Foreign Student Admission to UNICAMP
We are glad that you are interested in studying at Unicamp. The following document has more information on eligibility and application procedures for both undergraduate and graduate applicants. Keep in mind that Unicamp does not charge tuition and, for this reason, there is no information on this matter in this guide.

1. Admission to Undergraduate Programs

1.1. Regular undergraduate students (degree-seeking students – 4 to 6 years of study)
To enroll as a regular student in one of UNICAMP's 66 undergraduate courses, foreign students usually have to pass the Vestibular entrance examination, required for Brazilian students as well. However, other alternatives are also available for special cases, such as transfer students, students on the Exchange Program for Undergraduate Students (PEC-G), refugee or asylum students and courtesy vacancies. Eligibility and procedures to each of these cases are described below.

1.1.1 The Vestibular entrance examination
Unicamp’s COMVEST\(^1\) organizes the Vestibular entrance examination, offered once a year and only in Portuguese. You may find information on how to register as well as the test dates and registration deadlines on www.comvest.unicamp.br.

Unicamp’s Vestibular is a highly competitive examination. Only well-prepared candidates will be able to pass the exam, and the preparation includes being familiar with subjects such as Brazilian history, geography, politics and national events. Specific aptitude tests are also required for candidates wishing to enroll in some of the courses.

Registration for the Vestibular begins usually in September. The first of two tests happen in November or in the beginning of December. Students approved in the first test take a second one at the beginning of January. The academic year at UNICAMP begins in February, with classes generally starting the first week in March.

Brazilian law requires that Vestibular candidates present a CPF\(^2\) and either a RNE\(^3\) or a Passport. Please get in touch with the Brazilian Embassy/Consulate in your country to find out if it is possible to obtain a temporary/short-term visa that allows you to obtain a CPF. In some countries and in some cases, it is possible to obtain a CPF before you come to Brazil. A list of Brazilian Embassies and Consulates can be found here\(^4\).

1.1.2. Transfer students
Admission of students from another institution of higher education, whether national or international, is dependent on the availability of vacant seats on each undergraduate course. The number of vacancies and registration procedures are available at www.comvest.unicamp.br (click

---

1 COMVEST – Comissão Permanente para os Vestibulares
2 CPF – Cadastro de Pessoa Física
3 RNE – Registro Nacional de Estrangeiro
on “vagas remanescentes”). To be considered as a candidate, a student must have successfully completed at least two academic semesters at his or her original institution.

The admission process is divided in three stages:

1. Exame de Conhecimentos Gerais – A General Knowledge Test of 40 multiple choice questions on Portuguese, English, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Geography and History.
2. Análise de Compatibilidade de Currículo – Students approved in the General Knowledge Test should present a series of documents\(^5\) that demonstrate student eligibility and compatible coursework.
3. Prova Específica de Conhecimento – Students considered eligible and with compatible coursework must take a course-specific test\(^6\).

The following courses also require an aptitude test after the Prova Específica: Architecture and Urbanism, Drama, Visual Arts, Dance and Music.

1.1.3 The Exchange Program for Undergraduate Students (PEC-G)

The Exchange Program for Undergraduate Students (PEC-G) provides students from developing countries with which Brazil maintains educational, cultural or scientific and technological agreements the opportunity to pursue their undergraduate studies in Brazilian Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), including Unicamp. PEC-G is administered by the Ministry of External Relations (MRE) and the Ministry of Education (MEC), in partnership with HEIs throughout the country.

To participate, applicants must submit the required documents at the Embassy or Consulate of Brazil in their country. Applicants must have completed the corresponding study level to the Brazilian High School (secondary school) in some country other than Brazil; cannot be Brazilian citizens; cannot be holders of dual nationality nor holders of any type of visa to Brazil.

By participating in this program, students can benefit from a series of advantages, including a selection examination instead of the vestibular, free tuition and recognition of the UNICAMP degree in their home country. However, students are usually responsible for their own expenses, including international flights, room and board. Candidates also agree to return to their country of origin no later than 3 months after completion of their studies.

Brazilian embassies in the participating countries\(^7\) can provide information about the program, and selection procedures. The embassies also administer the selection process, which is generally carried out with government officials from the respective country. If they are selected, students will receive a letter to be presented to the host institution in Brazil and a temporary student visa.

