

UAB The University of
Alabama at Birmingham.

Your destination for **research** and **innovation**

Guide for international students



UAB IS YOUR DESTINATION FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

TOP 6%

Best Global University

U.S. News & World Report 2024 - 2025

#69

in Top Public Schools

U.S. News & World Report 2025

#3

in Computer Science (graduate)

Fortune 2025

FAST FACTS

Founded: **1969**

Campus: **Birmingham, Alabama**

Metro population: **1.1 million**

Campus size: **Covers 100 city blocks**

Enrollment: **21,160**

International students: **2,200+**

Countries represented: **100+**

Bachelor's: **60**

Master's and PhD: **100+**

Research: **\$770M+**



#21

America's Best Employers for New Grads (Education Industry)

Forbes 2025

#3 BEST

Public Nursing School

U.S. News & World Report 2025

#10

in Cybersecurity (graduate)

Fortune 2025

#15

in Public Health

U.S. News & World Report 2025

#69

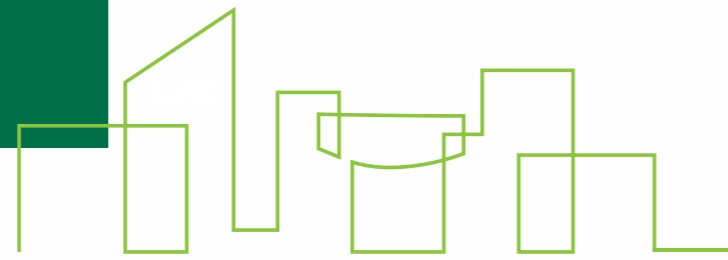
in Biomedical Engineering

U.S. News & World Report 2024

World-class careers

UAB career services

- Career fairs
- Career planning tools
- Handshake (job listing website)
- On-campus interview practice
- Personalized advising



Alumni spotlight: Hong | China

BSN, RN, Class of 2019

Postdoctoral scholar, UAB School of Nursing

I am expanding my research and receiving intensive training in my professional development during the second year of my post doc fellowship. In the future, I plan to become an independent investigator to conduct research and mentor students to support caring for persons living with dementia and their caregivers.

Accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nurse Education (CCNE)

- Began Pre-Nursing studies in 2015
- Graduated from UAB with honors in May 2019
- Accepted into BSN to PhD pathway for Fall 2019 cohort
- Graduated with PhD in Fall 2022
- Currently Post Doctoral Scholar at UAB, School of Nursing

Innovation and entrepreneurship

UAB is a destination for entrepreneurs. Make your ideas a reality with UAB's guidance and resources.

- The Green and Gold Fund manages more than \$800,000 in assets for students to perform actual investment portfolio management with real money.
- The Blazer Hatchery and Hackathon is a student competition and educational experience that attracts local investors to hear students' pitches, with cash prizes for the winners.
- The Bill L. Harbert Institute for Innovation and Entrepreneurship connects scientists and entrepreneurs with industry and investors.
- The UAB iLab at Innovation Depot provides student entrepreneurs with training and resources to accelerate their business ideas and start their own companies.

Faculty spotlight:

Patrick J Murphy, PhD

Goodrich Entrepreneurship Chair

Patrick J Murphy, PhD, is the Goodrich Entrepreneurship Chair and head of UAB's award-winning Barefield Entrepreneurship Program. His research is used to train students in universities around the world. In addition, his seminars utilize innovative outreach engagements to transform UAB students into entrepreneurs.

"The Barefield Entrepreneurship Program has an award-winning and rigorous academic curriculum. We make an impact on the futures of our students and on our community by merging theory and practice in everything we do."



Alumni spotlight: Vien | Vietnam

As a former data science student and assistant to Dr. Patrick J Murphy, Vien's time at UAB gave him the tools and experience to quickly launch a successful career after graduation.

- Received three job offers before graduation
- Joined Quantalytix, a Birmingham-based startup
- Promoted to Chief Technology Officer just two years after joining the company

"Two years at UAB sharpened my reasoning and analytical skills, which enable my immediate contributions to the development of the company. All the hard work and determination really paid off."

