

## COLLEGE ADMISSIONS SUBGROUPS

Responsibility of	Faculty Senate
Approved by	Academic Planning Committee
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Next Review	Annual

### POLICY OVERVIEW

This policy describes several subgroups of College applicants, and outlines how the academic requirements for admission of those applicants may be modified compared to the general admissions requirements.

### PRINCIPLES

This policy is guided by the principles of integrity and transparency.

### SCOPE

This policy applies to all applicants to Briercrest College.

## POLICY STATEMENT

### Early Admission

Any current high school student who is enrolled in or has completed grade 11 may apply for early admission. Students must have a minimum 75 per cent average in five approved grade 11 courses which must include at least one academic English course with a grade of at least 65 per cent to be considered for early admission. The student must register for all remaining core requirements for grade 12 graduation. The student must register in any (if applicable) pre-requisite courses for the program of their choice at Briercrest.

### Home-Based Students

Students who have been home-schooled are eligible for admission with regular student status. Once all [standard admissions materials](#) have been submitted, the Admissions Office will evaluate applications to Briercrest according to the [general admissions policy](#).

There are two ways for home-schooled students to demonstrate their academic readiness...

1. **Graduating with a provincial diploma:** If a student's grade 12 studies are officially registered with their province's Ministry of Education, the Admissions Office will need to receive an official transcript from the province. Admission to Briercrest College will be based on completion of at least three university-preparatory grade 12 courses (including one academic English course with a grade of at least 60 percent) with a minimum average of 65 percent.
2. **Graduating without a provincial diploma:** Home-schooled students not registered with their province or state will be considered for admission on the basis of one or more of the following assessment tools:
  - Independent third party examinations, such as...
    - SAT with a minimum score of 1150; or
    - ACT with a minimum average of 22
  - A portfolio which includes...
    - a complete list of high school subjects completed, with grades (independent 3<sup>rd</sup> party statement of grades preferred)
    - academic writing samples
    - a résumé demonstrating work and volunteer experience
    - an educational reference

Acknowledging that each student's educational experience is unique, we take the evaluation process seriously because we want to see each student succeed at the postsecondary level. The Admissions Office may ask for more information in order to make an admission decision, and may offer acceptance with conditions (see "Conditional Acceptance" below) until academic readiness can be achieved.

## Transfer Students

Students applying to Briercrest College after they've attempted 24 or more credit hours of approved post-secondary education are considered Transfer Students. Transfer Students must submit all [standard admissions materials](#) to the Admissions Office, and also must ensure that official transcripts are forwarded to Briercrest from all previously attended post-secondary institutions. Transfer Students will be admitted to Briercrest if they earned at least a 2.0 cumulative Grade Point Average in their accredited post-secondary studies, and if they meet the other non-academic requirements of the [general admissions policy](#).

The Transfer Student's previous post-secondary transcripts will be evaluated by Academic Services, following the [Credit Transfer and Prior Learning Policy](#), to determine how previous coursework will apply to the student's chosen Briercrest program. Transfer Students will be considered from: Universities, Accredited Christian post-secondary institutions, Colleges of Applied Arts and Technology, Unaccredited Christian post-secondary schools (including YWAM and Capernwray programs).

Applicants who have attempted less than 24 credit hours are eligible to transfer in credits but will be considered a new student. Entrance for these applicants will be based on high school academic requirements.

Applicants who fail to meet the Transfer Student minimum GPA requirement (see above) may be considered for Conditional Acceptance.

## Re-Entry Students

Students who take a semester or more off from studies at Briercrest are re-entry students. Students who have been away for less than one year plus one semester should contact Academic Services. Re-entry students who have been away from studies for one year plus one semester are required to re-apply to the college and will be required to join the most recent version of their program.

## International Students

Students whose citizenship is outside of North America must apply as International Students. International Students must submit all [standard admissions materials](#) to the Admissions Office, and must pay the international student application fee.

International Students will be admitted to Briercrest if they have achieved secondary level standing, if they have completed the courses listed in the [general admissions policy](#), and if their high school grades (once converted to correspond with Canadian grading systems) meet the GPA requirements of the [general admissions policy](#).

In addition, since the primary language of instruction at Briercrest College and Seminary is English, all International Student applicants must demonstrate an appropriate level of proficiency in the English language through one of the following test scores...

- IELTS – 6.5 scoring a minimum of 6 in each category (reading, listening, speaking, writing)
- TOEFL – 83 scoring a minimum of 19 in each category (reading, listening, speaking, writing)
- CAEL – 60 minimum score
- MELAB – 85 minimum score

Exemptions to the English proficiency test requirement:

1. Completion of North American high school studies in English
  - 3 years (grades 10, 11, and 12) with ELA A30 and B30 (minimum grade of 65%)
  - 2.5 years (grades 11 and 12) with English (minimum grade of 70%)
  - 2 years (grades 11 and 12) with English (minimum grade of 80%)
2. Completion of international secondary studies in English. Acceptable English Language curricula include...
  - Advanced Placement (AP) English – 4 or better
  - International Baccalaureate (IB) English A1 or A2 Higher Level – 5 or better
  - International Baccalaureate (IB) English B Higher Level – 5 or better
  - GCSE/IGSCE/GCE O-level English, English Language, or English as a Second Language – B or better
  - GCE A/AS/AICE Level English or English Language – B or better
3. Post-Secondary Educational Credentials for English Proficiency: Successful completion of at least 24 credit hours in an approved English-language post-secondary institution, including at least 6 credit hours in humanities or social science subjects and with a minimum GPA of 60% or equivalent is considered acceptable demonstration of proficiency in English.
4. It is widely recognized among Canadian postsecondary institutions that international applicants from certain countries have received sufficient instruction in English in their countries of origin. Applicants from these countries will typically not be required to provide an English proficiency test result. A list of these countries will be maintained by the Admissions Office and will be published on Briercrest's website. However, Briercrest reserves the right to require English proficiency test results from international applicants of these countries, if the Admissions Office sees insufficient evidence of English proficiency.

