



Guide for NUFYP and undergraduate programs' applicants

Dear Applicant!



The Office of Enrollment Management and Admissions Departments has prepared a guide to help you apply to NUFYP and undergraduate programs. After completing secondary school you can apply to NU for two programs:

- [NUFYP](#)
- [Undergraduate](#)

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GUIDE FOR UNDERGRADUATE APPLICANTS

Want to study at NU but can't decide what program level to apply to? Don't worry, just answer the questions below.

No	Question	Yes/ No
1	Do I have enough subjects in English to continue my further studies in English?	Yes/ No
2	Do I know my future major? What major is right for me ?	Yes/ No
3	Do I need help to choose my future major?	Yes/ No
4	Am I good at Math?	Yes/ No
5	Do I know the differences between general and academic English?	Yes/ No
6	Do I know about academic integrity, plagiarism and how it could negatively affect my future?	Yes/ No

If most of the answers are "NO" we would like to share information on NUFYP first. If you have more "Yes" answers check out information about Undergraduate programs. Anyway, we recommend you to read all the information provided.

WHAT IS NUFYP?

NUFYP (Nazarbayev University Foundation Year Program) is a one year intensive academic program at the Center for Preparatory Studies of NU. The program provides intensive personal development, study skills, mathematics, and academic language proficiency preparation to the undergraduate programs of NU.

Check out the video of Robert Doebler, General Director of the Center for Preparatory Studies, answering the question "[Is NUFYP the right choice for you?](#)"

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR NUFYP (ON A SCHOLARSHIP BASIS)?

- September 25, 2022 - start of the application period;
- November 30, 2022 - the deadline for application;
- December 20, 2022 - the deadline for the submission of IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill certificates;
- Entry examination - NUET (tentative dates):
 - February 19, 2023 - Astana & Almaty;



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- February 26, 2023 - Atyrau, Kokshetau, Semey, Taldykorgan, Shymkent, Karaganda, Uralsk;
- March 5, 2023 - Aktobe, Pavlodar, Aktau, Petropavlovsk, Oskemen, Taraz, Kyzylorda, Kostanay.
- TBA - the date of submission of additional IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill certificates, only for those who submitted language test results before December 20, 2022 (if you received better results and want to improve your chances);
- May – July* - Sending notifications about admission;
- June – July - Submission of hard copies of documents (upon request);
- August 7 - Dormitory check-in for new students;
- August 14 - Start of Orientation week;
- August 21 - First day of classes;
- Dates of admission to study on a fee-paying basis are published in the "[Enrollment on a fee-paying basis](#)" section of NU website.

*Applicants from the waiting list may receive an admission offer if vacant places become available until the start of the classes.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM?

The following individuals are eligible:

1. Individuals studying in higher education institutions;
2. Individuals graduated from secondary, post-secondary or higher education institutions;
3. Individuals in the final year of secondary education institutions, technical, vocational, post-secondary and higher education institutions.

WHAT SHOULD APPLICANTS SUBMIT?

1. filled application form;
2. a scanned copy of proof of your studies at a final grade/course with photo (according to the template in a Personal account in one of the languages) or a notarized copy of a certificate/diploma with transcripts if you have already completed a relevant level of study;
3. a scanned copy of national ID card and/or passport. Important: to take the entry exam an applicant must have a passport or a national identity card uploaded to a Personal account;
4. upload a 3*4 photo for documents to the "Profile" section in your Personal account;
5. upload IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill test results after application submission to the NUFYP.

HOW TO CREATE AN APPLICATION FORM?

The basic condition to participate in the NUFYP competition is to **go through the online application process**. To start your application, go to admissions.nu.edu.kz, create a Personal account, pay the application fee and fill out the Application form in English thoroughly.

You need to make a payment to get access to the Application form. **The fee is 3000 tenge** and is non-refundable, even if an application is rejected.

The Application form consists of five tabs listed below:

- Personal information - here you will need to include all the details from your passport/national ID, your contact details etc;



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- Education - here you will need to elaborate more about your educational background and exams;
- Family information - this section requires information about your parents/custodians, brothers and sisters with their contact details;
- Additional information - if you want to share some more information about yourself, hence use this section for it;
- Consent form - it is a consent for processing your personal data, so NU can check and process your documents in the competition.
- All information submitted by the applicant is confidential and will not be shared with the third parties.