BIRMINGHAM TECH BOOM

Birmingham is an up-and-coming tech hotspot, with a number of successful startups, including Shipt, a grocery delivery service, and Daxko, a software for health and wellness organizations.

ONE OF THE "BEST LARGE CITIES TO START A BUSINESS"

WalletHub 2024



Innovation Depot, co-founded by UAB, is the largest high-tech incubator in the Southeast.



RESEARCH with global impact

7,000+ undergraduate students
and
7,600+ graduate students
involved in research

Dedicated Office of Service Learning and Undergraduate Research that helps place students in research labs as soon as freshman year.

**\$12.1
BILLION**

economic impact in the state of Alabama

Alumni spotlight: Nabaa | Pakistan

A biology undergraduate originally from Pakistan, Nabaa quickly immersed herself in UAB's community and took part in student leadership and groundbreaking research as a:

- orientation leader and international mentor
- COVID-19 screener at Children's of Alabama Hospital
- researcher with the Cancer Research Immersion Program
- student assistant for Dr. Patrick J Murphy
- participant in the 2023 UAB Global Health Case Competition winning team

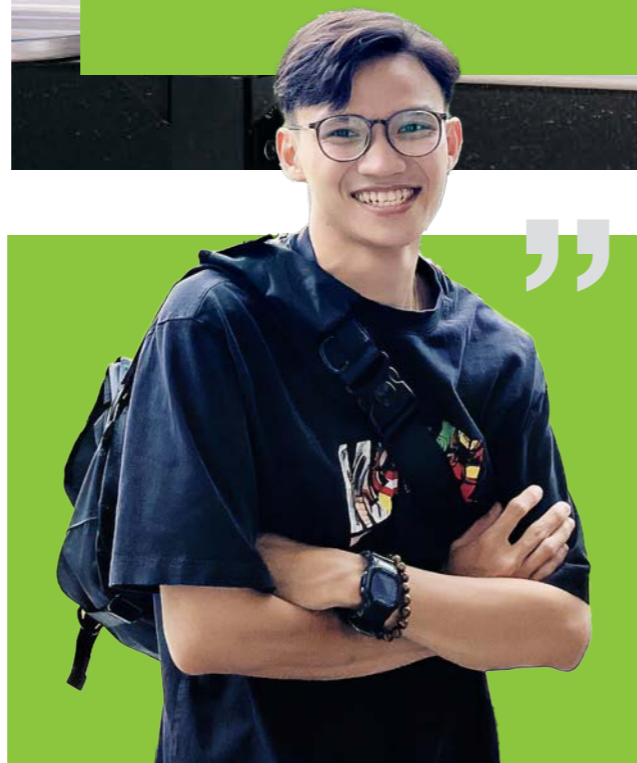
Nabaa was accepted into Harvard Medical School for her remarkable achievements and leadership.

"UAB provided me with not only the knowledge and skills, but also the support and resources needed to excel in my field. The emphasis on research and innovation has truly shaped my journey, enabling me to confidently pursue my professional goals with enthusiasm and a drive for continuous growth."



**100% research
placement for
undergraduates**

**OVER \$770M
in research
funding in 2023**



Student spotlight: Tuan Anh | Vietnam

MS in Multidisciplinary Biomedical Science, Class of 2024
Research Assistant in the Department of Pediatrics – Division of Pediatrics Pulmonary and Sleep Medicine

"I am most excited about the chance to contribute to research using cutting-edge technology here at UAB. For the next chapter with UAB, I believe the environment here will broaden my horizons and shape me into a well-rounded scientist in the future."



Dr. Jianyi "Jay" Zhang, MD, PhD, FAHA, is an international leader in myocardial biomaterials and stem cells for cardiac repair. He's also a professor of medicine and engineering, chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering and the Michael and Gillian Goodrich Endowed Chair of Engineering Leadership at UAB.

The late astrophysicist **Dr. Thomas Wdowiak, PhD**, was a professor emeritus of physics at UAB. His work helped get a rover to Mars, and he has an area of the planet named after him called "Wdowiak Ridge."



