The Academic Common Market (ACM) is a tuition scholarship program that allows selected students to pursue out-of-state college degrees at discounted tuition rates through agreements among the states, colleges and universities. The ACM is designed for qualified incoming freshmen, incoming graduate students and incoming transfer students. A student must meet both the SREB qualifications and The University of Alabama qualifications shown below.

Approximately 30 of UA’s degree programs participate in the ACM. The ACM does not include any programs in the College of Commerce and Business Administration (C&BA) or the College of Human Environmental Sciences (HES), both of which once had ACM programs. A student who attends UA not meeting ACM minimum requirements cannot earn an ACM scholarship once here.

General Qualifications of the SREB

- be a resident of one of the 16 SREB states (home.sreb.org/acm/states.aspx)
- select a program for which residents of your home state are eligible
- complete the admission process at the institution offering the eligible ACM program
- be certified as a resident of your home state by contacting the ACM coordinator for your state of residence (home.sreb.org/acm/states.aspx)

UA Qualifications for First-time ACM Certification

Undergraduate: The undergraduate ACM is for first-time freshmen or undergraduate students transferring to UA from another university. Students must have at least a 25 ACT composite score or 1130 SAT composite score (math and verbal only) and at least a 3.00 overall high school GPA. UA does not superscore (i.e., does not combine the best math and verbal from multiple test administrations) when considering admissions tests, and taking the optional writing section of the ACT does not have a positive or negative effect on the composite score.

Graduate: The graduate ACM is for first-time graduate students or graduate students transferring to UA from another university. Graduate students must meet all admission requirements and hold a valid admission letter from the Graduate School.

UA Qualifications for Continuing ACM Certification

Undergraduate and Graduate: To continue an ACM grant after a student’s first semester receiving ACM support, each undergraduate and graduate UA ACM student must maintain at least a 3.0 overall GPA on all UA course work attempted. This GPA standard is in addition to the long-standing requirements for maintaining residency in the same state that certified the student initially and staying in the ACM major for which the student was certified by the home state and approved by UA.

How to Apply for the ACM at UA

Complete and submit an application in the “Apply Now” section of UA’s ACM website at graduate.ua.edu/acm. (You first must be admitted to the University to do this).

Be certified by your home state as a resident for ACM purposes. The SREB (Southern Regional Education Board) oversees the ACM; visit sreb.org for the contact information for each state’s ACM coordinator. Each ACM applicant must contact his or her state’s ACM coordinator and provide the information needed for that coordinator to certify state residency and send an official certification to UA’s ACM Coordinator.

NOTE: If a student receives a scholarship that pays full tuition or the out-of-state portion of tuition, the student is not also eligible for an ACM scholarship.

If you have any questions about the ACM at UA, please contact john.chambers@ua.edu.