Please click the "SAVE" button in the bottom-right-corner of each application page. After completing the application, press the "UPLOAD" button at the end of your Application form. Your saved application will appear in "MY APPLICATION FORM". You can still edit or delete your application at this stage. After completing and uploading the Application form you should attach all required documents such as ID/passport/birth certificate, copy of diploma, transcript etc. in PDF/JPEG formats. The maximum file size should not exceed 5MB. Please upload a 3*4 photo for documents to the "Profile" section in your Personal account. To finalize the application process, please press the "**SUBMIT APPLICATION**" button. After submission you cannot change your applications and submitted documents.

Please note that you have to submit your Application form and all supporting documents **before the deadline**.

WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

In order to apply to the NUFYP you will need to submit English proficiency test results and pass Nazarbayev University Entrance Test (hereinafter - NUET) exams. If you take the English proficiency test, it should be passed by yourself. NUET will be organized by NU for free.

English proficiency tests

After completion of the Application form, you must submit your test results for one of the following English proficiency tests: IELTS/TOEFL (iBT)/Linguaskill.

NOTE: IELTS Online, TOEFL iBT Home Edition and TOEFL PDT results are not considered in the competition.

In order to provide a scanned copy of valid Linguaskill results, please upload it to the My application forms section of the Personal account after submission of the application to the NUFYP. You also have to send electronic results of Linguaskill via the Test Center with confirmation that the test was taken in person at the Test Center (not remotely).

In order to provide a scanned copy of valid IELTS/TOEFL certificates, please upload it in the «UPLOAD IELTS/TOEFL RESULTS» section of your Personal account. You are also required to send official electronic certificates of IELTS/TOEFL via Test administrator directly to NU.

The University's Designated Institution Code for:

- IELTS: Nazarbayev University;
- TOEFL iBT: 6762;
- Linguaskill: Nazarbayev University.



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Minimum requirements of English language test results:

- Academic IELTS: overall score of 6.0 (5.0 in each section);
- TOEFL iBT: overall score - 60, writing - 16, reading - 6, speaking - 15, listening - 5;
- Linguaskill: overall score - 170, in each section - 161. Certificate is considered without superscoring. A collective certificate with the best scores for each section is not accepted.
- IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill tests must be taken in person at the Test Center (not remotely);
- IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill certificates are considered without superscoring;
- IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill certificates must be valid by August 01, 2023 - the beginning of the respective academic year;
- Only applicants who provide IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill results, which meet minimum requirements and within the specified deadline, can be allowed to take NUET exam (see below).

ARE USEFUL MATERIALS:

IELTS

- [Prepare for IELTS](#)
- Coursera: [Speaking Skills for University Success](#)
- Coursera: [IELTS Preparation Specialization](#)
- Coursera: [IELTS Listening and Speaking Sections Skills Mastery](#)
- Coursera: [IELTS Reading Section Skills Mastery](#)
- Coursera: [IELTS Writing Section Skills Mastery](#)
- Listening: [BBC Learning English - 6 Minute English](#)
- Listening: [LearnEnglish Podcast](#)
- Listening: [Road to IELTS](#)
- Reading: [New Scientist Magazine](#)
- Reading: [Wonderopolis - learner site](#)
- Writing: [Review the IELTS writing - sample reports](#)
- Writing: [The UEFAP.com site](#)
- Speaking: [Speaking clubs in your cities](#)
- [DCIELTS.com](#) - Speaking guide

TOEFL

- [Preparation materials](#)
- EDX: [TOEFL® Test Preparation: The Insider's Guide](#)
- Linguaskill - [link](#) to the information about the test with preparation materials.

NUET

If your English proficiency test results meet the required minimum you will be invited to take NUET. This is a multiple-choice questions test and evaluates your academic training for studying at NU. Information about access to the entry examination and also test results will be placed in your Personal account. Please note that NUET is free of charge and there is no appeal procedure. Briefly about NUET:

- 2 subject sections - Mathematics and Critical Thinking & Problem Solving.
- Number of questions – 60.
- Test content – multiple-choice questions.