World-class faculty

Dr. M. Tino Unlap is a professor in biotechnology and biomedical sciences. Dr. Unlap has held various faculty positions, including directing UAB's Biotechnology Program, where he has been instrumental in workforce development initiatives. He previously led the Heritage Center Biotech Curriculum for high school students and co-directed BioTek Works, a biotechnology workforce development program funded by Jefferson County and the state of Alabama.

"International students are an invaluable part of the biotechnology program, bringing diverse perspectives, innovative ideas and unique problem-solving approaches that enrich the academic and cultural environment. Their presence fosters global collaboration, exposing students and faculty alike to different methodologies and scientific advancements from around the world."

Dr. M. Tino Unlap, PhD

BIRMINGHAM is ready for you

Every year, Birmingham gains more recognition as a rising travel and career destination. And it makes sense, with food, art, culture and industry you just won't find anywhere else.



Diversity

One of 15 universities recognized as a diversity champion by *INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine 2023*

#1 Leading institution in the state for international students, with over 100 countries represented on campus
Open Doors State Facts and Figures 2024

100+ international partnerships with universities, hospitals and other organizations



At the heart of the Civil Rights movement, Birmingham's history is honored throughout the city. Visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and the Negro Southern League Museum to learn about local heroes like Martin Luther King Jr, Rosa Parks and other key figures in American history.

Arts

Explore Birmingham's thriving arts and music scene, from film festivals and vibrant street art to performances by some of the biggest names in music.

Food

Birmingham is known for great food at great prices. In 2023, two Birmingham restaurants were finalists for the prestigious James Beard Foundation Awards.

Parks

Explore Birmingham's parks and massive greenspace, such as the Vulcan hiking trail just off UAB's campus or Ruffner Mountain, the US' second-largest nature preserve.

Sports

Baseball, soccer, hockey, golf – Birmingham has it all. Check out Birmingham's sports scene, from the major league to minor league. Be sure to catch one of UAB's highly-ranked teams playing nearby.

AFFORDABILITY

Even as an emerging travel destination and tech hub, Birmingham is also considered one of the most affordable cities in the United States. Enjoy living in a vibrant and growing local community without worrying about overspending.

TOP #10

Cities with the lowest cost of living
New York Post 2024



Cutting-edge programs

97% of UAB's computer science undergraduates have a job within six months of graduation.

Computer Science and Cybersecurity

- Gain hands-on experience participating in cutting-edge research funded by government organizations and leading tech companies.
- Graduates of UAB computer science programs include successful entrepreneurs and technology leaders at Facebook, Google, Microsoft, national labs and more.
- UAB's master's in computer science was ranked No. 3 in the US and the master's in cyber security was ranked No. 10 in the US by *Fortune 2025*.

Electrical and Computer Engineering

- Develop the foundational skills for electrical and computer engineering careers. Our program covers advanced analog and digital electronics, biomedical instrumentation, digital computer systems, industrial electronics and beyond.
- Gain hands-on experience through internships and participating in research projects alongside UAB's world-renowned faculty.
- Undergraduate engineering students are guaranteed an internship during their time at UAB.



Faculty spotlight: YULIANG ZHENG, PHD UAB Computer Science Chair

Known as the father of signcryption technology, an international standard for cybersecurity, Dr. Zheng oversees UAB's rapidly growing computer science program.

"Our faculty are top-notch educators and leaders in their fields."

The Collat School of Business

at UAB is accredited at the bachelor's and master's levels by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International (AACSB), representing the highest standard of achievement for business schools worldwide.

Best College for Business in Alabama *Niche 2023*



Business

- Earn your degree in an innovative, customizable business program. Our program will give you the skills and experience needed to succeed in today's complex business world.
- Choose from a variety of customizable undergraduate majors and graduate concentrations in entrepreneurship, marketing, finance, business analytics and more.

Public Health

- Address the problems facing today's public health experts. Make an impact on your local and global community.
- Our public health graduate program was ranked No. 15 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report 2025*
- UAB, an early academic medical center for in-house COVID-19 testing, played a vital role in administering the vaccine throughout Alabama and developed Remdesivir for COVID-19 treatment.

Biotechnology

- Biotechnology is a versatile field. It applies to careers in business, research, healthcare and more.
- Graduate prepared to bring major new health innovations to life.

