

application

for transfer admission
2008–2009

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

A Statement to All Candidates

Thank you for your interest in Columbia University! Prospective undergraduate students may apply for both degree and non-degree programs within the University; the descriptions below should help you identify the division to which you should be applying. **You should use this application ONLY if you are applying for full-time study in Columbia College or in The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science.**

Columbia College. Columbia College is the undergraduate liberal arts division of Columbia University, serving full-time students only. Transfer candidates who entered college directly upon completion of secondary school typically apply to Columbia College.

The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS). SEAS offers both undergraduate and graduate degree programs; this application is only for undergraduate candidates.

School of General Studies. General Studies is also a liberal arts college, but it enrolls both part-time and full-time students and is largely non-residential. Students who have had an interruption in their education of more than one academic year (for any reason except mandatory military service) are strongly encouraged to apply to the School of General Studies instead of the College.

School of Continuing Education. The School of Continuing Education offers courses for advancement and graduate school preparation, summer courses, high school programs and the American Language Program for learning English as a second language.

Candidates interested in the School of General Studies or the School of Continuing Education should contact those divisions directly for further application information. This application is not valid for such candidates.

Transfer admission is highly selective. Columbia College and SEAS candidates are expected to have a minimum GPA of 3.5 overall.

Please also understand that due to the timing of the transfer process, we are generally unable to consider grades earned in the second semester of the year of application. Thus, high school grades, rigor of program and standardized test scores are all important in the evaluation of transfer credentials, especially for students applying for sophomore standing.

If you have applied to Columbia previously, the documents you provided at that time will not roll over, so you must resubmit any information requested by this transfer application. (Note: Standardized testing results previously sent by the College Board or ACT do not need to be resubmitted.) **For more detailed information on the transfer process and admission requirements, please carefully consult the Transfer Admission Web page at www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/applications/transfer.php.**

Who is eligible to apply for transfer to Columbia College or The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science?

- **Candidates must have completed, or be in the process of completing, the equivalent of one full academic year (at least 24 credits) at another institution in the United States or Canada or at a U.S.-style college/university abroad** (see definition on page 3). If you will have fewer than 24 credits at the end of the current academic year, you must apply as first-year students using the first-year application, by the appropriate Early Decision or Regular Decision deadline.
- **Candidates with more than four semesters of college coursework elsewhere are not encouraged to apply.**
- **Candidates interested in Columbia College who have had an interruption in their education of more than one academic year are strongly encouraged to apply instead to Columbia's School of General Studies** (see the paragraph on page 1 describing the School of General Studies). If you have any questions about your status, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Admissions at 212-854-2522 or the Office of General Studies Admissions at 212-854-3331. If you are interested in The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science (SEAS), then you should proceed with this application regardless of any interruptions in your education.
- **Candidates who left high school without receiving a diploma in order to attend an early college program must apply as first-year students using the first-year application, by the appropriate Early Decision or Regular Decision deadline.** You will not be eligible to receive credit for such accelerated programs except for credit earned through standardized examinations (e.g., AP and IB exams); such credit will be limited to 16 points, the equivalent of one full semester at Columbia.

Columbia College Visiting Student Program

Columbia College offers a Visiting Student Program, but there is no similar option available within SEAS. Undergraduates at other four-year institutions may study for one or two semesters before returning to their "home" institution. **Students who enter Columbia as visitors are not then allowed to apply as transfers.** If you are interested in applying as a visitor rather than as a transfer, please download an application online at www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions. You may not apply simultaneously as a transfer and as a visitor.