



Soka University of America

MA in Educational Leadership and Societal Change

Application for Graduate Admission



Welcome to Soka University of America's graduate application process!

MA in Educational Leadership and Societal Change



Application Procedure

The Graduate School Office strives to ensure the successful mission of Soka University of America (SUA), which is “to foster a steady stream of global citizens committed to living a contributive life.” Toward that end, students are sought who share those qualities and aspirations that personify the SUA spirit. In addition to academic excellence, the decision to admit an applicant to the program is based on a combination of the following criteria, evaluated from a complete application:

- Ability to complete a rigorous program of academic study successfully, as evidenced by successful completion of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution of higher education with a satisfactory, above-average GPA, demonstration of suitable quantitative and writing skills, and letters of recommendation
- Strong writing skills demonstrated through the successful completion of an appropriate writing course during the undergraduate experience
- Clear professional and scholarly goals in keeping with the mission of the MA program

The Graduate School has a policy of limited enrollment and all applications are reviewed competitively by the Admission Committee. The Committee conducts an in-depth review of every application. Attention is given to every aspect of an application, with an attempt made to evaluate past achievement as well as potential to develop as a thoughtful scholar and active practitioner in the field of educational leadership. Although the successful SUA applicants will have excellent academic records, good grades and strong test scores are not enough by themselves for an applicant to be accepted; all checklist items are taken into consideration in the review process.

Checklist

All application requirements listed below must be received by Soka by the deadline in order to be considered for admission. Materials should be mailed to the address given on the next page; emailed and faxed documents will not be accepted.

- Application
- Application Fee – non-refundable \$45 USD for paper application and \$30 USD for online application
- Official Transcript(s) of Grades – showing all college/university coursework
- Resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Personal Statement – describing your background, experiences, and educational and professional goals
- Academic Writing Sample
- Two Recommendations
- GRE Score Report – only official scores sent from the Educational Testing Service (ETS) are accepted
- TOEFL Score Report (International Applicants) – non-native English speakers must submit an official TOEFL score report

Admission Requirements

To be considered for admission to the Graduate School the following minimum requirements must be met for a student to be considered for admission:

- **Bachelor's degree:** A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, or the equivalent of an undergraduate level education (normally 16 years of pre- and post-secondary education) from a foreign institution.
- **GPA:** A minimum GPA of 3.0 or a B average on a 4-point scale or a minimum average of 80 points on a scale of 100.
- **GRE:** An official report of scores of the Graduate Record Examination general test, taken within the past five years, and sent directly to SUA by the Educational Testing Service, is required as an indication of the level of general learning. The GRE school code is 4720.
- **TOEFL:** The Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required of all applicants whose native language is not English. A minimum score of 100 on the TOEFL iBT is required for non-native speakers of English only.

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Instructions

Please fill out the application completely; incomplete applications will not be considered. The application is only one of the requirements to be considered for admission; please refer to the graduate checklist for information on supplementary materials. Emailed and faxed documents will not be accepted.

Please send paper application materials to:

Soka University of America
Office of Graduate Admission
1 University Drive
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

Please contact the Office of Graduate Admissions with any questions regarding the application process.

By Email: grad_admissions@soka.edu By Phone: 888-600-SOKA (toll free)
(949)-480-4150

General Information

Select your desired start term: Fall 2016: Priority deadline for submission February 15, 2016
 Fall 2017: Priority deadline for submission February 15, 2017

Name

Last (Family) First Middle

Permanent
Legal Home
Address

Number Street Apartment No.

City State/ Province Postal Code Country

Email Home Phone Cell Phone

Current Mailing
Address

(if different from above)

Number Street Apartment No.

City State/ Province Postal Code Country

Date of Birth

Month Day Year



Citizenship Information

Country of Citizenship _____ Social Security Number ____ - ____ - ____

If you are not a U.S. Citizen, are you a permanent resident of the U.S.?

YES NO

Student Visa Information (International Applicants Only)

Please mark only one.

- I am an international (non-immigrant) student applying for an F-1 Visa.
- I am an international (non-immigrant) student visa holder.

Visa currently held _____

PLEASE NOTE: Application to the university does not constitute an automatic application for entry into the United States. Soka University of America assumes no responsibility for obtaining a visa or for any adverse consequences regarding a student's U.S. immigration status.

Academic Record

High School/ Secondary School Information (Please list the last high school attended)

Name of secondary/ high school City, State and Country

Dates attended (from – to) Graduation (date, diploma earned)

College/ University Information

Applicants must list all colleges and universities previously attended, in chronological order. Use additional paper if necessary. Official transcripts from all schools listed must be sent to SUA.

A. _____
Name of college or university City, State and Country

Dates attended (from – to) Graduation (date, degree) Major

B. _____
Name of college or university City, State and Country

Dates attended (from – to) Graduation (date, degree) Major

C. _____
Name of college or university City, State and Country



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Optional Information

The following request for information is made to help the University provide data about SUA’s student body as a whole to federal and state agencies. Your responses, although optional, are appreciated and will have no effect on the University’s evaluation of your application.

Gender? _____ Do you consider yourself to be Hispanic or Latino? Yes No

- How are you most comfortable describing yourself? (check all that apply)
- African American/ Black
 - Asian
 - Hispanic/ Hispanic American
 - Other ethnicity
 - Native American
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - White/ Caucasian

Details of ethnic background or heritage

Financial Aid

Do you plan to apply for financial aid? Yes No

Disciplinary Record

Have you ever been suspended or expelled from a college/ university or convicted of a felony? Yes No

If yes, please provide a brief written explanation, providing dates and circumstances.

Application Fee

A non-refundable application processing fee of \$45 USD must accompany this application. Soka University of America only accepts checks drawn from a US bank or international money order. Please make your check or money order payable to Soka University of America.

Mail to:
 Soka University of America
 Office of Graduate Admissions
 1 University Drive
 Aliso Viejo, CA 92656



Statement of Agreement

I certify that the information on this application is complete and correct, and that I have attended, or am attending, no institutions other than those listed. I certify that I have completed this application by myself and that the information I have provided is complete and truthful. I understand that misrepresentation of facts on this application will invalidate the application. I understand that all documents submitted for admission consideration become the property of Soka University of America and will not be returned to me, nor duplicated for me, for any reason. I also understand that acceptance to SUA is subject to verification of final records from all institutions I have attended and that the application fee is nonrefundable.

Signature of Applicant

Date