



About Bergen

Bergen Community College is the largest community college in New Jersey and is proud to have more than 1,000 visa holders representing 124 countries around the world. Located just 30 minutes from New York City, Bergen is a great place for international students to learn English, earn an associate's degree or complete a certificate.

Bergen Community Colleges offers special rates to au pairs who work for a family living in Bergen County. Au pairs residing with a Bergen County family will pay the "in county rate." See www.bergen.edu/bursar for current rates.

Why come to Bergen Community College?

- Opportunity to meet other au pairs, international students and American college/university students
- An active International Student Association
- Convenient class times to meet your schedule (early morning/afternoons/evenings and Saturday classes)
- An International Student Center dedicated to student success
- English-as-a-Second Language classes
- Affordable Tuition
- Small Classes
- Excellent Faculty
- Active Student Life
- State-of-the-art computer facilities
- Outstanding academic programs/certificate programs



**Bergen Community College
International Student Center**
 Pitkin Education Center, Room C102
 400 Paramus Road
 Paramus, New Jersey 07652
 Phone: 001-201-689-7601
 Fax: 001-201-251-0353
isc@bergen.edu
www.bergen.edu/isc



The International Student Center

BERGEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

J-1 Au pair Program



Admission requirements for au pairs

- An application (online or paper).
- Copies of J-1 immigration documents (visa, passport, DS-2019).
- A letter from the sponsoring au pair agency stating the au pair's name and placement.

What is my first step?

The first thing you should do if you are an au pair interested in taking classes at Bergen is to visit the International Student Center in Room C-102. You will complete an application and meet with a staff member who will explain the process. Next, you will show proof of your au pair status by providing a copy of your DS-2019, J-1 visa and passport, and a letter from your agency. The letter must state where you are working (the home address). Depending on which classes you would like to take, you will either take a test first, or register for courses right away. Please note, depending on the date of registration, payment may be due immediately.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ):

- **How many courses is an au pair allowed to take?**
Au pairs can take as many courses as they like, as long as they register for at least 6 credits during the year.
- **I understand that au pairs working for a family living in Bergen County receive a special "in county rate." What if I am an au pair working outside of Bergen County?**
Au pairs working outside of Bergen County are welcome to attend Bergen. These au pairs will pay the regular Visa Rate see: www.bergen.edu/bursar
- **I would like to take a class at Bergen, but I don't want to receive a grade in the course. Is this possible?**
Yes. This is called "auditing" a class. Au pairs should ask their sponsoring agency if auditing is allowed. It is the au pair's responsibility to make sure that auditing a class is permitted. The cost to audit a class is the same as it would be to receive a grade in the course.
- **Can I earn a Certificate or Degree at Bergen?**
Yes. Please check the College website www.bergen.edu for a complete list of course offerings. Some certificates can be achieved in as little as one year.

- **What is the deadline for applying to Bergen?**
Classes fill up quickly and the earlier an application is submitted, the better. To view the semester start dates, please visit www.bergen.edu and click on Registration.
- **Are there certain classes I cannot take at Bergen?**
Generally, au pairs can register for most classes at Bergen. Students must take a basic skills test before registering for English or mathematics. Students who want to take classes in the American Language Program (ALP) need to take the Levels of English Proficiency test (LOEP). Tests are free-of-charge and are offered on campus for your convenience. All testing information can be found at www.bergen.edu/testing
- **How can I get additional information?**
Please call us at (201) 689-7601 or email us at isc@bergen.edu. You also may stop by the International Student Center located in Room C-102. Information is available at www.bergen.edu/isc

