



DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE



**INTERNATIONAL
EDUCATION CENTER
at Diablo Valley College**

Diablo Valley College (DVC)

Founded in 1949, Diablo Valley College in Pleasant Hill, California is a public community college that sits in the shadow of Mount Diablo, near Berkeley and San Francisco. It provides a safe, friendly environment conducive to studying. Part of DVC's mission is to provide all members of the community with access to higher education and an affordable pathway to a university degree. Providing the first two years of the U.S. bachelor's degree, DVC has one of the most successful university transfer programs in California.

Four excellent reasons to study at Diablo Valley College (DVC)

- 1. Excellent Academics: 2 years at DVC + 2 years at a university = Bachelor's Degree. After studying two years at DVC, students have many options to transfer to a university to complete their bachelor's degree in only two more years.**
 - DVC transfers more students to UC Berkeley than any other institution in the USA.
 - DVC has Transfer Admission Guarantees (TAG) that guarantee international students admission into UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, UC Merced, UC Santa Barbara and UC Santa Cruz. In addition, DVC has transfer agreements with all the 23 California State Universities which include San Francisco State University, San Jose State University and San Diego State University.
- 2. Excellent Value: Starting your Bachelor's Degree at DVC can save you thousands of dollars compared to starting at a four-year university.**
 - Tuition at DVC for a full-time international student is approximately \$6800 per academic year, which is among the lowest tuition fees in the US.
- 3. Excellent Student Services:**
 - DVC's International Students Admissions and Services Office (ISAS) provides student support to assure your stay at DVC is successful as well as enjoyable. ISAS staff offers personal attention to each student through admissions counselling, academic orientation, course registration, immigration, housing, health insurance and employment advising.
 - DVC's English language center, the International Education Center (IEC), offers intensive academic English language programs to prepare you for university studies. Students at IEC are assisted in transferring to DVC, making the process simple and time-effective.

4. Excellent Location: DVC is located in the city of Pleasant Hill in the San Francisco Bay Area in the state of California.

- Pleasant Hill, a suburb of San Francisco, is a city of 34,000 people with a strong sense of community and small town charm attracting visitors each year.
- Pleasant Hill enjoys a mild climate with almost 300 sunny days per year.
- Pleasant Hill is only 38 minutes by direct train to downtown San Francisco.
- San Francisco is considered one of the most beautiful cities in the world and boasts world class museums, restaurants and stores.
- On weekends, you are no more than a few hours from enjoying great skiing in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, hiking in Yosemite National Park, wine tasting in the famous Napa Valley or surfing in the Pacific Ocean.

Programs Offered: Students can choose from over 45 majors and 40 certificate programs. DVC offers an associate degree in arts, associate degree in science, certificate of achievement and transfer programs into four-year universities. Students completing certificates or associate degrees are eligible for Optional Practical Training, a one year work benefit for international students.

Start Dates: August (Fall semester) or January (Spring semester).

Application deadlines: Fall semester: June 1 / Spring semester: November 1

Accreditation: DVC is a public community college and is accredited by the Community Colleges Commission of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) as an entity that provides a quality higher education to American as well as international students.

Number of students: Approximately 21,000 full-time and part-time students

Number of international students: More than 1,600 students from over 70 countries

Student activities: DVC has over 30 student clubs representing a wide range of interests from theatre, dance, music, orchestra, public speaking, business to student government. For students interested in athletics, DVC provides 13 collegiate level sports for men and women, such as baseball, basketball, American football, tennis, swimming and water polo. Students are also encouraged to enroll in various physical education courses including dance, aquatics, bowling, golf, soccer and volleyball just to name a few.

Housing: International students have several options for living accommodations. Students can choose to live in a homestay with an American family, in a private apartment within walking distance of the campus, or to arrange their own housing. Homestay accommodations are managed by Diablo Valley Homestay and more information on how to apply can be on their website: <http://www.diablovalleyhomestay.com/>.

Apartment accommodations are managed by InterResidential Student Housing Services and students can apply online through their website: <http://www.interresidential.com/>. More information regarding housing is available at <http://www.dvc.edu/international/resources/housing.htm>.

Medical Insurance: All F-1 visa international students are required to purchase medical insurance from DVC each semester. Medical insurance is added to the cost of tuition and must be paid within the first two weeks of the semester.