YOUR HEALTHCARE CAREER BEGINS AT UAB

As a thriving entrepreneurial and tech center with a strong healthcare economy, Birmingham is the perfect place to start your career.

Discover healthcare jobs and internships via UAB affiliates like Southern Research, a pioneering Southeastern science center renowned for developing seven FDA-approved anticancer drugs and numerous chemotherapy breakthroughs.

Nursing

- Train in a nursing school ranked No. 3 (tie) in the nation among public nursing schools for a bachelor's and No. 10 (tie) for a doctoral degree by *U.S. News & World Report 2025*.
- Nurse practitioner was ranked the No. 1 healthcare job and the No. 1 best job in the US by *U.S. News & World Report 2024*.

The median annual wage for nurse anesthetists, nurse midwives and nurse practitioners is

\$132,050

U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics 2024

Multidisciplinary Biomedical Science

- Our multidisciplinary biomedical science program applies to a wide range of careers in the medical field. Your program will include research science, scientific policy, science communication, biomedical sales and more.
- Take part in cutting-edge research at Alabama's premier institution for biomedical research.



The Science and Engineering Complex was recently completed, promising even more exciting advancements for UAB's science and engineering programs.



Admission ROUTES

Your path to a US degree starts here. We offer various admission routes to fit your academic journey. Explore your options below.

How do I qualify?

Please refer to the entry requirements to see which admission route is a good match.

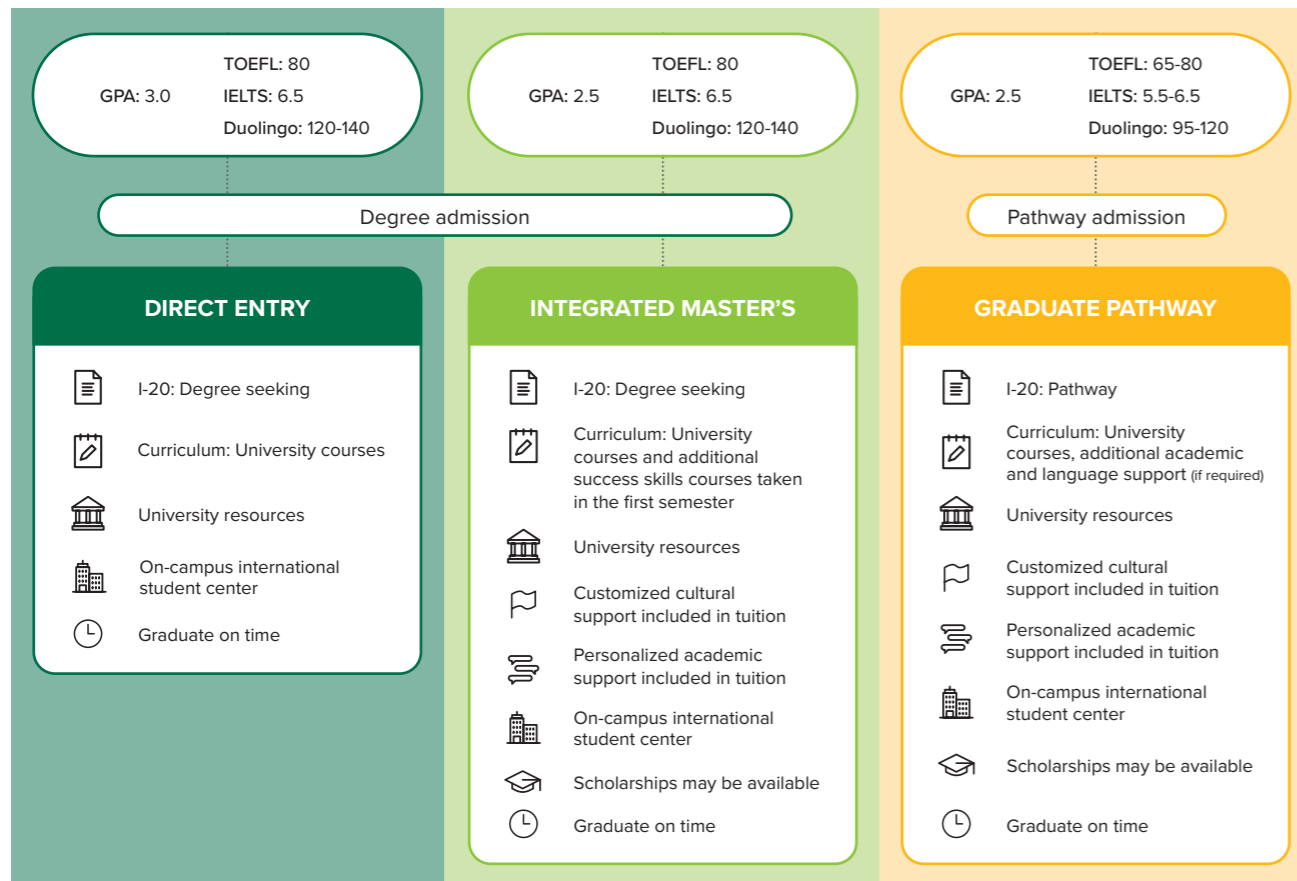
How will I be admitted?

