Exchange Partner Program Expectations

Who are exchange students?

Exchange students are international students studying at Ohio State on a short-term, non-degree basis for one semester or a full academic year. Ohio State has active Student Exchange Agreements with the students’ home universities, and we send students abroad to these schools. The students enroll primarily in the College of Arts and Sciences but are majoring in a variety of disciplines. They come from a variety of countries, including Australia, China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, South Korea, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

What will be the duties of exchange partners?

- Attend an orientation meeting in late April with the other exchange partners
- Be in communication with your exchange student partner prior to their arrival in the United States via email and other social media – you’ll welcome them to Ohio State and answer questions they may have
- Once the exchange students are on campus, be a resource for your partner – help them understand how things work at Ohio State
- Meet in person with your exchange student partner at least twice per month
- Attend at least two events per semester with your exchange student partner where they could meet other students (Office of International Affairs’ Global Engagement events, events offered through student organizations, etc.)
- At least once per semester, take a trip off campus with your exchange partner – for example, introduce your partner to an area of Columbus or an event in town that you enjoy (Short North, German Village, the zoo, a Blue Jacket’s game, a festival, etc.).
- Attend the exchange student snack hours throughout the term (with allowances made for class conflicts), and help your partner prepare the food for their country’s day
- If you notice that your partner is struggling, academically or in any other way, or if you are concerned about your partner for any reason, alert the exchange program coordinator, Caroline Omolesky, via email

Note that some exchange students study at Ohio State for just one semester, and some for a whole year. If your Autumn Semester partner is here for just one term, you may be assigned to a new partner for Spring Semester.

Contact Caroline Omolesky at omolesky.2@osu.edu with any questions.