DVC Admission Requirements: To be eligible to apply to DVC, you must be at least 18 years of age OR you must have achieved the equivalent of a US high school diploma and be at least 16 years of age. Students whose native language is not English or who did not graduate from an English-medium high school, must also provide proof of English proficiency. DVC accepts completion of IEC Advanced B level, TOEFL (500 PBT or 61 IBT), ITEP 3.5, or the IELTS with a minimum score of 5.5 for admission. **PBT TOEFL tests must be taken inside the U.S.*

Required Admission Documents:

- Application
- \$50 application fee
- Copy of your high school transcripts (recommended for all students but REQUIRED for students under the age of 18)
- Copy of passport (if available)
- Translation of your high school transcript if it is not in English (required for all students under the age of 18)
- Proof of financial support
- Proof of English proficiency (TOEFL, IELTS, IEC Advanced B level, or ITEP score)

Conditional Admission: Students who have not taken the TOEFL, ITEP, or IELTS may receive conditional admission to DVC. In this case, after receipt of otherwise complete application, DVC will issue a “Letter of Conditional Admission” stating the student has met all the academic requirements of DVC and will be fully admitted once the student provides proof of his/her English language proficiency. Students may also be admitted into DVC by completing the highest level of English at IEC which is the Advanced B level. In this case, students will not have to take an additional English proficiency test.

DVC Tuition and Fees for 2016-2017:

Application fee	One-time fee	\$50
Tuition (subject to change)	Based on 12 units per semester (\$283 per unit)	\$6792
Health Insurance	Academic year	\$1116
Homestay* (for 2 months)	Single room with 2 meals (Monday to Friday) and 3 meals on the weekends	\$1750
Apartment** (per semester)	Single private room	\$6975
	Double shared room (per person)	\$3975
	Triple shared room (per person)	\$3475

*Minimum stay at Homestay is 2 months.

**Apartment rent includes furniture and all utilities. It does not include placement fee and security deposit. Apartments are available for DVC students during the summer semester.

International Education Center at Diablo Valley College (IEC)

The International Education Center at Diablo Valley College (IEC) opened in 2000, and since then has welcomed students from more than 40 countries. The International Education Center offers intensive English, academic preparation and conditional admission to Diablo Valley College (DVC); the number one transfer community college to UC Berkeley! The IEC offers 6 different levels of academic ESL and has 6 sessions per year that are each 8 weeks long. In addition, IEC teams with DVC to offer 3 academic bridge programs per year.

Upon completion of the highest level of English, 95% of IEC students continue their education at Diablo Valley College and other colleges and universities throughout the U.S. Through the transfer program, students can complete the first two years of bachelor degree study and then transfer to a number of University of California campuses, California State University campuses, private or out-of-state universities.

Four excellent reasons to study English at the International Education Center

Excellent Academics:

- Class sizes are small with a maximum of 15 students to ensure low student to teacher ratio, individual attention, and student success.
- Highly skilled instructors all holding a Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL), Linguistics or a related field and have taught abroad.
- Highly motivated students: 95% of IEC students continue on to DVC or other universities.

Easy Entry:

- Simple admission requirements: IEC application, application fee, and bank statement.
- No TOEFL is required to transfer to DVC. Students who complete the highest level of academic ESL at IEC have direct entry into DVC without taking the TOEFL.
- Multiple start dates and programs per year resulting in no “down time” waiting for a semester to begin
 - Six 8-week Academic English Language programs
 - Three 6-7 week Academic Bridge programs through DVC

Excellent Student Services:

- Many organized activities as well as volunteer and community service opportunities.
- Weekly workshops and student advising such as homework help, DVC transfer, Bridge program information sessions, and academic counseling.
- Access to DVC Library, computer labs, and bookstore discounts.

Excellent Location:

- IEC is located in downtown Concord in Todos Santos Square where you will find shops, restaurants, a movie theatre, and more right out the front door! It is also only 3 blocks from the Concord BART Station and a 20 minute bus ride to and from DVC.
- Concord is approximately 45 minutes east of San Francisco, California.