You will be admitted either through Pathway admission or Degree admission. Both admission routes lead to a degree at UAB. Pathway admission provides a Pathway I-20. Degree admission provides a Degree-seeking I-20. Pathway students will still take coursework that applies to their degree during the Pathway and will receive a degree-seeking I-20 once they complete the Pathway requirements at UAB.

What's included?

We offer a variety of support services. Please see the chart below for more details.

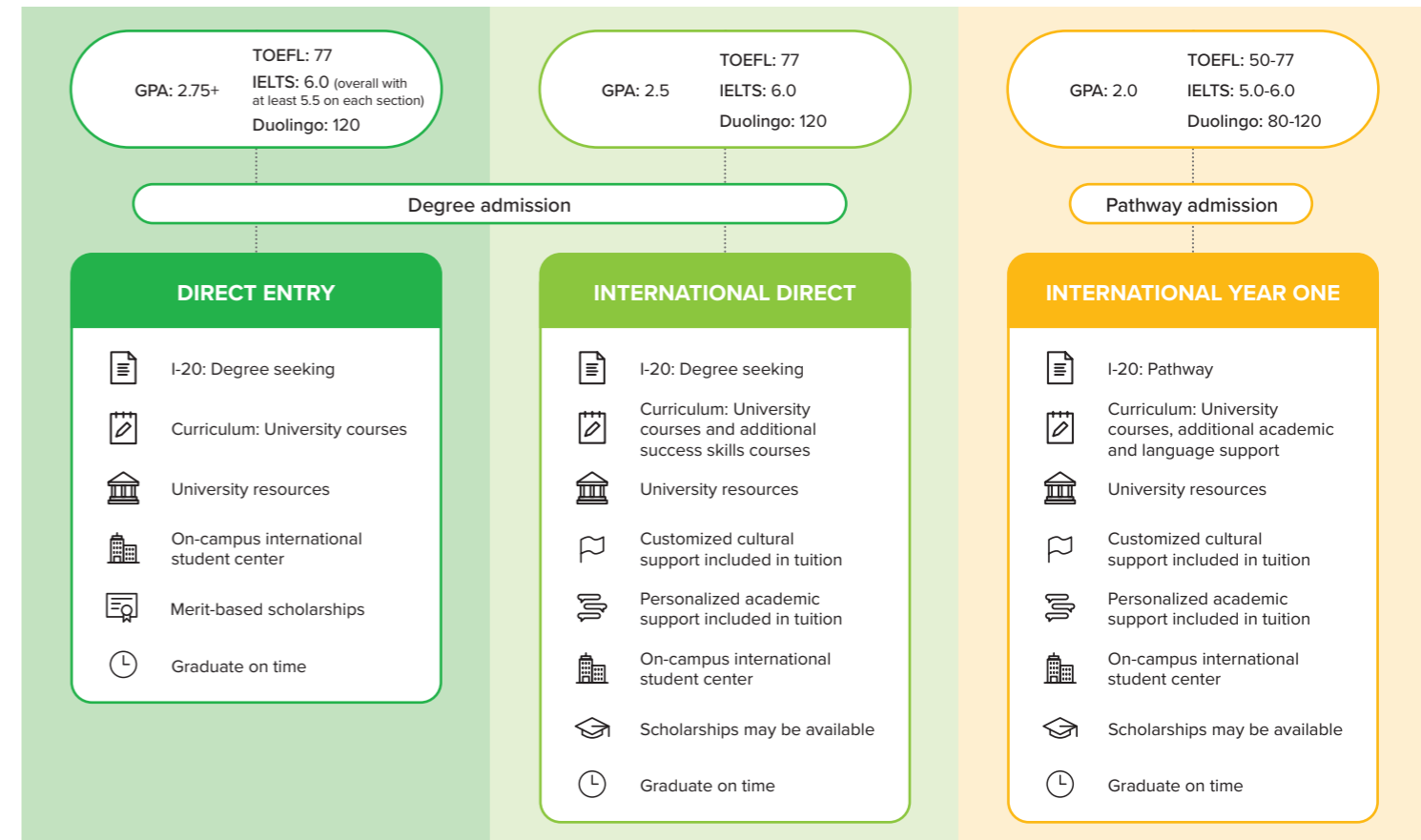
Graduate



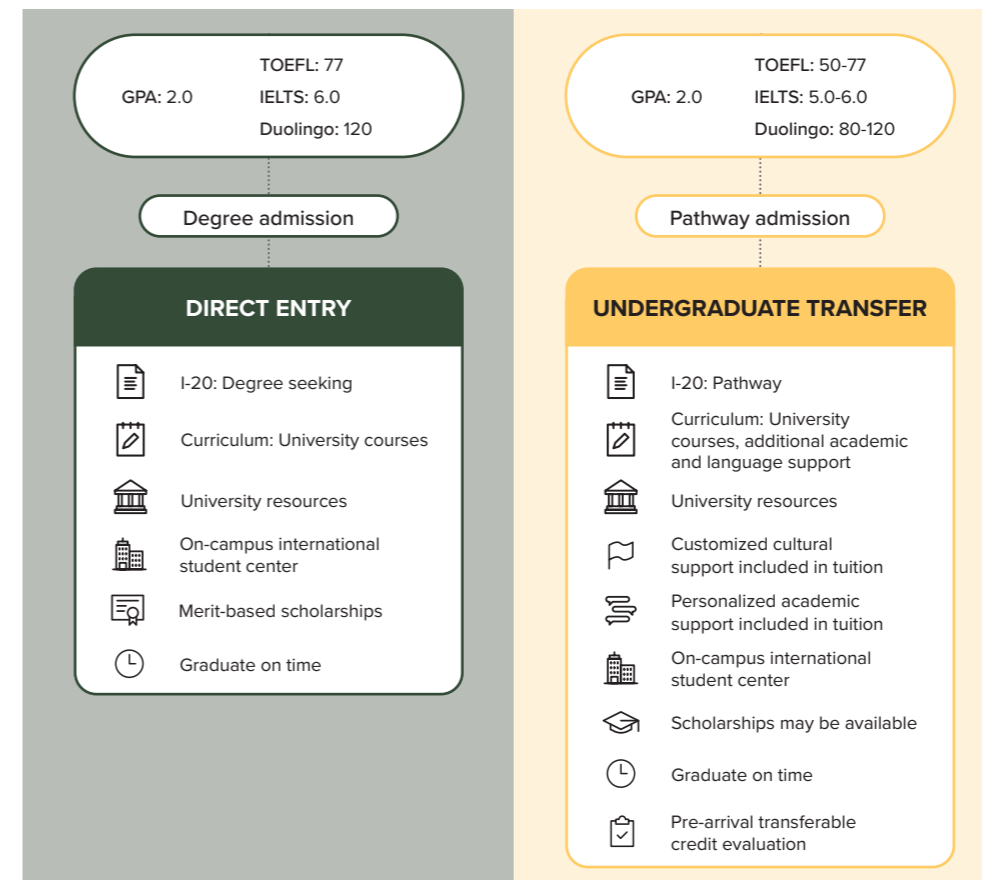
Ready to learn more?
Scan the QR code to learn more about our graduate admission routes.



