

Dear International Applicant:

Thank you for considering the University of Wisconsin-Madison in your search for a Ph.D. program in Library and Information Studies. Enclosed are appropriate application forms and other materials of interest to prospective doctoral students. Please check our website: <http://www.slis.wisc.edu> for more information. Before you initiate the application process, it is important for you to understand the University's and the School's position on financial support. Unfortunately, we have little financial aid to offer and almost none to support international students especially in their first year of study.

The Advanced Studies Committee requests a full statement of your reasons for seeking graduate study and a statement of your research interests. This statement should be included in your School of Library and Information Studies application and is carefully reviewed by the Committee. The Committee also feels that professional experience in a library or information center after receipt of the master's degree is useful preparation for doctoral study. Please indicate what courses you have had in the English language, or other evidence of your ability to carry graduate work in librarianship at an English language university. A minimum score of 580 Written and 237 Computer on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) is required for full admission. The Committee may wish to arrange a personal interview with you in Madison at some later date. If this is not possible, other arrangements can be made to interview you at a professional meeting or to have someone interview you on behalf of the Committee.

When applying for graduate study at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, you must apply to both this Department (SLIS) and the Graduate School. This process involves paying an application fee to the Graduate School of \$45.00; **until that requirement is met, we cannot process an application and the Graduate School does not waive or defer that fee.** If you feel you can meet that stipulation, we will be happy to process your application. Again, however, I must make it clear that there will not be any financial aid available to support your application fee or tuition and expenses for your program. We have little teaching assistantship or project assistantship support for international students. International applicants are required to certify that sufficient funds are available to completely cover expenses for the duration of their program. Doctoral study takes a minimum of four years, and a visa will not be issued until proof has been established that the prospective student has sufficient money to study in this country. Annual fees and tuition and estimated expenses for a single international student are \$36,950. That figure does not include annual increases for all costs (usually around 10%) and expenses for dependent family members as appropriate. Also, work opportunity for international students in the U.S. is strictly limited by law. Please see the International Applicant Financial Statement that is provided along with the Graduate School Application.

If you feel that you can meet the requirements, we will be happy to process your application. If you have other questions, please contact me and I will try to answer them.

Sincerely,

Barbara J. Arnold  
Admissions and Placement Adviser  
Email address: [bjarnold@wisc.edu](mailto:bjarnold@wisc.edu)