### ***Application Deadlines for International Students***

For September enrolment, applications must be received by March 15 (For US students, July 1)

For January enrolment, applications must be received by August 15 (For US students, Nov 1)

Applications received after these dates will be reviewed, but start date will be determined by study permit application timelines.

### ***Foreign Verification Policy***

Briercrest may require that the academic records of applicants who have completed post-secondary education outside of Canada and/or the United States be assessed for Canadian equivalency. This would include a course-by-course or comprehensive assessment.

### ***Financial Requirements (not applicable for U.S. students)***

International students requiring a study permit to attend Briercrest College and Seminary will be considered for admission only if they can meet the requirements of a financial guarantee for themselves and all dependents that will be accompanying them to Canada. This will be done by depositing sufficient funds to cover tuition, living expenses, and other school fees for the student and family for the first year of studies in the applicant's Briercrest College and Seminary student account. This information is required for the study permit application.

**NOTE:** These amounts will be held on deposit at the college until they are needed for their intended purpose. Payment should be made in Canadian funds and is payable only by wire transfer, certified cheque, MasterCard, or VISA.

### **International Students – USA**

Students whose citizenship is in the United States of America must submit all [standard admissions materials](#) to the Admissions Office. American Students will be admitted to Briercrest if they have earned a high school diploma, completed the courses listed in the [general admissions policy](#), and met the GPA requirements of the [general admissions policy](#).

In addition, American Students must submit their SAT Reasoning or ACT scores to the Admissions Office:

- SAT minimum required score: 1150
  - [www.collegeboard.org](http://www.collegeboard.org)
  - SAT scores must be mailed to the Briercrest Admissions Office at: 510 College Drive, Caronport, SK, S0H 0S0 Canada
- ACT minimum required score: 22
  - [www.act.org](http://www.act.org)
  - Briercrest school code for ACT is 5206

### **Mature Students**

Mature applicants who do not meet the academic requirements of Briercrest College's [general admissions policy](#) may still be eligible to study at Briercrest. To be considered for Mature Admission you must meet the following criteria:

- You must be 23 years of age by the first day of classes.
- You must be entering the first year of study. Applicants who have completed 24 or more transfer-eligible postsecondary credit hours are not eligible to apply for Mature Admission.
- International students will not be eligible for Mature Admission.

If it is determined that you are a suitable candidate for Mature Admission according to the above criteria, then you will need to submit [all standard admission materials](#) to the Admissions Office. In addition, the Admissions Office will ask for the following information which will help us evaluate your readiness for studying at Briercrest College:

- Proof of Age: A copy of your driver's license, transcript document, or birth certificate.
- A written request for Mature Admission: This is a statement that explains your interest in Briercrest College (reason for choosing us), education and career goals, and overall desire to return to school. You will need to speak to your ability to undertake university-level study and let us know whatever else you think might be relevant to your request for Mature Admission.
- Current Resume: This will help us understand what you have been up to since high school and how you have become the person you are today.
- Proof of Other Credentials (if applicable): Copies of supporting documents\* covering any non-credit programs you might have completed (job-related courses, Adult Basic Education, General Equivalency Diploma) should be included with your written submission.

## Conditional Acceptance

In cases where an applicant does not meet admissions requirements, Briercrest College reserves the right to offer conditional admission and may revoke admission if conditions are not fulfilled by the applicant.

Should an applicant be offered conditional acceptance, the following conditions will apply:

- Students will be able to register for a maximum of 12 credit hours in their first two (2) semesters at Briercrest.
- Students will be required to register for ACAD 100 Academic Strategies and Communication in their first semester.
- Students must meet with the Director of Student Success to set up a Student Success Plan that will prescribe the academic supports which will guide them through their first semester. The Student Success Plan will likely include a requirement to meet with an academic coach on a weekly basis for the academic semester. Their academic coach will be an employee of the Academic Resource Centre and will help the student to prepare for college academics. The student can expect that, at the beginning of the term, a fee will be placed on their student account to cover the cost of this academic coaching program.

- Students will not be eligible to receive any financial awards from Briercrest College in their first semester.
- By the end of the academic year, the student's goal is to reach a cumulative grade point average (GPA) that is above the AP status and RTD status levels listed in Academic Probation and Required to Discontinue policy.

*Briercrest College and Seminary reserves the right to refuse admission even when the applicant has met the stated entrance requirements.*

## Low High School Average

When an applicant's high school average—calculated according to the College Admissions Requirements policy—is below 70%, then, if the applicant is accepted, they will be required to attempt ACAD 100 Academic Strategies and Communication during their first semester of study at Briercrest College (or as soon as possible, if ACAD 100 isn't offered during the student's first semester). The student may appeal this requirement through the Academic Review and Appeal Process.

## APPENDIX A

Related Forms/Policies	<a href="#">College Academic Calendar</a>
Where is this policy published	<a href="#">College Academic Calendar</a>
Contact Information	Academic Services