

# FIRST-YEAR STUDENTS

Mills College welcomes admission applications from students interested in a rigorous academic environment and who exhibit intellectual potential, strength of character, and a love of learning. Admission to Mills College is selective and based on a holistic review of the admissions application and required supporting documents.

All first year applicants must submit the Common Application or Mills College Application (<https://www.mills.edu/apply.php>) with a \$50 application fee and the credentials outlined in the Applying for Admission section.

## Deadlines

- November 1: Spring First Year Regular Decision
- November 15: Fall First Year Early Action (non-binding)
- November 30: Fall First Year (3+2 Engineering major only)
- January 15: Fall First Year Regular Decision

### Notification

- End of December: Fall First Year Early Action
- End of February: Fall First Year (3+2 Engineering major only)
- Mid-March: Fall First Year Regular Decision
- Mid-November: Spring Regular Decision

All offers of admission are contingent upon the satisfactory completion of classes in which the student is currently enrolled.

## Transcripts/Academic Record

Candidates must submit an official high school transcript that includes courses in progress. All candidates must have a secondary school diploma or be eligible for one from an approved high school. Students with a General Educational Development (GED) diploma or a state-approved high school equivalency are also eligible for admission and must submit official evidence of successful completion, in addition to the official high school transcript from the last school attended.

## Secondary School Report

All candidates applying from secondary school should submit a school report form to their guidance counselor, college advisor, or principal. This can be submitted through the Common Application (<http://www.commonapp.org>) or using Mills' secondary school report form (<https://www.mills.edu/admission-aid/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply/first-year-students.php#Requirements>).

## Letter of Recommendation

All candidates are required to submit an academic letter of recommendation, preferably from a teacher, counselor or school administrator. The letter can be submitted through the Common Application (<http://www.commonapp.org>) or by using the Mills College application. Additional letters of recommendation will also be considered.

## Entrance Examinations

Mills College does not require the SAT or ACT to be considered for admission. However, homeschooled students, students who graduate from schools without traditional grades, or students who have a

General Educational Development (GED) diploma or a state-approved high school equivalency are required to submit an official test score.

International applicants must satisfy the English Language Proficiency Requirement (<https://catalog.mills.edu/undergraduate/student-life/international-students/>), often achieved through completion of a TOEFL, IELTS, Duolingo English Test, AAE completed course work, or ELS Certificate.

## Interviews

An on-campus interview with an admission counselor is recommended as an opportunity for the College to become acquainted with the applicant and for the applicant to get to know the Mills College community. Students not able to visit campus may request an interview through Skype, FaceTime or phone.

## Deferrals/Gap Year

An admitted undergraduate student may request, in writing, to delay entrance for up to one semester. Students must submit a \$300 non-refundable enrollment deposit to secure their space in the next academic term. If a student defers their enrollment from a fall to spring term, initial offers of financial aid will be honored for the new spring entry term. Spring to fall term deferrals will result in a request for an updated FAFSA and be subject to a revised award. Students wishing to take a gap year will not have their offer of admission extended beyond the one semester deferral policy, but will have to reapply for admission in the subsequent application pool. Offers of merit scholarships are not guaranteed to carry over beyond one concurrent semester.

## Early Admission Option

An early admission option is offered to students who have exhausted the course offerings at the high school level and wish to enter Mills after completing three years of secondary school. Early admission candidates should follow the regular decision fall first-year admission process. In addition, a letter from the principal of the secondary school indicating course acceptance and agreeing to award the high school diploma prior to a student enrolling at Mills. Please note that federal and state financial aid is not available to students who have not completed high school graduation requirements.

## Homeschool

Mills welcomes homeschooled students to apply for admission by following the first-year student admission requirements. In addition, homeschooled students will need to satisfy the following application requirements to be considered for admission:

- Official results of the GED or state approved High School Proficiency Examination.
- Official results of SAT or ACT test.
- Interview with Mills Admission Counselor.

Contact the Office of Admissions early in the application process to discuss your academic background.

To contact the Office of Admissions:

800.87.MILLS  
510.430.2135 (for international or local students)  
510.430.3298 (fax)  
[admission@mills.edu](mailto:admission@mills.edu)