Undergraduate



Transfer



Ready to learn more?

Scan the QR code to learn more about our undergraduate admission routes.



Ready to learn more?

Scan the QR code to learn more about our transfer admission routes.



Your destination for future careers

EMPLOYERS OF UAB GRADUATES:

- Apple
- AT&T
- BBVA Compass
- Boeing
- Coca-Cola
- Ernst & Young
- Ford Motor
- Goldman Sachs & Co.
- Google
- Honda
- IBM
- Intel
- Justice Department
- LinkedIn
- Microsoft
- UAB
- United Health Group
- Visa
- Wells Fargo & Co.
- Xerox Corporation



Alumni spotlight: Shegun

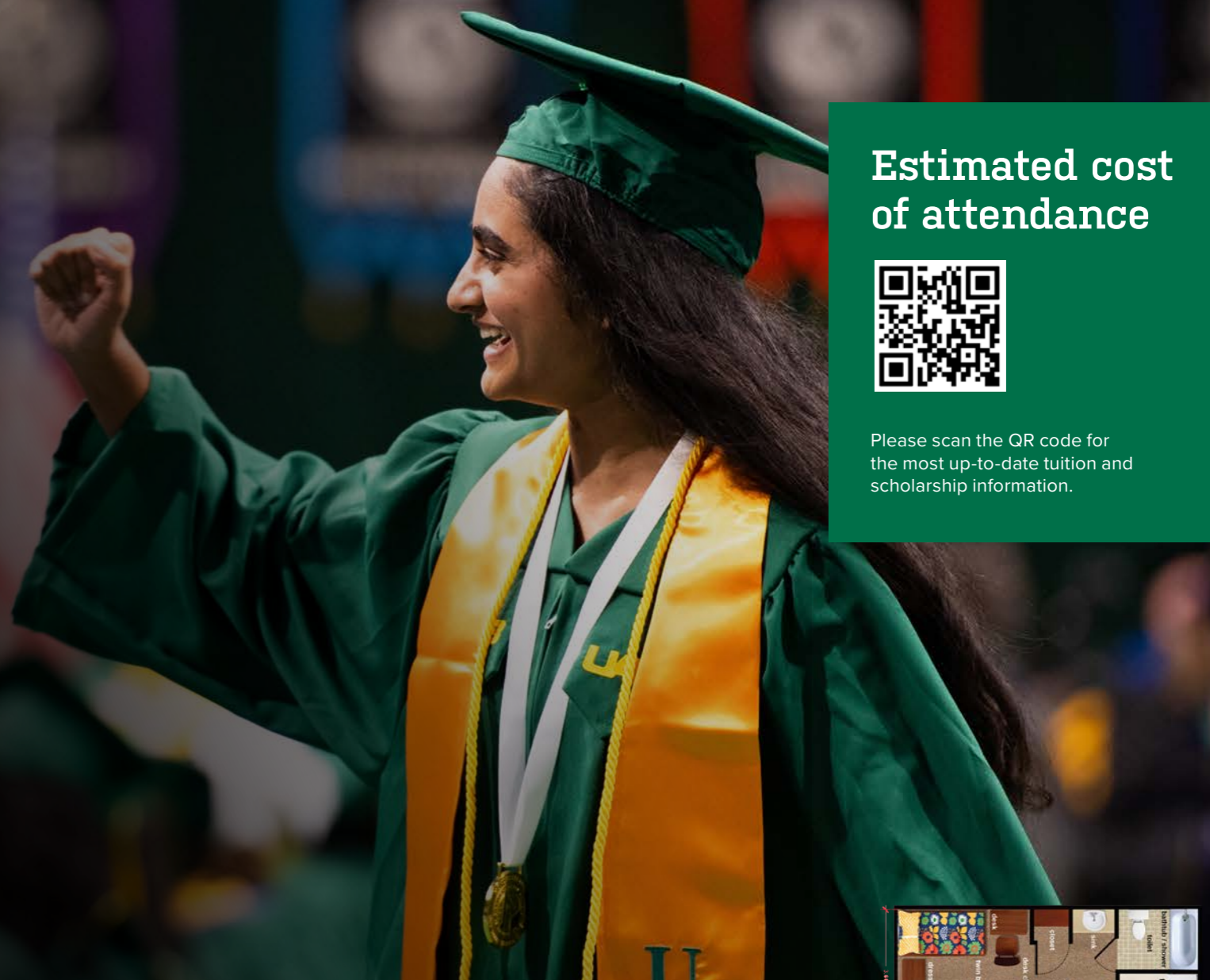
Since graduating from UAB in 2003, Shegun has founded multiple highly successful companies, including Therapy Brands, which sold for over a billion dollars in 2021. To give back, Shegun and his wife, Mary, a fellow UAB alumnus, created the Shegun and Mary Otulana Endowed Scholarship. Each year, the scholarship provides tuition for an international student and a student from an underrepresented background.

