

Q&A WITH SUA

Send in your questions, and we'll share the answers!

Question:

How do I, as a parent, handle questions from others about sending my child to SUA, Aliso Viejo?

Answer:

The best way to handle such questions is to bring people for a personal tour of the campus so that they can understand the level of preparation and commitment that has gone into making the SUA, Aliso Viejo campus so outstanding. Have them meet our faculty and catch the excitement and enthusiasm they have for mentoring students. Have them talk to students about their experience here. SUA will be hosting Family Tour Days on Oct. 20 and Dec. 15 from 9 a.m. to noon—and everyone is welcome to make a reservation (949-480-4150 or admission@soka.edu) and come!

Question:

I can't come to Family Tour Days because the dates don't work for me. I have family visiting soon. Can I arrange for a tour of SUA?

Answer:

You can bring guests for a personal tour of the Aliso Viejo campus Monday–Friday at either 10 a.m. or 2 p.m. if you make reservations in advance by calling 949-480-4083. You can also make lunch reservations (\$7 each) by emailing Dave Davis at ddavis@soka.edu and letting him know how many people will be attending on which day. Lunch reservations require a minimum of 24 hours notice.

Question:

How should we describe SUA, Aliso Viejo to others?

Answer:

SUA,AV is a private, non-profit international liberal arts college located in Southern California about halfway between Los Angeles and San Diego. It is founded on the Buddhist principles of peace, human rights and the sanctity of life. It offers:

- 9:1 student/faculty ratio
- Eastern and Western perspectives taught across the nonsectarian curriculum
- Every student studies a foreign language
- Every student does a semester of international internship/study abroad in the junior year
- Open to students of all nationalities and beliefs

See: <http://www.soka.edu> for more information.

Question:

My parents cannot afford to send me to SUA. Does SUA provide financial aid?

Answer:

Meeting the costs of an undergraduate education represents a significant investment for many families. At Soka University we are committed to providing a comprehensive, need-based financial aid program, consisting of student loans and grants that make it possible for admitted students who meet specific requirements and deadlines to attend Soka University. SUA guarantees that we will meet 100 percent of an accepted student's demonstrated need. This need is determined using accepted federal formulas. For more information regarding the financial aid process please contact Maria Spangenberg at 949-480-4138 or atmspangenberg@soka.edu.

Question:

I thought I would apply for Early Admission, but I just can't get all of my recommendations (or other parts of the application) completed by Oct. 1. Do I need to start over for Regular Admission or can I just complete the already started application?

Answer:

No, you do not need to start over. We realize that it takes a lot of effort to get all of these materials to SUA. If you have a "partial file" at SUA after the Early Admission deadline of Oct. 1, 2001, we will keep it open so that you may complete it before the Regular Admission deadline of Jan. 15, 2002. You do not have to start over. SUA's admission process requires the application, an essay, two recommendation letters, transcripts from all schools attended, your SAT/ACT scores (sent in by the testing agency), TOEFL scores if applicable, and an application fee. If you miss the Early Admission period, please don't be discouraged. We will accept the majority of our class during the Regular Admission period and both groups are evaluated exactly the same.

Question:

If I apply for Early Admission and am not accepted, I know that my application will be rolled over to Regular Admission and reviewed again. Can I make additions or changes to my application at that time?

Answer:

You can make the following additions to your application: (1) You may add new SAT or TOEFL scores taken since the Early Admission deadline; (2) You must send SUA official school grades/transcripts for any coursework taken during the fall. You may not send another essay or submit new letters of recommendation or make other changes except for the test scores and grades.

Question:

Where can I find the Soka University of America, Aliso Viejo college code for SAT, ACT and TOEFL?

Answer:

The codes are printed on your application form under Admission Applications Procedures. They are SAT-4066, ACT-0467 and TOEFL-4066.

With the SUA college code, the testing agency can send results directly to SUA.

If you have questions of any kind about SUA, please send them to SUA at either admission@soka.edu or info@soka.edu. We will use this World Tribune column to share our answers with others who might have the same questions.