FAQ For Green Path Applications

Interested in Management? Can I customize my degree studies? Why should I consider the Green Path Program? What is the minimum admission requirement? This document contains answers to commonly-asked questions for Green Path Program application.

UTSC offers leading-edge facilities nestled along the Highland Creek Valley, one of Toronto's most inspiring green spaces.
About the Green Path Program

1. **What is the minimum admissions requirement for Green Path Program?**

   Answer: Prospective Green Path students have a minimum 80% average (B or above) based on 100-point scale from Senior 1 (Grade 10) and Senior 2 (Grade 11) at the secondary level.

2. **If I am not from your partner school, can I apply for Green Path Program?**

   Answer: Yes, only strong applicants from non-partner schools can apply through our current partner schools (To see the list and which school is near you, please visit: [https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/greenpath-china/partner-schools](https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/greenpath-china/partner-schools)). In addition, the applicants must provide a letter of nomination from the high school principal or director indicating the applicant’s academic ranking in the class, the level of English proficiency and overall performance.

3. **Why should I consider Green Path Program?**

   Answer: Green Path is a 12-week summer preparatory program that invites top high school students from China to build academic skills. It is designed to help them transform from high school graduates in China to freshman university students ready for life in Canada.

   Students also get to experience a Canadian-style classroom learning environment that includes the expectation of active participation, instructions on how to use the library system, access academic support, and a thorough understanding of academic integrity. In addition to working on academic skills such as reading, writing, grammar, and listening to and speaking English, they also get help as they adapt to life in Canada. Once students successfully complete the program they go directly into first-year undergraduate studies at U of T.

4. **Does Green Path Program require TOEFL or IELTS?**

   Answer: No. Green Path application does not require any English test result, for instance, in either TOEFL or IELTS. However, all applicants must participate in the Green Path English test administered in October in China and successfully complete the 12-week program in the summer from late May to mid-August on campus.
At the time of Green Path program application, do I need to choose a specific program stream? Which programs at UTSC are available with Co-op?

Answer: Applicants should choose one of programs from Green Path online application and not apply to any specific program streams. UTSC has more than 40 programs with Co-op options. For more details, please refer to Green Path Viewbook.

If I study GCE Advanced Level high school course, Canadian BC/Nova Scotia/Ontario curriculum, IB or other international high school programs, can I apply for Green Path Program?

Answer: We highly recommend that the applicant in non-Chinese high school systems apply for the University of Toronto Scarborough directly through OUAC (Ontario University Admissions Centre). For some very special cases, if the applicant is able to complete all high school final exams and participate in 12-week summer academic preparation program starting from the first day in late May, the application may be considered. For more details about international curriculum admission requirements, please click here: (https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/greenpath-china/sites/utsc.utoronto.ca.greenpath-china/files/pdf/App1_Messaging_for_Green_Path_Applicants_in_Non-Chinese_School_Systems.pdf)

How does the University make admission decision? When will I know the result?

Answer: Once we have received English Proficiency Test result (EPT) in early November, admissions office will assess all applications. We look at a wide range of criteria including high school transcripts, EPT test result, which program you selected, supplementary application form (9 questions) and other non-academic information that may be used to assess your application. We will notify partner schools the final admission decision in early December via e-mail and the actual letter of offer will be prepared and sent in the middle of December.

Except English language training, what else can I experience from the summer 12-week academic preparation program?

Answer: The Program also offers a range of social activities and field trips to popular tourist sites in Toronto and the Greater Toronto Area. In addition, students receive life-skill training including cooking and food safety, as well as information on personal safety, health services and university resources and support.

I didn’t do well on the Gaokao Exam so I was not accepted yet to any college or university in China. Can I apply for Green Path Program?

Answer: No.
10  **How long is English test in October? Does it look like a normal IELTS test? Are there any sample test papers for our reference?**

Answer: Green Path English proficiency test in China normally takes place in the second week of October. It is about 1.5 hours long and consists of three major parts: English writing (40 minutes), English Reading (40 minutes) and speaking test (about 15 minutes). It is not a TOEFL or IELTS format. For the test security reasons, we don’t provide any sample test papers for the student’s reference.

