

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

## Undergraduate Exchange Information Sheet

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  
Program Officer for Sponsored Programs & Academic Liaison  
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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?cmd=login&errorCode=105&languageCd=ENG](https://delegated.osu.edu/psp/csosuda/EMPLOYEE/CAMP/c/OAD_GEA_OAD_GEA_NUR_APL.GBL?cmd=login&errorCode=105&languageCd=ENG)

Required materials:

- Photocopy of passport
- Copy of official university transcript
- Proof of English language proficiency
- Proof of sufficient funding (approx. \$10,000 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, 79 on MELAB or 6.5 on IELTS

## Pre-Departure

Housing options:	<p>Campus housing website: <a href="http://www.housing.osu.edu/">http://www.housing.osu.edu/</a>. Students are e-mailed housing contracts soon after admission, if space is available.</p> <p>Students may also elect to live off-campus, and assistance is available through the office of Off-Campus and Commuter Student Services: <a href="http://offcampus.osu.edu/">http://offcampus.osu.edu/</a>.</p>
Immigration information:	<p>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.</p>
Health insurance:	<p>All exchange students in J-1 status are required to purchase Ohio State's Comprehensive Health Benefits Plan. For the '16 – '17 academic year the cost of insurance per semester is \$1,377. For full details, visit <a href="http://shi.osu.edu/">http://shi.osu.edu/</a>.</p>
Vaccination requirement:	<p>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: <a href="http://shc.osu.edu/services/vaccinations/vaccination-requirement/">http://shc.osu.edu/services/vaccinations/vaccination-requirement/</a>.</p>
Estimated living expenses:	<p>Students must show a minimum of approximately \$10,317 per semester for the '18 – '19 academic year, in a personal or family bank statement, to prove they can cover living expenses and non-academic fees.</p>

## Arrival and Orientation

Airport information:	<p>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.</p>
When to arrive:	<p>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 no later than one week prior to that start date. Students must plan arrival in accordance with the Check-In and Orientation requirements below.</p>
Immigration Check-In:	<p>A federally-mandated requirement for all incoming international students. Immigration check-ins are 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 (<a href="https://oia.osu.edu/pre-arrival-and-orientation.html">https://oia.osu.edu/pre-arrival-and-orientation.html</a>).</p>
New International	<p>All new international students, including exchange students, are</p>

Student Orientation:	required to attend orientation, which is an introduction to life at Ohio State. For full details, see: <a href="https://oia.osu.edu/pre-arrival-and-orientation/orientation.html">https://oia.osu.edu/pre-arrival-and-orientation/orientation.html</a> .
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 will typically held the Thursday afternoon prior to the start of classes for the term.

## Academic Information

Academic calendar:	Autumn Semester 2018: August 21 – December 16 Spring Semester 2019: January 7 – May 5 For full dates, see <a href="http://registrar.osu.edu/staff/bigcal.asp">http://registrar.osu.edu/staff/bigcal.asp</a> .
Course catalog:	<a href="https://registrar.osu.edu/courses/">https://registrar.osu.edu/courses/</a>
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 ( <a href="https://odee.osu.edu/">https://odee.osu.edu/</a> ) 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: <a href="http://registrar.osu.edu/alumni/index_transcript.asp">http://registrar.osu.edu/alumni/index_transcript.asp</a> .

## Student Support Services

<b>Office of International Affairs</b> <b>International Students &amp; Scholars:</b> <a href="https://oia.osu.edu/international-students.html">https://oia.osu.edu/international-students.html</a>	Ms. Caroline Omolesky (contact info. above) at OIA provides students with immigration advising, and serves as a first point of contact for questions about other issues.
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**Office of International Affairs****Global Engagement:**

<https://oia.osu.edu/workshops-and-events/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 fun and educational events.

**ESL Programs:**

<http://esl.ehe.osu.edu/>

Students may 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:**

<http://www.ccs.ohio-state.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 languages other than English.

**Student Health Services:**

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

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

**Buckeye Link:**

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

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

**Student Organizations:**

[http://www.ohiounion.osu.edu/get\\_involved/student\\_organizations](http://www.ohiounion.osu.edu/get_involved/student_organizations)

Exchange students are strongly encouraged to join one or more of the hundreds of the currently active student organizations. A great way to connect with current students.

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.