IEC Program Fees and Dates 2016 – 2017:

Intensive English Program Fees

Application Fee	One-time non-refundable	\$100
Mailing Fee	Required for all acceptance packages mailed internationally	\$50
Activities Fee	Per 8 - week session	\$80
Medical Insurance	Per 8 - week session	\$250
Tuition for Academic English Program	8 - week session	\$3200
Tuition for Academic English Program	16 - week session	\$6040
Tuition for Academic English Program	24 - week session	\$8900
Tuition for Academic English Program	32 - week session	\$11420
Homestay (per 8 weeks)	Single room with 2 meals (Monday to Friday) and 3 meals on the weekends	\$1750
Apartment* (per 8 weeks)	Single private room	\$2790
	Double shared room (per person)	\$1590
	Triple shared room (per person)	\$1390

**Apartment rent includes furniture and all utilities. Does not include placement fee and security deposit.*

Intensive English Program 2016 – 2017 Dates:

Sessions	Class Dates	Orientation Dates
Session 6, 2016	October 26, 2016 -December 14, 2016	October 17, 2016-October 18, 2016
Session 1, 2017	January 4, 2017 -February 22, 2017	January 3, 2017 and January 6, 2017
Session 2, 2017	February 27, 2017 -April 13, 2017	February 23, 2017-February 24, 2017
Session 3, 2017	April 24, 2017--June 14, 2017	April 17, 2017 –April 18, 2017
Session 4, 2017	June 26, 2017 -August 10, 2017	June 19, 2017 –June 20, 2017
Session 5, 2017	August 28, 2017 -October 18, 2017	August 23, 2017- August 24, 2017
Session 6, 2017	October 23, 2017- December 13, 2017	October 16, 2017- October 17, 2017

Academic Bridge Program 2016 – 2017 Fees:

Academic Bridge Program Placement Fee	One-time non-refundable	\$400
Express mail for all acceptance packages mailed internationally	One time non-refundable	\$50
DVC Application Fee	One-time non-refundable	\$50
Medical Insurance	Insurance is mandatory and covers students from orientation to the start of the next semester	Varies
Tuition	Tuition covers 2 DVC academic classes	\$2300
Homestay (per 8 weeks)	Single room with 2 meals (Monday to Friday) and 3 meals on the weekends	\$1750
Apartment* (per 8 weeks)	Single private room Double shared room (per person) Triple shared room (per person)	\$2790 \$1590 \$1390

**Apartment rent includes furniture and all utilities. Does not include placement fee and security deposit.*

Academic Bridge Program 2016 – 2017 Dates:

Fall Bridge Program (2016)	October 24, 2016 – December 8, 2016
Spring Bridge Program	March 6, 2017 – April 27, 2017
Summer Bridge Program	June 26, 2017 – August 3, 2017
Fall Bridge Program	October 23, 2017 – December 7, 2017

**Dates are tentative and subject to change.*

Accreditation: The IEC is fully accredited through the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA). Our memberships include NAFSA, TESOL, and English USA.

Number of international students: 150 – 200 per session from more than 20 different countries

Student activities: IEC provides students with many opportunities to practice their English skills in the real world. Weekend excursions, volunteer opportunities, academic workshops, and daily activities are organized 3 to 5 times per week to highlight and utilize the fun and exciting environment California has to offer. From snow-ski trips to Friday homework help, university campus tours to homeless shelter volunteering, IEC's activities are so much more than fun field trips. We encourage students to join activities not only to broaden their study-abroad experience, but to practice English and get to know their surroundings as well as their classmates. Some of these activities are free of charge however, some require an additional payment.

Housing: International students have several options for living accommodations. Students can choose to live in a homestay with an American family, in a private apartment within walking distance of the campus, or they may

arrange their own housing. Homestay accommodations are arranged and managed by Diablo Valley Homestay. Instructions on how to apply can be found on their website: <http://www.diablovalleyhomestay.com/>

Apartment accommodations are arranged and managed by InterResidential Student Housing Services and students may apply online through their website: <http://www.interresidential.com/>. More information regarding housing is available at <http://www.iec-dvc.org/housing/>

Medical Insurance: All F-1 visa international students are required to purchase medical insurance from IEC at the beginning of each session. IEC only accepts medical insurance waivers from F-1 visa international students studying in the U.S. with a government scholarship from their home country that includes a medical insurance policy.

Admission Requirements:

- Application
- \$100 application fee
- \$50 mailing fee for all acceptance packages mailed internationally
- Copy of passport
- Proof of financial support
- 16 years of age as of program start date

Placement: All new IEC students take a placement test during orientation to determine their level of English. During the placement test students are assessed on their knowledge of reading, writing, speaking, grammar, and listening in English.

IEC does not offer courses for absolute beginners of English language learning. Prospective IEC students should have basic spelling skills, be able to write sentences, and be able to read and understand simple paragraphs. While students without these skills may still attend IEC, they may be asked to hire a personal tutor and repeat the foundation level class until these skills are mastered.

Contact information and websites:

International Education Center at Diablo Valley College (IEC)

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