11  **Gaokao is so important to me and I want to write Gaokao exam in June. Can I arrive late?**

Answer: No. Students are required to arrive and register based on the time frame that we indicate on the letter of admission. If you miss about 2-week of classes, you will not have a chance to pass the program. For some special personal and family emergency reasons, please write to us and we will consider your case.

Experience matters.
UTSC’s commitment to experiential education means that student have plenty of opportunities to “Learn by doing”.

12  **U of T has a special tri-campus system. If I study at Scarborough campus, am I going to earn the same degree and diploma? Will the diploma be signed by the same university leaders?**

Answer: All students from three campuses receive the same U of T degree and diploma (parchment). Your parchment is a special scroll of paper embossed with the name, crest and seal of the University of Toronto and the signatures of senior officials of the University including the President, Secretary of the Governing Council, Principal and Dean.

13  **During 12-week summer program, can I live outside campus?**

Answer: No. All Green Path students must live in UTSC residences over the summer.

14  **What happens if I didn’t pass the 12-week Green Path Program in summer? How many students each year do not pass the class?**

Answer: You must work hard and pass the Green Path 12-week program in summer with a grade of “B” or better. If your grade is lower than “B”, for instance, “B-” or “C+”, you will be placed on “Admission Probation” and limited to a reduced course load in the first year of degree studies, while taking further non-credit English as a Second Language instruction at your own expense from September to April. If you have a grade lower than “C+”, it means you will not be permitted to begin the degree studies in September. Every year we have a comparatively small amount of students with a grade “B” below. We trust you should do well if you put proper effort into the program.

15  **I have permanent residence status in Canada, shall I pay domestic tuition fee?**

Answer: The 12-week Green Path Program fee remains the same. After you arrive on campus and present your immigration documents to the Registrar’s Office front desk, your international student status will be changed to “domestic”; therefore, you will pay domestic degree studies fees.
**About Your Application, Program Choice and Admission**

16  *I am very interested in your entrance scholarship, how can I apply?*

| **Answer:** | As a Green Path applicant, you are eligible for Green Path entrance scholarships. Currently there are “E Fund” and “Jiangsu Provincial” scholarships available. Both are merit based. The scholarship recipient list consisting of 12 for E Fund and 2 for Jiangsu will be first announced in early December. To retain an award, the recipient needs to maintain strong academic achievement during 12-week summer program with the minimum final grade of “A-”. The award ceremony is normally arranged in mid August as a part of Green Path graduation ceremony. If you are not selected as one of Green Path entrance scholarships, you will also have the opportunity of being awarded some other scholarships on campus. |

17  *I want to transfer my AP credits. Who completes my transfer credit assessment?*

| **Answer:** | If you want to transfer some AP credits, please notify Green Path office immediately after you enrol in AP courses. Generally speaking, for International Baccalaureate (IB), GCE Advanced Level or US Advanced Placement (AP), course credits are evaluated by the University of Toronto, Office of Student Enrolment Services. Official final results must be sent directly to Student Enrolment Services upon completion. For all other post-secondary studies, transfer credits are evaluated by UTSC Admissions. |

18  *I just started my undergraduate studies in September at one of local universities in China, can I apply for Green Path Program? If yes, can I receive some transfer credits from my first year study?*

| **Answer:** | Yes. However, you **must** provide additional notarized Gaokao result, (China National College Entrance Examination), high school graduation diploma and your first year university transcript in both English and Chinese as well as course descriptions. Some courses such as mathematics, computer sciences, calculus will be considered as transfer credit. Please note that it is mandatory all post secondary applicants have to do the credit transfer assessment upon arrival on campus in late May (Office #AA131). Please refer to the following website for procedure, fees and other information. [https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/admissions/how-apply-transfer-credit](https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/admissions/how-apply-transfer-credit) |

19  *How many undergraduate programs am I able to choose at the time of online application? When is the deadline?*

| **Answer:** | You can choose three programs in the different fields through online application. The Green Path program application closes in the end of September every year. |

20  *I really want to study some other programs that UTSC does not offer, for instance, Engineering/Architecture/Kinesiology, so should I apply through Green Path Program?*

| **Answer:** | Green Path program is currently only available at Scarborough Campus ,which does not offer Engineering/Architecture and other second-entry undergraduate programs. If you are interested in those programs, please apply for U of T St. George Campus through OUAC.  