Based on test scores and vacancies in HEIs in Brazil, the embassy will designate the candidate's host institution among the participating Brazilian HEIs. Foreign students holding a permanent, diplomatic or tourist visa and Brazilian citizens whose parents are living abroad are not allowed to participate in the program.

Information on eligibility and selection procedures for the program is available at the Ministry of Education website (http://portal.mec.gov.br/pec-g) and Ministry of External Relations website (http://www.dce.mre.gov.br/PEC/PECG.php).

---

\(^5\) List of documents for 2016: www.comvest.unicamp.br/vr2016/documentos_analise.html

\(^6\) Test program for 2016: https://www.comvest.unicamp.br/vr2016/programas.html

\(^7\) Participating counties on 24/11/2015: www.dce.mre.gov.br/en/PEC/paises_participantes.html
1.1.4 Refugee students
In order to request admission to Unicamp as a refugee, students must already be living in Brazil. He/she should then come personally to DAC\(^8\) to fill a request for a refugee admission and present the official documents to prove his/her refugee status. The applicant should also bring any documents that validates his/her prior studies (transcripts, diplomas, etc).

UNICAMP maintains a specific Commission for Refugees, which is responsible for studying requests submitted by refugee or asylum students. Each academic department, however, makes the final decision.

1.1.5. Courtesy vacancies
Courtesy admission to UNICAMP is available for foreign officers and their dependents while on a diplomatic mission as long as there is a reciprocal relationship with Brazil.

In order to request courtesy admission to Unicamp, students must already be living in Brazil. He/she should then come personally to DAC\(^8\) to fill a request for a courtesy admission and present the official documents to prove his/her diplomatic-related status. The applicant should also bring any documents that validates his/her prior studies (transcripts, diplomas, etc).

The selection requirements are determined by the specific department where the student wishes to pursue his/her studies.

1.2 Special undergraduate students (non-degree-seeking – 1 to 4 semesters of study)
For foreign students who are interested in a non-degree program (which does not lead to a degree certificate), there is the possibility of enrollment as “special students” – estudantes especiais. To qualify as a special student, the candidate must be enrolled in an institution of higher education in his/her country of origin or must hold a bachelor’s degree. For special students, Unicamp issues only a certificate showing the courses and respective grades and credits.

For registration purposes, there are two kinds of special students: exchange students and free-movers.

a) **Exchange students** are the ones taking part of one of Unicamp’s exchange agreements with more than 100 universities worldwide. They must be nominated by their home institution. If accepted, they are able to take up to 24 credits including a Portuguese for Foreigners course administered by the UNICAMP Language Center (CEL). In order to apply, they must fill the application form available at the VRERI website\(^9\) and provide the documents described in the form.

b) **Free-movers** are students who are either from a non-partner university or who have not been nominated by one of Unicamp’s partners. If accepted, they are able to take up to 14 credits. In order to apply, they must fill the application form available at the VRERI website\(^9\) and provide the documents described in the form. Note that free-movers are required to submit a recommendation letter from their home university.

After DAC and VRERI undertake a preliminary review of the student’s request, a letter of conditional acceptance at the university will be issued and emailed to the student with a digital certification. This will enable the student to apply for a student visa, required for class registration upon arrival.

---

\(^8\) DAC – Diretoria Acadêmica - Rua Sérgio Buarque de Holanda, 290 - Campinas - SP, (19) 3521-6401

\(^9\) [www.internationaloffice.unicamp.br/english/international-students/application-procedures/](http://www.internationaloffice.unicamp.br/english/international-students/application-procedures/)
You should not try to come on a tourist visa: **A change of visa status after entering Brazil is not possible.**

**Registration dates**

Class enrollment (registration) for special students is usually in March (1st semester) and in August (2nd semester). A full academic calendar with the specific dates for each year is available at [www.dac.unicamp.br/portal/grad/calendarios](http://www.dac.unicamp.br/portal/grad/calendarios).

### 2. Admission to Graduate Programs

#### 2.1 Regular graduate students (degree-seeking students)

To be eligible for admission as a degree-seeking graduate student (i.e., masters or doctoral programs), students must hold a university degree. Admission to graduate programs is subject to course-specific standards and requirements, which vary from one field to another. In order to find out these requirements, the student must get in touch with the specific department and request admission information (selection procedures, deadlines, etc). In general, applicants are evaluated by means of a written exam, a study plan and personal interviews. A list of graduate programs is available at the Graduate Affairs Office’s [webpage](http://www2.prpg.gr.unicamp.br/prpg/?page_id=172).

