of financial aid awards to students who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Students applying for aid are required to file the CSS Profile. The consideration for these awards is highly competitive; please contact the Admissions Office for more information. Certification that financial obligations can be met will be required by Skidmore and also by the United States agency issuing a visa. The United States Immigration Form I-20 will be issued after the enrollment deposit has been paid.

The academic year at Skidmore is made up of two semesters, one running from the beginning of September to late December, and the second from mid-January to the beginning of May. Summer recess runs from May through August and may be utilized for travel or study; during this period, students must pay their own expenses. Limited on-campus housing is available during breaks in the academic year and is included in room/ board charges. On-campus housing in the summer requires additional room and board fees.

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Skidmore College is authorized under federal law to enroll non-immigrant alien students.

Admission of Skidmore Employees

Skidmore employees who are eligible for the tuition benefit (contact Human Resources to determine eligibility) may apply for admission as a part-time student by submitting to Skidmore a completed Transfer Common Application or Coalition Application, accompanied by a fee of \$65, by November 1 for admission in January or by April 1 for admission in September. Employees should discuss scheduling and time commitments with their supervisor prior to applying.

Employees are required to have earned at least 45 credits prior to applying for matriculation. These credits can be earned at Skidmore as a non-matriculated student, from another accredited institution, or a combination of the two. An official transcript (or transcripts) of all college-level work done through the most recently completed semester must be submitted. A midterm report of college work currently in progress is required, and a transcript of such work should be sent as soon as one is available. Applicants should also submit a high school transcript and two recommendations from college instructors who have taught the applicant in academic courses. Candidates will be notified of the Admissions Committee's decision as soon as possible after the transfer application is complete. The committee expects that final records will be consistent with the record available at the time an offer of admission is made.

Evaluation of transfer credit is done by the Office of the Registrar and only courses in which a student has received a grade of C or better are transferable. (See Transfer of Credit.)

At least 60 semester hours of the 120 semester hours required for graduation from Skidmore must be earned through enrollment in Skidmore College courses.

Matriculated employees must complete degree requirements within eight years of matriculation and are encouraged to take at least one to two classes each semester.

Applying to Skidmore Applications

First-year student applications should be filed by January 15 for Regular Decision and by November 15 (Round I) or January 15 (Round II) for

Early Decision. Transfer applications should be filed by April 1. Midyear transfer applications should be filed by November 1. All applications must be accompanied by a \$65 fee or a request for a fee waiver. The required supplementary forms listed below are available on the websites of the Common Application and the Coalition Application.

School Transcripts

The Secondary School Report form and high school transcript should be submitted to the Admissions Office by the appropriate application deadline. Midyear grades should be sent as soon as they are available.

Teacher Recommendations

Two academic teacher evaluation forms should be submitted as early as possible, but no later than the appropriate application deadline.

Standardized Testing

Skidmore College is test-optional for most applicants. The College does require standardized testing (SAT or ACT) for the following populations of applicants:

- International students other than those who have attended an English-language-based school for at least three years (see policy below)
- homeschooled students
- students attending secondary schools offering written evaluations without accompanying grades

Applicants for the Porter Presidential Scholarships in Science and Mathematics are encouraged to submit SAT/ACT and any SAT subject tests in math and science. Students choosing to submit the SAT or ACT must take exams no later than December of the senior year.

For international students, we require applicants to submit SAT I or ACT scores if English is not your first language and you have not attended a high school for at least three years where English is the primary language of instruction. The TOEFL or IELTS is also required if English is not your first language. If you have attended a high school for at least three years where English is the primary language of instruction, or if you are enrolled in an IB diploma program, neither the TOEFL or the IELTS is required.

The Admissions Committee requires that the official score reports be sent directly from the appropriate testing service. Skidmore's CEEB code is 2815; the ACT code is 2906.

Self-Reported Scores

Those students who choose to submit standardized testing as part of their application may self-report their scores in any of the following ways at the time of application:

- Included on the Common Application or the Coalition Application
- Sending a screen shot or PDF of the Student Score Report to admissions@skidmore.edu (Name must be visible.)

If admitted and subsequently enroll based on self-reported scores, applicants must submit official test scores and can do so in the following ways:

- Official report from the testing agency
- High school transcript
- Your school counselor

Please note, admission could be at risk if official scores are not consistent with self-reported scores.

Financial Aid

A Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and the PROFILE form of the College Scholarship Service should be submitted no later than January 15 for Skidmore grant consideration for regular decision. New applicants obtain the FAFSA and the registration for the PROFILE form online. Financial aid applicants who are applying for admission under either Early Decision plan must file the PROFILE form of the College Scholarship Service by the appropriate Early Decision application deadline in order to be considered for a Skidmore grant. Transfer applicants should file the PROFILE and FAFSA forms by April 1. Skidmore's FAFSA code is 002814; the PROFILE code is 2815.

Candidates applying for financial aid must complete their financial aid application in order to be admitted.

First-year students who elect to enroll at Skidmore without financial assistance from the College may apply for consideration for aid beginning the first semester of their junior year. Transfer students who enroll without grant assistance from the College are eligible to apply for grant assistance after two semesters of matriculated enrollment at Skidmore or when they become juniors, whichever comes later.

Financial Aid Notification

Early Decision candidates are notified in accordance with the timetable outlined under "Early Decision." Regular Decision candidates hear from Skidmore in mid-March. Notification of financial aid eligibility/awards is sent with notification of admission.

Key Dates for Candidates to Remember

Date	Event
November 1	Application deadline for midyear transfer admission
November 15	Application deadline (admission and financial aid) for Round I Early Decision Plan
December 15	Notification of Round I Early Decision candidates
January 15	Application deadline for Regular Decision
January 15	Application deadline (admission and financial aid) for Round II Early Decision Plan
January 15	Application deadline for financial aid for Regular Decision
February 1	Final deadline for converting applications from Regular Decision to Early Decision Round II
Mid-February	Round II Early Decision notification
Mid-March	Admission and financial aid decisions to Regular Decision candidates
April 1	Application deadline for fall transfer admission

May 1

Deadline for enrollment deposits from accepted Regular Decision first-year candidates (This is the uniform Candidates' Reply Date.)

Non-Matriculated Students

Visiting Students

Students from other institutions may spend a year or a semester at Skidmore College as visiting students while concurrently maintaining enrollment at their own colleges. For information, contact the Registrar at Skidmore College.

Special Students

Special students are not matriculated at Skidmore but may take a partial or full load of courses each semester, up to a maximum of 10 courses. Special students register on a space-available basis through the Office of the Registrar and pay a fee for each semester hour of credit. An application form may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar. A \$25 application fee is charged per academic semester.

Continuation Standards for Non-Matriculated Students

All students enrolling on a non-matriculated basis are expected to complete their academic work in a satisfactory manner according to the chart below. Failure to meet these standards will result in a review by the Committee on Academic Standing and possible withdrawal from the institution.

After course number	Cumulative GPA required
1	1.67
2	1.85
3-10	2.00
After 10	Must matriculate or withdraw

Students who fall below these standards may apply for a one-time nonrenewable waiver in order to continue enrollment. Petitions will be reviewed by the Committee on Academic Standing, and the decision of the committee will be based on academic evidence indicating the student's potential for success.

Employees taking courses but not interested in obtaining a degree may petition the Committee on Academic Standing for a waiver of the 10-course limit.