For your information, UTSC recently launched a newly innovative combined program in Environmental Science (BSc) and MEng that allows exceptional students who are registered in one of four UTSC Specialist programs (Environmental Biology, Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Geoscience, or Environmental Physics) to apply during their third year, and be considered, for admission to the Faculty of Engineering & Applied Chemistry MEng programs in either Chemical Engineering & Applied Chemistry or Civil Engineering during their third year. The Combined program can be completed in five years. For more information about the program, please visit: [http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/calendars/calendar/Environmental_Science.html](http://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/~registrar/calendars/calendar/Environmental_Science.html) |
21 **How can I choose a right undergraduate program?**

Answer: Your program should be in keeping with your future career plans and interests. Review the program information and guide on Green Path Viewbook (an electronic version can be found on Green Path’s official website: https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/greenpath-china/sites/utsc.utoronto.ca.greenpath-china/files/pdf/GreenPathViewbook2017_low_res_final.pdf) or on the academic calendar to see what programs are offered at UTSC. If you are still not sure which program to choose, please contact Green Path office via email. (Contact info: https://www.utsc.utoronto.ca/greenpath-china/contact-us) or please visit the Academic Advising & Career Centre (AA&CC) to discuss your program and career options once you arrive on campus.

The following questions may help you make a right decision for your program choice:
- What are you interested in?
- Where do your strengths lie?
- What fields have you done well in your high school studies?
- Have you checked to see if enrolment in the program is limited or unlimited?
- What career opportunities are available with this program?
- Why do you want this program?

22 **I am always confused about the main difference between having a Specialist degree program and a Major (Double Major/Major with two minors) at U of T?**

Answer: In order to fulfill your undergraduate degree at U of T, a minimum of (a specialist program only) or (major+another major program) or (major+minor+another minor program) is required. Each of these programs will have their own sets of requirements, including number and type of courses, as specified in the Calendar for that program.

- Specialist: a specialist indicates a higher degree of specialization with a number of courses drawn from one particular subject area. A specialist program is allowed within any Honours (BA or BSc) degree or BBA degree. A specialist program consists of 9.0 to 16.0 credits (out of a total of 20.0 credits required for an Honours BA or an Honours BSc) including at least four 300/400 level credits, one of which must be at the 400 level.
- Major: a major indicates specialization with a number of courses drawn from one particular subject area. A major program consists of 6.0 to 8.5 credits, including at least two 300/400 level credits.
- Minor: a minor indicates a lesser degree of specialization, with only a few courses drawn from one particular area. A minor program consists of 4.0 credits, including at least one 300/400 level credit.