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- Test duration – 120 minutes. Minimum passing score – 120 in total for 2 subjects, while minimum passing score for each of the subjects shall not be less than 50. For example, $50 + 70 = 120$ – is a minimum passing score in total.
- In case of applying for both NUFYP and Undergraduate programs according to the “NUET applicants” category, an applicant is invited to the test once and takes it 1 time. Therefore, it is important to indicate in the Application forms the same city for passing the test. NUFYP and Undergraduate programs' Admission Committees will consider the results of one exam.
- Test results are available in 6 weeks in a [Personal account](#).
- Applicants are informed about examination date and venue, information on format, as well as required documents and Rules of conduct during the examination via email approximately 5 days prior to the exams.
- If a violation of rules or conditions of passing the test occurs, the applicant's results are canceled. In this case, the applicant is excluded from the competition. Disqualified applicants will not be able to enroll in NU in the future.
- There is no appeal procedure.
- More information about NUET can be found on our [website](#).

Useful materials:

- [NUFYP Application Instructions](#)
- [Mathematics Specification](#)
- [Mathematics Specimen Paper for NUET SET 2022](#)
- [Mathematic Specimen Paper for NUET Set 2021](#)
- [Critical Thinking & Problem Solving Specification](#)
- [Critical Thinking & Problem Solving Specimen Paper for NUET SET 2022](#)
- [Critical Thinking & Problem Solving Specimen Paper for NUET SET 2021](#)
- EDX: [Critical Thinking Skills Courses](#)
- Unofficial [NUET Guide](#) by Applicants Support Club (in Russian)
- [NU Applicants Support Telegram \(info\)](#)
- [NU Applicants Support Telegram \(preparation\)](#)

Based on the competition results all applicants will be ranked and top listed will receive the admission offer. After receiving the offer applicants should confirm or decline it. If there are applicants who reject the offer, next ranked applicants will receive it. Thus, some applicants could receive their offers by the first day of the beginning of their studies. At the same time those candidates who do not receive the offer will be recommended also for fee-paying admission to the program.

Following applicants can participate in the selection process for the enrollment on a fee-paying basis:

- those who took part in the selection process of the current year for state educational grants and were included in the waiting list without receiving a grant;
- those who register on the admissions.nu.edu.kz portal and independently passed IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill and SAT/ACT with results meeting the minimum admission requirements indicated below:



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Subject test		English proficiency
SAT - 1140	and	Academic IELTS – 6.0 (min. 5.0 in sections)
or		or
ACT - 23		TOEFL iBT – 60, writing - 16 reading - 6, speaking - 15, listening - 5
		or
		Linguaskill - 170, 161 in each section

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR NUFYP (ON A FEE-PAYING BASIS)?

- March (TBA) 2023 - start of the application period;
- TBA - the deadline for application;
- TBA - the deadline for the submission of IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill certificates;
- TBA - the date of submission of additional IELTS/TOEFL/Linguaskill certificates (if you received better results and want to improve your chances);
- TBA - sending notifications about admission;
- TBA - submission of hard copies of documents (upon request);
- August 7 - Dormitory check-in for new students;
- August 14 - Start of Orientation week;
- August 21 - First day of classes;
- Dates of admission to study on a fee-paying basis will be published in the “Enrollment on a fee-paying basis” section of the nu.edu.kz website.

WHAT IS AN UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM?

Undergraduate is more suitable for those who already know what major to apply for and knows/ speaks good academic English.

WHAT IS THE TIMELINE FOR THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM?

- October 24, 2022 - Start of the application Period;
- December 29, 2022 - The deadline for application for NUET category applicants;
- March 9, 2023 - The deadline for application for international applicants;
- April 17, 2023 - The deadline for application for local applicants;
- December 29, 2022 - The deadline for the submission of IELTS/TOEFL certificates for NUET category applicants;
- March 9, 2023 - The deadline for the submission of IELTS/TOEFL certificates for international applicants;
- April 29, 2023 - The deadline for the submission of IELTS/TOEFL certificates for local applicants;
- Entry examination - NUET (tentative dates):



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- February 19 - Astana & Almaty;
- February 26 - Atyrau, Kokshetau, Semey, Taldykorgan, Shymkent, Karaganda, Uralsk;
- March 5 - Aktobe, Pavlodar, Aktau, Petropavlovsk, Oskemen, Taraz, Kyzylorda, Kostanay.
- July– August - Sending notifications about the Decision of Admission;
- July – August - Submission of hard copies of documents (upon request);
- August 4 - Dormitory check-in for new students;
- August 7 - Start of Orientation week;
- August 14 - First day of classes;

AM I ELIGIBLE?

