

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Undergraduate Exchange Information Sheet – 2023-24

Learn how to apply and prepare to become an undergraduate exchange student at Ohio State.

Contact Information

Office Name: Office of International Affairs

Exchange Program Coordinator: Ms. Caroline Omolesky
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Application Process

Deadlines: Autumn Semester and full year: February 15
Spring Semester only: June 1

Link to online application: https://delegated.osu.edu/psp/csosuda/EMPLOYEE/CAMP/c/OAD_GEA_OAD_GEA_NUR_APL.GBL?appchrt=UND

Required materials:

- Photocopy of passport
- Copy of official university transcript
- Proof of English language proficiency
- Proof of sufficient funding (approx. \$11,000 per semester)
- Letter of recommendation from university professor or exchange coordinator
- Personal statement from the applicant. For complete details, also see: <https://oia.osu.edu/exchange-students/application-instructions.html>

Minimum required scores:

- GPA: 3.0, or equivalent
- English proficiency: 79 on iBT TOEFL; 550 on paper-based TOEFL; 6.5 on IELTS; 105 on Duolingo

COVID-19 Frequently Asked Questions

Online enrollment: Q: Can students enroll all online from their home country?
A: Yes, if students are not able to travel to campus in person they may participate in the exchange virtually from home.

Quarantine: Q: Are students required to quarantine upon arrival?
A: We recommend that students follow current CDC guidelines regarding quarantine.

Q: Is quarantine required if students catch COVID-19?
A: Students, faculty and staff who are exposed to or have a confirmed case of COVID-19 will be required to be in isolation or quarantine as appropriate until healthy.

Vaccination: Vaccination for COVID-19 is required for students at Ohio State, and also for entry into the United States.

Testing: For up-to-date information on testing options and requirements, see <https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/testing>.

Web resource: Comprehensive information on navigating COVID-19 as an Ohio State student can be found at <https://safeandhealthy.osu.edu/>.

Pre-Departure

Housing options: Campus housing website: <http://www.housing.osu.edu/>. Students are e-mailed housing contracts soon after admission, if space is available.

Students may also elect to live off-campus, and assistance is available through the office of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services: <http://offcampus.osu.edu/>.

Immigration information: Upon admission exchange students are issued a Form DS-2019, to apply for a J-1 student visa. Immigration advising is through the Office of International Affairs.

Health insurance: All exchange students in J-1 status are required to purchase Ohio State's Comprehensive Health Benefits Plan. For the '22-'23 academic year the cost of insurance per semester is \$1,765 (may increase for '23-'24). For full details, visit <http://shi.osu.edu/>.

Vaccination requirement: All exchange students are required to show proof of having received certain vaccines prior to arrival, or receive them at the Student Health Center on campus. For full details, see: <http://shc.osu.edu/services/vaccinations/vaccination-requirement/>.

Estimated living expenses: Students must show a minimum of \$10,924 per semester for the '22–'23 academic year (subject to change), in a personal or family bank statement, to prove they can cover living expenses and non-academic fees, including health insurance.

Arrival and Orientation

Airport information: Students should plan to fly into John Glenn Columbus International Airport (CMH), located approximately 20 minutes from campus by car. Office of International Affairs provides free taxi vouchers to international students, for transportation from the airport to campus.

When to arrive: Students may arrive no more than 30 days prior to the start of classes (also the start date on the DS-2019) and are recommended to arrive two to three weeks prior to that start date. Students must plan arrival in accordance with the Check-In and Orientation requirements (see below).

Immigration Check-In: A federally mandated requirement for all incoming international students. Immigration Check-In is held during the three weeks prior to the start of Autumn Semester and the week prior to the start of Spring Semester. Students register for an immigration check-in date and time in advance (<https://oia.osu.edu/units/international-students/new-student-check-in-and-orientation/immigration-check-in-process/>).

New International Student Orientation: All new international students, including exchange students, are required to attend orientation, which is an introduction to life at Ohio State. For additional details, see: <https://oia.osu.edu/units/international-students/new-student-check-in-and-orientation/orientation/>.

Exchange student meeting: This mandatory meeting covers important information about being an exchange student and gives students a chance to meet and socialize with each other. It is typically held the Thursday afternoon prior to the start of classes for the term.

Academic Information

Academic calendar: Autumn Semester 2023: August 22 – December 17
Spring Semester 2024: January 8 – May 5
For full calendar, see <http://registrar.osu.edu/staff/bigcal.asp>.

Course catalog: <https://registrar.osu.edu/courses/>

Course registration: In their first semester students register through their academic advisor. In further terms they can register online on their own.

Academic Advising:	Students are assigned to an advisor through the Office of Distance Education and eLearning (https://odee.osu.edu/) and through their major department, when available. Advisors help students select coursework, assist with adding and dropping classes and provide general academic guidance.
Course load:	Students are required to enroll full time, taking a minimum of 12 credit hours per semester, to maintain J-1 immigration status. Most exchange students take between 12-15 credits per term. Registration above 18 credit hours is not permitted.
Grading:	A – E grading system; D is the highest passing grade. Some courses are graded on an “S/U” basis only (satisfactory/unsatisfactory).
Transcript issuance:	OIA’s exchange coordinator mails a final transcript for all students directly to their home institution upon completion of studies, free of cost. Further transcripts can be ordered by a student through the Registrar’s website: http://registrar.osu.edu/alumni/index_transcript.asp .

Student Support Services

Office of International Affairs International Students & Scholars: https://oia.osu.edu/international-students.html	Caroline Omolesky (contact info above) at OIA provides immigration advising, and serves as a first point of contact for any other questions.
Office of International Affairs Global Engagement: https://oia.osu.edu/global-engagement.html	OIA’s Global Engagement team aims to bring together domestic and international students through cross-cultural programming. All exchange students are signed up for GE’s weekly newsletter, which advertises which advertises fun and educational events.
Intercultural English Language Programs: https://ielp.ehe.osu.edu/	Students may (but are not required to) register for English as a second language coursework.
Writing Center: https://cstw.osu.edu/writing-center	The Writing Center offers free help with writing at any stage of the writing process.
Dennis Learning Center: http://dennislearningcenter.osu.edu/	The Learning Center offers courses, workshops and coaching to help students develop study skills such as time management, stress management, motivation, test-taking strategies, reading skills, etc.
Counseling & Consultation Service: https://ccs.osu.edu/	Up to 10 free sessions of counseling are available to all students enrolled in the Ohio State student health plan. Counseling is available in many

Student Health Services:

<http://shs.osu.edu/>

Buckeye Link:

<http://contactbuckeyelink.osu.edu/>

Student Organizations:

https://activities.osu.edu/involvement/student_organizations/

Disability Services:

<https://slds.osu.edu/>

languages other than English.

Offers a wide range of non-emergency medical care and pharmacy services.

Consolidated service center encompassing the Registrar, Bursar, Financial Aid and Admissions. Assists with fee payment, transcript issuance and other administrative business.

Exchange students are strongly encouraged to get involved in student organizations, of which Ohio State has hundreds. A great way to connect with current students.

Disability Services provides services for and coordinates accommodations for students with a wide variety of disabilities.

This list of student support services on campus is not exhaustive. There are many other offices that provide specialized support for students, in a variety of domains.