23 **Does UTSC offer any Exchange Program so I can study outside Canada?**

Answer: Yes. The University of Toronto as a whole offers many different opportunities for our students to participate in exchange programs, including study abroad programs and international summer programs, through partnerships with leading universities around the world. After you finish the first year study, you can apply one of programs offered by CIE. (Its website: http://www.cie.utoronto.ca/). UofT does have exchange agreements with over 10 key universities in mainland China and Hong Kong. If you require further assistance, please visit International Student Centre (http://utsc-isc.ca/), located on the 3rd floor of IC Building on campus.
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<td>After I finish the first year university study, can I change my program?</td>
<td>Yes, but changes become more difficult the further into a program you are and if the programs are vastly different in nature. It’s important to pursue a program that’s a good fit for you, but you’ll want to be sure you well understand your options and the impact of those options. If you’re concerned about changing your program, be sure to speak with the staff in the Academic Advising &amp; Career Centre. Programs can be changed on ROSI. Refer to the Subject POSI &amp; Degree POSI sections of the current Registration Guide for the application procedure and deadlines.</td>
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<td>I am very interested in Co-op programs at UTSC but I don’t know if my academic record has met the minimum Co-op application criteria?</td>
<td>In general, Co-op programs at UTSC are the most competitive among all programs that we offer. The applicant of Arts &amp; Sciences Co-op should have a minimum 85% average (B+ or above) based on 100-point scale from Senior 1 (Grade 10) and Senior 2 (Grade 11) at the secondary level with strong English test result in October. For Management Co-op programs, the applicant should have a minimum 90% and again a strong English test result.</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>How do I know if a Co-op program is right for me?</td>
<td>Co-op programs offer students an excellent opportunity to gain practical skills in work-related situations specific to their program(s) of study. If you are interested in gaining 8 to 12 months of work experience during your university degree, and you possess a strong GPA and excellent time management skills, a Co-op program may be right for you.</td>
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<td>I really want to be in the Co-op program. If I can’t get it directly from admissions, is there any opportunity for me to re-apply once I start my degree studies?</td>
<td>In some cases, students may apply to enter a Co-operative program after their first year of university studies. For the minimum qualifications for consideration for entry into Co-op Programs following first year, you have to see the individual co-op program entries from UTSC Calendar. Application procedures can be found at the Registrar’s Office website.</td>
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<td>How many applications do you receive each year in Management and how many applicants get admitted?</td>
<td>Admission to Management is competitive and we receive an increasing number of applications each year. For 2013, we received 2156 applications to Co-op Management (including Economics). There were 1552 applications to the Specialist in Management non Co-op for 185 spaces. Students who are not eligible for admission to the Management programs are automatically considered for admission to alternate programs. Students not admitted directly to a BBA program in Management are able to take all of the first year courses required to be eligible for admission to Management in second year.</td>
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<td>If I plan to get a Masters of Business Administration (MBA), why should I choose to study for an undergraduate degree in Management?</td>
<td>An undergraduate degree from University of Toronto is one of the best in North America. If you decide to do an MBA, you might complete your graduate studies much faster than if you had an undergraduate degree in some other field. Many universities will allow exemptions for several of the MBA courses allowing you to finish the MBA more quickly.</td>
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<td>How many work terms are required in Management Co-op, when do they start and am I able to graduate within 4 years?</td>
<td>The equivalent of three work terms of four months duration are required. The first work term begins after students have completed a minimum of 7 credits. Students are able to work or study in all three terms within 4 years.</td>
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31. **Can you tell me BBA and BCom differences?**

Answer: The BBA is the general business degree given by American universities, whereas the BCom degree originated in Britain and embodies a historically-based European focus. Traditionally, the BCom degree at the University of Toronto has been highly focused on Economics. The Scarborough campus introduced the BBA degree to be broadly focused on Management, and the degree requirements are designed to expose students to all functional areas of Management while also providing a solid grounding in Economics. The characteristic of the degree means that the BBA is, in effect, a junior Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree.

U of T Scarborough Management professors are all associated with the U of T Rotman School of Business, therefore course content in the business courses across U of T is similar. The two main practical differences between our BBA and the BCom are:

The large co-op program at Scarborough campus means that our courses and curriculum taken by our students (co-op and non co-op) are highly focused on the needs of today's employers.

U of T Scarborough Economists are associated with the Rotman Business Economics group and the U of T Centre for Industrial Relations and Human Resources, which means that our Economics courses tend to be less theoretical and more focused on business.

32. **Am I able to apply for internal transfer after completing the first year studies from Scarborough Campus to downtown St. George Campus?**

Answer: Yes, students may apply to St. George or Mississauga Campus. Before you apply, we request that students consult with Green Path office (AA131) if the transfer whether it would be beneficial to your undergraduate studies. Here are key features why students retain their registration at Scarborough Campus:

- Smaller campus, close-knitting community environment and more intimate
- Class sizes are comparably smaller
- More research opportunities
- More office hours offered by UTSC faculty members
- Dedicated Green Path team to support you through 4-year undergraduate studies
- More TA and RA on-campus job opportunities
- Excellent facilities including the newest Toronto Pan Am Sport Centre

33. **How many courses should I take in each term? How many courses do I need to complete for my degree studies within four years?**

Answer: Students are required to take minimum 6 courses (3 courses each term) from September to April to maintain as a full-time student status. In order to graduate and earn an Honours Bachelor of Arts (Honours BA), an Honours Bachelor of Science (Honours BSc) or a Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) degree, students must pass at least 20 credits (40 courses).