The following individuals are eligible:

1. Individuals in the final year of secondary education institutions, technical, vocational institutions or individuals who is currently studying in higher education institutions;
2. Individuals who graduated from secondary, post-secondary institutions or graduates of higher education institutions who studied not on state grant basis;

HOW TO CREATE AN APPLICATION FORM?

The basic condition to participate in the undergraduate competition - **go through the online application process**. To start your application, go to admissions.nu.edu.kz, create a Personal Account, fill out the application form in English thoroughly and pay the application fee. The Application form consists of five tabs listed below:

- Personal information - here you will need to include all the details from your passport, your contact details etc;
- Education - here you will need to elaborate more about your educational background and exams;
- Family information - this section requires information about your parents, brothers and sisters with their contact details;
- Additional information - if you want to share some more information about yourself, hence use this section for it;
- Consent form - it is a consent for processing your personal data, so NU can check and process your documents in the competition. All information submitted by the applicant is confidential and will not be shared with.

Please click the “SAVE” button in the bottom-right-corner of each application page. After completing the application, press the “UPLOAD” button at the end of your Application form. Your saved application will appear in “MY APPLICATION FORM”. You can still edit or delete your application at this stage. After completing and uploading the Application form you can attach all required documents such as ID/birth certificate, copy of diploma, transcript etc. in PDF/JPEG formats. The maximum file size should not exceed 5MB. Please note, it can take some time to get and upload all of the required documents you need to your Personal Account.

In order to submit, you are encouraged to pay an application fee. **The fee is 5000 tenge** and is non-refundable, even if an application is rejected.



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To finalize the application process, please press the "SUBMIT APPLICATION" button. After submission you cannot change your applications and submitted documents.

We strongly recommend you submit your Application Form and all supporting documents **before the deadline**.

WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM ENTRY REQUIREMENTS?

Entry requirements differ by the categories. In order to apply to the Undergraduate program you will need to choose one of the following categories:

- NUET applicants;
- SAT/ACT applicants;
- A-level/NIS Grade 12 Certificates graduates;
- IB Diploma Programme graduates;
- Transfer students;
- Winners of the International or Republican Olympiads;

WHAT ARE THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CATEGORIES?

All the categories contain the one subject exam(s) and English proficiency exams. We provide - you decide which category will be more convenient for you. Table below shows the requirements for each category.

Categories/ Requirements	IELTS or TOEFL	SAT or ACT	NIS 12 Grade Certificate	IB DP	NUET	GPA	Olympiad Medal	Motivation letter
SAT/ACT applicants	6,5/79	1240/26	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	Yes ▾
A-level/NIS Grade 12 Certificates graduates	6,5/79	No ▾	Minimum ABB in any 3 subjects	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	Yes ▾
IB Diploma Programme graduates	6,5/79	No ▾	No ▾	Minimum total score of 30 and 4, 4, 5 in 3 HL	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	Yes ▾
NUET applicants	6,5/79	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	130 (minimum 60)	No ▾	No ▾	Yes ▾



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					in each subject)			
Transfer students	6,5/79	1240/26	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	2.75/4.0	No ▾	Yes ▾
Winners of the International or Republican Olympiads	Required, no minimum score	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	No ▾	Republican: Gold or Silver (for the current academic year) International Gold or Silver or Bronze (for the last 3 years)	Yes ▾

WHAT SHOULD I SUBMIT?

