Program Requirements

Course Selection and Registration

Undergraduate exchange students are admitted to The Ohio State University’s Continuing Education program, and may select courses from the College of Arts and Sciences (however, students whose exchange agreements are with other colleges, such as Education or Engineering, will primarily select courses in their designated college). Admission to this program gives exchange students flexibility and autonomy to take courses in a variety of disciplines.

Graduate exchange students are admitted to the Graduate non-degree program and take courses in their chosen discipline. Graduate courses in Law, Medicine, Dentistry, Optometry, Veterinary Medicine, and Pharmacy are not available to international exchange students. Graduate business courses are only available to those admitted directly to one of the exchange programs at the Fisher College of Business.

The website of the University Registrar contains a variety of important academic information, including the official academic calendar and a searchable list of all courses offered at Ohio State.

In addition to researching Ohio State’s course offerings, students are strongly encouraged to communicate with a designated academic advisor prior to arrival to facilitate the course selection and registration process. The advisor’s contact information is communicated to new exchange students after the point of admission.

Tuition and Fees

Exchange students do NOT pay tuition to The Ohio State University, as they pay tuition at their home institution. However, they are responsible to pay for the following costs:

- Housing and other living expenses for the student and any dependents if applicable (estimated cost $6,770 per semester for students without dependents)
- Books and other academic supplies (estimated cost $624 per semester)
- OSU Comprehensive Student Health Insurance Plan (currently $1,070/semester for exchange students)
- Recreation Facilities Fee (estimated $123 per semester)
- Student Union Facility Fee (estimated $74.40 per semester)
- Student Activity Fee (estimated $37.50 per semester)
- COTA Bus Transportation Fee (estimated $13.50 per semester)
Estimated total for all fees and living expenses for exchange students during the 2013-2014 academic year is $8,711 per semester.

Please note that the costs listed above are estimates and are subject to future change. Every effort will be made to update this website as needed.

Visit the University Registrar for an explanation of these fees.

It is recommended that exchange students consider opening a U.S. bank account in Columbus so that their fees may be paid online. More information about payment procedures can be found at the Office of the University Bursar website. Fees are typically due prior to the start of the semester, so it is suggested that students make a fee payment plan before they arrive in Columbus.

Required Health Insurance

All international students at The Ohio State University are required to enroll in the university’s Comprehensive Student Health Insurance Plan. The only exceptions are for the following groups of students:

- Students who have full financial sponsorship (including all fees and living expenses) from a government sponsor.
- Students who have full financial sponsorship from a select international organization.
- Students who are already covered under an employment-driven US-based health insurance plan, either as a US-based employee or as a dependent of a US-based employee.

Students who wish to submit a request for exemption from coverage will need to complete and submit an International Student Health Insurance Waiver form in advance of their first term of enrollment.

The Comprehensive Plan covers inpatient and outpatient medical and mental health care, some preventative/well care, pharmacy, dental, and vision. Exclusions and limitations apply.

Please visit the Student Health Insurance website for more details.

Housing

Housing is NOT guaranteed for international exchange students. All international exchange students are responsible for securing their own housing accommodations, either through the Ohio State University Residences & Dining Services office or by making arrangements to live...
off-campus. It is highly recommended that students contact University Residences & Dining Services immediately after admission if they would like to inquire about the availability of on-campus housing accommodations. It is also recommended that students begin investigating off-campus living options soon after admission, as on-campus accommodations will be limited during the 2013-2014 academic year due to on-going construction projects and a high demand for on-campus accommodations.

Please note: During the academic year 2012-2013 on campus housing was not available to all exchange students. This situation was caused by a variety of factors, including the closing of current residence halls, increased demand for on-campus housing from continuing students, and a very large population of incoming degree-seeking students. We expect that on-campus housing accommodations will be filled very quickly for the 2013-2014 academic year, however there are a number of rental properties available within walking distance to the university and a number of resources available to help students secure off-campus housing.

Undergraduate students who are under 22 years of age may be offered housing in a variety of undergraduate residence halls. Room rates typically range from $1,700 to $2,300 per quarter. Both undergraduate and graduate students 22 years old by the date of arrival in Columbus may be eligible for single or double rooms in University Graduate, Professional and Nontraditional Housing on campus. Students bringing dependents with them to OSU may be eligible to live at Buckeye Village.

University Housing has additional information concerning room rates, residence halls, and other on campus housing issues.

Off-campus housing is also an option that exchange students may choose. Students who wish to live off-campus are responsible for securing their own housing. Residences that are located off-campus are owned and operated by private individuals or companies, and OIA is unable to make any arrangements on behalf of students. Safety and the availability of public transportation should be taken into consideration when evaluating possible off-campus accommodations.

Students seeking additional help and information for off-campus housing can visit Off-Campus Student Services (OCSS). OCSS maintains an online housing search with information on accommodations both within walking distance and driving distance to the Ohio State campus. OCSS also has safety information, utility company resources and legal referrals, and they can assist students when looking for roommates.
Meal Plans

Both students who live on and off campus are eligible to enroll in an Ohio State dining plan. Exchange students living on campus who choose not to enroll in a dining plan are still subject to a quarterly fee for dining facilities and programs charged all residents of University Housing.

Campus Dining Services offers multiple dining plans, each offering a wide variety of appealing and nutritious foods at convenient locations and hours. The differences between plans are in the number of allowable “swipes” (generally equal to one meal). You can choose the plan that best meets your needs, based on the number of meals you anticipate eating on campus.

For more information on meal plans and the many dining locations on campus, visit Campus Dining Services.

Contact Information

Please send all application materials to:

Incoming Exchange Coordinator
The Ohio State University
Office of International Affairs
100 Oxley Hall
1712 Neil Avenue
Columbus, OH, USA 43210
Email: iss@osu.edu, Subject: "Incoming Exchange Coordinator"
Phone: (614) 292-6101
Fax number: (614) 292-4725