34. **May I take one or more program courses at the St. George or Mississauga Campus?**

Answer: Yes. All courses on three campuses will count toward your degree requirement, either as part of your program requirements or as electives. If the course is also a program requirement, always check with the Program Advisor at your department before enrolling in the course. Also you are required a minimum GPA and credit before taking courses on other two campuses. We do recommend that you check both Registrar’s Office and Academic Advising & Career Centre on campus.

35. **What is the average size of first year class at UTSC?**

On average, UTSC class sizes in the first year vary from 20 to 500 students based on different programs.
“UTSC’s rich academic resources, strong support from excellent staff and helpful suggestions from knowledgeable professors all helped me succeed” - Mengtian BAO, Graduate 2013, Mathematical Sciences

36  I really want to get into a limited enrolment program at UTSC. How can I make myself competitive to be accepted? Can I apply again if I don’t get in the first time?

Answer: Generally, it requires a relatively high GPA (2.5 or higher) to get into limited enrolment programs, and the GPA cut-off for programs tends to change from year to year. There may be required courses you have to take and a minimum number of credits you must earn in order to be considered. These requirements are listed in the calendar under the appropriate program. If you are applying to a co-op program you need to submit supplementary information.

You can apply to limited enrolment programs more than once. There are two enrolment periods per year; one in April and one in July. However, there may be a limit on the number of credits you can earn before being restricted from applying to these programs. For example, for management programs, students who have completed more than ten full credits cannot apply.

37  When will be the best time to apply for study permit?

We highly recommend that the student with a Green Path offer apply for Canadian study permit as early as possible. The application should be submitted no later than in the middle part of February. For more information how to apply for study permit, please visit Citizenship and Immigration Canada’s website: (http://www.cic.gc.ca/english/my_application/apply_online.asp).

38  I heard that UTSC offers more TA or RA positions compared to other universities. Can I apply?

Answer: Teaching Assistant positions on campus are typically classroom instruction, exam invigilating, grading papers and other tasks to help faculty members and students. Both Teaching Assistant and Research Assistant positions are available in many departments. If you have a strong academic record, we recommend you apply. The assistant position vary from 60 to 80 hours per an academic term.

39  While I am here as an international student, is it possible for me to work off campus?

Answer: Yes, international students are able to work off campus with some restrictions while completing your degree studies. New rules for prospective international students have taken effect on June 1, 2014. If you need help and want to find more details, please visit International Student Centre (ISC) on campus. (Website: http://utsc-isc.ca/)
40. After I graduate from UofT, can I stay behind in Canada to find a job?

Answer: Yes, according to current immigration laws, international students are permitted to remain in Canada for up to three years after graduating in order to obtain a career related field.

41. My parents want to check my academic record. Is there any suggestion that they can easily access my academic record?

Answer: We do encourage Green Path students to be candid with your parents about your progress so they can be more supportive and helpful. They can assess your student account online if you allow them access to the information on your academic record in ROSI including grades, courses, class locations, academic status and fees owing.

42. What is my total tuition fee per year if I choose to study at UTSC?

Answer: Tuition fees for the University of Toronto are established each year and are generally known by June. The tuition for one year of study (two sessions, i.e Fall and Winter) for International students on a study permit for the 2015-2016 school year (September-May) is expected to be CAD $38,810 (http://www.provost.utoronto.ca/link/students/fees15/intl_as.htm). University fees are subject to change. Note that some programs (currently the UTSC Bachelor of Business Administration and the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science) have higher tuition fees after first year and students should consult the Student Accounts website (www.fees.utoronto.ca) for detailed information. Co-op programs also have an additional fee associated with those programs, ranging from approximately $320 to $400 per session.