

## ENGLISH FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS (EFIS)

Bluefield State University's Office of International Initiatives, Honors College, and Service-Learning (OIIHCSL) invites applications from students around the world and newly arrived immigrants in the university's service area to enroll in its **English for International Students (EFIS)** program. This program is designed to help the language learner improve English proficiency in order to pursue an undergraduate degree at Bluefield State University. EFIS focuses on developing the language learner's competencies in listening, comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing English prior to being admitted into the university's academic degree programs.

Program highlights include: intensive English to prepare for university study; academic advising throughout the program; small classes which generally do not exceed 10 students; highly trained and experienced instructors; integrated access to all university facilities and events. Except Permanent Residents, au pairs, and CBYX students, all EFIS students are required to stay in campus housing, when available, for the duration of the program for positive intercultural and language immersion experiences.

**EFIS Academic Calendar:** **Basic** EFIS courses are offered in the fall (mid-August – mid-December) and **Advanced** EFIS courses are offered in the spring (mid-January- mid-May). EFIS students are also required to complete computer-based exercise drills. [However, students who do not enroll in a timely manner before the start of each semester, 8-week sessions will be offered during the middle of each 16-week semester with classes being held Monday through Thursday and computer-based drilled assignment on Fridays.]

**Eligibility:** EFIS is designed for English language learners who wish to study at Bluefield State University but who have **not** met the required TOEFL, IELTS, Eiken, GTEC CBT, Duolingo test scores that Bluefield State University will accept for direct admission.

EFIS will accept students with paper based TOEFL scores of 450-499 OR Internet based TOEFL scores from 55 - 60 OR IELTS scores from 4 - 5 OR EIKEN Grade 2 Level OR GTEC CBT scores of 990-1095 OR Duolingo Scores of 80 – 90.

If other English proficiency tests are administered in the international students' countries, applicants to the EFIS program may share the scores for possible admission into the EFIS program.

### **Non-college credit EFIS Courses:**

20 hours per week of classroom instruction and computer-based drills covering the core skills of listening, speaking, vocabulary, grammar, reading, and writing.

EFIS students will enroll in the following **non-credit courses**.

### **Fall Semester:**

- EFIS 90: BASIC LISTENING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- EFIS 91: BASIC READING SKILLS
- EFIS 92: BASIC GRAMMAR
- EFIS 93: BASIC WRITING

## **Spring Semester:**

EFIS 096: LISTENING AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS  
EFIS 097: READING SKILLS  
EFIS 098: GRAMMAR  
EFIS 099: WRITING (including research methods)

## **APPLICATION DEADLINE**

Applications for EFIS classes must be received by June 1.

## **Non-Resident applicants (F-1 visa or J-1 Visa), and Permanent Residents:**

Please complete the online non-degree students application form which is available here: <https://bluefieldstate.edu/admissions/non-degree-students> and comply with all the admission requirements stated in the online application for international students.

Please choose the applicable EFIS application form:

### **F-1 Visa**

### **J-1 Visa**

### **Permanent Residents**

Bluefield State University will issue the F-1 or J-1 visa to qualified international students for fulltime intensive English language study. In order to obtain the F-1 or J-1 visa a student must be offered admission and prove they can pay tuition and living expenses for the program.

F-1 or J-1 visa documents will be sent by Express Mail (DHL, FedEx) to the applicant's street address and NOT to a Post Office Box.

Note: F-1 and J-1 students enrolled in EFIS must reside in campus housing when available for the duration of the program.

Permanent Residents and third-party sponsored J-1 visa students (e.g., Au Pairs, CBYX students) are not required to reside in campus housing.

## **Tuition and fees and program-related costs:**

F1 and J1 Visa enrollees, tuition only: \$7641 per semester

US Permanent Resident (West Virginia residents), tuition only: \$4042 per semester

US Permanent Residents (non-West Virginia residents), tuition only: \$5640 per semester

Other EFIS program related per semester costs:

Textbooks and fees \$500 per semester

Other EFIS costs per semester for F-1 and J-1 Visa holders only:

Medical Insurance (\$200/month x 5 months) \$1000 per semester

For Room and board costs, see <https://bluefieldstate.edu/resources/student-life-office/housing>

**EFIS Program Completion Certification:**

Upon successful completion of the entire EFIS Program, students will receive a pre-baccalaureate Certificate of Completion indicating the English proficiency requirement for admission to Bluefield State University has been met. All regular admission policies of Bluefield State University apply to EFIS graduates who wish to enroll in a degree program at Bluefield State University.

EFIS Students who wish to enroll at other U.S. institutions of higher education will be advised to take the TOEFL test.

For all inquiries about the **English for International Students** program, please contact:

Office of International Initiatives, Honors College, and Service-Learning  
Bluefield State University  
219 Rock Street  
Bluefield, West Virginia 24701  
Telephone: (304) 327-4036  
Email: [efis@bluefieldstate.edu](mailto:efis@bluefieldstate.edu)