"We hope [the scholarship] translates into them doing really great things in the future and continuing the journey and coming back and impacting other people's lives, writing a positive story about what it means to have African ancestry. This is not just about you being able to pay your tuition. It's about you being able to have an impact in life, whatever way that is."

Shegun | Nigeria

Class of 2003

Founder of Zertis, Therapy Brands and Harmony Venture Labs



Estimated cost of attendance



Please scan the QR code for the most up-to-date tuition and scholarship information.

Housing and dining

On-campus housing

Program	REQUIRED*	NOT REQUIRED
Academic English (AE)		■
AE + International Year One (IYO)*	■	
IYO*	■	
AE + Undergraduate Transfer Program (UTP)		■
UTP		■
Undergraduate direct*	■	
AE + Graduate Pathway (GPW)		■
International Direct*	■	
GPW		■
Integrated Master's Program (IMP)		■
Graduate direct**		N/A

*On-campus housing is required for the first two semesters.
**On-campus housing is not available for graduate direct students.

Meal plan:

Both the undergraduate and graduate housing options include a corresponding meal plan. Meal plans are also available to students who live off-campus.

15+ on-campus dining locations

Student life

- 400+ student clubs and organizations focusing on leadership, cultures, civic engagement, fraternities and sororities, faith, media and more
- 20+ club sports including lacrosse, soccer, cricket and rugby
- 18 Division I sports teams

Safety and security

Your safety is our top priority. UAB is dedicated to ensuring a safe and secure environment for all students, faculty, staff, patients and visitors by implementing various security measures to protect the campus community with:

- electronic access control systems installed on UAB buildings and facilities
- residence halls with staff at the front desk 24 hours per day and required guest check-in at entry
- a dedicated and well-trained UAB Police Department that has police officers patrolling the campus 24 hours per day
- 490+ Help Phones across UAB's campus to provide a direct link to the UAB Police and Public Safety Department 24 hours per day
- B-Alert, the university's emergency notification system, to share important and direct updates to the campus community
- free and confidential counseling services for all actively enrolled UAB students through UAB Student Counseling
- late-night, on-demand transportation services for UAB students and employees through UAB Blazer Express Safety Escort
- the Rave Guardian app to help you build your private safety network and connect you with UAB Police and other emergency services
- monitored video surveillance throughout campus to enhance campus safety and security



Campus connections

Incoming international students can join the **UAB International Mentors Program**, pairing you with a current university student. Your mentor will assist you in adapting to life at UAB and the US, connecting you with resources and organizing enriching events to enhance your student journey.

You will also receive an invite to join the **INTO UAB WhatsApp Community**. This is an exclusive space that connects you with students and staff for personalized advice on housing, student employment, student life, events, academic success and more.



Undergraduate on-campus housing: Suite-style, double-occupancy room with a shared bathroom and common areas.



Graduate on-campus housing: Double-occupancy apartment with a shared bathroom and common areas.


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HOW TO APPLY

Choose from two easy ways to apply

1 Apply via your educational counselor

2 Apply online
Complete our online application form:
uabintl.com



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



Through innovative partnerships with leading universities, we expand opportunities for higher education, ensuring success and transforming the lives of our students and staff.

Education counselor stamp