Foreign students have their requests and documents initially reviewed by the Graduate Program Coordinator of the program he/she is interested. If accepted, a letter of conditional acceptance at the university will be issued and emailed to the student with a digital certification. This will enable the student to apply for a student visa, required for class registration upon arrival. You should not try to come on a tourist visa: **A change of visa status after entering Brazil is not possible.**

#### 2.2 The Brazilian Student Exchange Program for Graduates (PEC-PG)

The Exchange Program for Graduate Students (PEC-PG) provides students from developing countries with which Brazil maintains educational, cultural or scientific and technological agreements the opportunity to pursue their graduate studies in Brazilian Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), including Unicamp. PEC-PG is administered by the Ministry of External Relations (MRE), the Ministry of Education (MEC), the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI) and partnering HEIs throughout Brazil.


To be eligible, candidates must meet a series of requirements, including:

- Be a citizen of one of the eligible countries and not a citizen of Brazil
- Do not hold a permanent Brazilian Visa
- Hold a bachelors or master’s degree
- Hold the CELPE-Bras (Portuguese Language Proficiency Exam) certificate
- Show proof that they (and, if necessary, their family) have the financial means to travel to and live in Brazil until receiving the first installment of their scholarship

If a student is eligible, he/she should follow the procedures described in the item “**2.1 Regular graduate students (degree-seeking students)**” above.

---

10 [http://www2.prpg.gr.unicamp.br/prpg/?page_id=172](http://www2.prpg.gr.unicamp.br/prpg/?page_id=172)
11 On Nov 24th 2015, this was the list of requirements - [www.dce.mre.gov.br/PEC/PG/candidatura.php](http://www.dce.mre.gov.br/PEC/PG/candidatura.php)
Upon receiving the letter of conditional acceptance, the student should then proceed to complete his/her application to the PEC-PG program, according to the instructions on the following pages:

- Master’s - [http://www.cnpq.br/web/guest/pec-pg](http://www.cnpq.br/web/guest/pec-pg)

The final decision on scholarship awards will be made based on the availability of scholarships, the number of candidates per country and course, and the candidate's field of study. Unicamp is not responsible for this selection and is not able to intercede for any particular student.

### 2.3 Special Students

For foreign students who are interested in a non-degree program (which does not lead to a degree certificate), there is the possibility of enrollment as “special students” – estudantes especiais. To qualify as a special student, the candidate must be enrolled as a graduate student in an institution of higher education in his/her country of origin or must hold a bachelor’s degree. For special students, Unicamp issues only a certificate showing the courses and respective grades and credits.

For registration purposes, there are two kinds of special students: exchange students and free-movers.

a) **Exchange students** are the ones taking part of one of Unicamp’s exchange agreements with more than 100 universities worldwide. They must be nominated by their home institution. In order to apply, they must fill the application form available at the VRERI website[^12] and provide the documents described in the form.

b) **Free-movers** are students who are either from a non-partner university or who have not been nominated by one of Unicamp’s partners. In order to apply, they must fill the application form available at the VRERI website[^12] and provide the documents described in the form. Note that free-movers are required to submit a recommendation letter from their home university.

After DAC and VRERI undertake a preliminary review of the student's request, a letter of conditional acceptance at the university will be issued and emailed to the student with a digital certification. This will enable the student to apply for a student visa, required for class registration upon arrival. You should not try to come on a tourist visa: **A change of visa status after entering Brazil is not possible.**

### Registration dates

Class enrollment (registration) for special students is usually in March (1st semester) and in August (2nd semester). The academic calendar with each year’s official dates is available at [www.dac.unicamp.br/portal/grad/calendarios](http://www.dac.unicamp.br/portal/grad/calendarios).

### Contact Information

If you have any questions after reading this guide, please get in touch with the International Relations Office – VRERI by writing to mobilidade_estudantil@reitoria.unicamp.br.

[^12]: [www.internationaloffice.unicamp.br/english/international-students/application-procedures/](http://www.internationaloffice.unicamp.br/english/international-students/application-procedures/)