

UTSA BORDER COUNTY PROGRAM

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Border County Program?

The Student Tuition Assistance Program, known as “Border County Program,” allows eligible F1/J1 visa students from Mexico to pay Texas in-state tuition. The purpose of the Border County Program is to encourage students from Mexico with limited financial resources to enroll in Texas public institutions of higher education. The UTSA Border County Program is a need-based program and not a competitive scholarship.

How do I apply for the Border County Program?

An application is available at <http://www.utsa.edu/intprograms/Documents/BC%20Application%20in%20English1%202009-2010.pdf> and in the Office of International Programs. The application needs to be completed and submitted, along with the required documentation to the OIP in accordance with the deadlines.

Must I be admitted to the University (UTSA) before applying for the Border County program?

Yes, you must be officially admitted to the University and must hold a valid F1 or J1 visa.

What is the deadline to submit the application?

Fall Semester: July 15; Spring Semester: November 15; Summer Semester: April 15

If I do not depend financially on my parents, how do I fill out my application for Border County?

An applicant that does not depend financially on his/her parents must be 24 years of age or older to be able to apply independently. If you are 24 years or older, you must provide information pertaining to your income only.

What must I provide if another person, in conjunction with my parents, will assist in payment of my tuition?

If the applicant is a dependent of his/her parents, he/she must provide financial information for his/her parents. If the applicant is funded by a different sponsor, he/she must provide proof of income for that sponsor and a letter specifying the monthly amount that will be contributed to the applicant’s education.

If I (or my parents) am the owner of a business, how do I report my financial information?

The applicant must submit a letter (on official business letterhead) from a bookkeeper or public notary reporting monthly gross income derived from the business and attach proof substantiating the value of business (income taxes, financial statement, etc.).

If I am approved to participate in the Program, for how long will I be eligible to pay in-state tuition?

You will be eligible to pay Texas in-state tuition for the Fall semester of the calendar year in which you become eligible, including Spring and Summer semesters of the next calendar year (academic year).

If I am approved for an academic year, must I apply again for the next academic year?

Yes, it is called Re-certification for the Border County Program. All participants (regardless of the semester they entered the program) will be required to update and renew their Border County Program applications during the following Fall Semester.

If I was not approved, when can I re-apply?

You will have to wait until the beginning of the next academic year to submit another application, unless you have proof that your financial situation has changed considerably (i.e., bankruptcy, loss of employment, natural disaster, etc.).

How do you process the Border County applications?

We review applications in accordance with deadlines of each application period.

Prior to the semester start date, a list of the approved Border County student participants will be forwarded by the OIP to the UTSA Business Manager Office where students' accounts will be adjusted for in-state tuition rate.

During designated periods at the beginning of the Spring and Summer semesters, the OIP will continue to accept Border County applications from newly admitted international students only.