Categories/ Documents	Applicati on	Scan copy of passport or national ID	School certificate or a certificate of secondary education	Motivation letter	IELTS or TOEFL results	Subject/ exam results
SAT/ACT applicants	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	A valid electronic SAT Reasoning Test certificate or ACT certificate
A-level/NIS Grade 12 Certificates graduates	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Scan notarized copy of the NIS Grade 12 Certificate or A-level Certificate
IB Diploma Programme graduates	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	IB Diploma Program graduates - scan notarized copy of IB Diploma Programme with transcript or



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						<i>predicted scores</i>
NUET applicants	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	No ▾
Transfer students	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	A valid electronic SAT Reasoning Test certificate or ACT certificate
Winners of the International or Republican Olympiads	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Yes ▾	Scan copy of Diploma/Certificate of International and/or Republican Olympiad

HOW COULD I PREPARE? (USEFUL MATERIALS)

Categories/ Preparation links	IELTS/ TOEFL	SAT/ACT	NUET	Motivation letter
SAT/ACT applicants	IELTS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare for IELTS • Coursera: Speaking Skills for University Success • Coursera: IELTS Preparation Specialization • Coursera: IELTS Listening and Speaking Sections Skills Mastery 	College Board	No ▾	Write not more than 500 words. An applicant's Motivation letter demonstrates the applicant's capacity to thinking and self-expression, and allows getting to know the applicant not only as a prospective student, but as an individual. Motivation letter should justify the choice of Nazarbayev University.
Transfer students		Khan Academy Prep Scholar	No ▾	
A-level/NIS Grade 12 Certificates graduates		No ▾	No ▾	
IB Diploma Programme graduates		No ▾	No ▾	
NUET applicants		No ▾	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NUFYP Application Instructions • Mathematics Specification • Mathematics Specimen Paper 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coursera: IELTS Reading Section Skills Mastery • Coursera: IELTS Writing Section Skills Mastery • Listening: BBC Learning English - 6 Minute English • Listening: LearnEnglish Podcast • Listening: Road to IELTS • Reading: New Scientist Magazine • Reading: Wonderopolis - learner site • Writing: Review the IELTS writing - sample reports • Writing: The UEFAP.com site 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for NUET SET 2022 • Mathematic Spicimen Paper for NUET Set 2021 • Critical Thinking & Probel Solving Specification • Critical Thinking & Probel Solving Specimen Paper for NUET SET 2022 • Critical Thinking & Probel Solving Specimen Paper for NUET SET 2021 • EDX: Critical Thinking Skills Courses • Unofficial NUET Guide by Applicants Support Club (in Russian) • Unofficial Registration Guide by Applicants Support Club (in Russian) • NU Applicants Support Telegram (info) • NU Applicants Support Telegram (preparation) 	
<p>Winners of the International or Republican Olympiads</p>		<p>No ▾</p>	<p>No ▾</p>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Speaking: Speaking clubs in your cities• DCIELTS.com - Speaking guide <p>TOEFL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Preparation materials• EDX: TOEFL® Test Preparation: The Insider's Guide• Linguaskill - link to the information about the test with preparation materials.			
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SOMETHING ELSE I SHOULD KNOW?:

- Applicants who have successfully completed at least one academic year of an undergraduate program at a university with English language as an official language of instruction and included into the list of top 200 universities according to the Times Higher Education World University or QS World University ranking at the time of application. These applicants are exempt from submitting test reports on ACT/SAT Reasoning Test as well as IELTS/TOEFL;
- Applicants who have been studying in English for the last three years at a secondary school in a country with English as an official language or in an institution with English as a primary (only) language of instruction are exempted from submission of the IELTS/TOEFL certificates;
- A student who wishes to return to Nazarbayev University to pursue an undergraduate degree after being dismissed or withdrawn by his/her own decision without completing the program and who has completed at least one semester of the University's undergraduate program within the last five years is required to submit an [Application](#) for Re-admission. Please fill out the information below and submit the form. If you have attended another university since leaving NU, then please submit an official transcript to the Office of the Registrar. Regulation on Re-admission is available [here](#).
- All required documents indicated above shall be uploaded to the Personal account before the deadline.
- Submission of English proficiency certificates in the electronic database of NU is within your responsibility. Please keep in touch with the Test centers and make sure that your certificates have been sent.
- Submission of a complete application package does not guarantee admission to the NUFYP or Undergraduate program.
- Applicants recommended for admission must send by post or submit in person the hard copies of all documents as requested by the Admissions Department within an established period of time.
- Standardized test reports should be sent by the official test administrator directly to the University.
- Please check the NU website for all updates on the admissions process.