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### **CGIS Exchange Information**

University of Michigan (UM) - Ann Arbor

#### Contact Information

##### **Mailing Address**

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##### **Incoming Exchange Coordinators**

- Ben Peipert: [bpeipert@umich.edu](mailto:bpeipert@umich.edu)
- Elijah Rodriguez: [elijoe@umich.edu](mailto:elijoe@umich.edu)

The Incoming Exchange Coordinators work together on the incoming exchange student program. **Please CC both coordinators on any email correspondence.**

##### UM Academic Calendar

- [Office of the Registrar \(RO\) Academic Year Calendars](#)

## Application Deadlines

- Fall or Academic Year (AY): February 15
- Winter (Spring): July 15

## Application Requirements

- A complete application requires the following:
  - **To be completed by home institution partners:**
    - Nomination Form for Incoming Exchange Students
    - Undergraduate Non-Degree Application Part 2
  - **To be completed by applicants:**
    - Undergraduate Non-Degree Application Part 1
    - Proof of English proficiency (if applicable)
    - Financial Resources Statement (FRS) and supporting documents
    - UM Transcript Release Statement
    - Copy of valid passport

## Application Review

- Once CGIS receives a complete application, it will be reviewed for suitability in the exchange program.
- During the application review period, applicants should regularly check their email for important messages.
- Upon initial review of the application, CGIS will contact students about missing or incorrect documentation.
- After CGIS conducts a preliminary review of the application, the UM Office of Undergraduate Admissions (OUA) will conduct a final review. OUA makes the final admissions decision.

## Admissions Decision

- If UM offers admission to the exchange program, students will be issued notification by email.
- Admitted students will be emailed an admissions packet which will include visa application instructions and a Form I-20.

- Students will also receive information on the International Undergraduate Orientation, health insurance, housing, and arriving in Ann Arbor.

## Academic Information

- Exchange students are only permitted to take undergraduate courses from the [College of Literature, Science, and the Arts](#) (LSA).
- Exchange students are not permitted to take courses outside of LSA. For example, exchange students cannot take courses at the Ross School of Business or Michigan Engineering.
- Exchange students are not permitted to take Electrical Engineering and Computer Science (EECS) courses.
- Courses in Economics, Communication Studies, Psychology, and Political Science can be difficult to enroll in.
- Prior to departure, students will be contacted by an academic advisor who will provide information and assistance to students about LSA courses and how to register.
- Students should plan on registering for 12-18 credits per semester.

## Language of Instruction

- All courses are taught in English, unless otherwise indicated.
- Students seeking additional English instruction may also select courses from the [Sweetland Center for Writing](#). In addition, the [English Language Institute](#) (ELI) offers various resources for students.
- UM offers language courses in over 65 languages.

## Transcripts

- Upon completion of the exchange term, CGIS will organize to have official transcripts sent to each student's home institution.
- Students can also order official transcripts for free via [Wolverine Access](#).

## Accommodations

- Unfortunately, it is very difficult for exchange students to secure UM on-campus housing (dormitories). UM on-campus housing is extremely limited and is typically reserved for incoming degree-seeking students.

- Exchange students can apply for UM on-campus housing, but should know that a room is not guaranteed. In addition, exchange students should research off-campus housing options and make plans to live off campus.
- Students are responsible for making their own housing arrangements, and should plan on making housing arrangements right after gaining admission to UM.
- Ann Arbor offers a variety of housing, both on and off campus, to suit a variety of living needs. Please see the housing resources below:
  - [Michigan Housing](#)
  - [Off-Campus Housing](#)
  - [Beyond the Diag-Off-Campus Housing](#)
  - [UM International Center-Housing](#)
  - [UMICH Housing. Rooms. Apartments. Sublets](#) (facebook)
- Incoming exchange students are permitted to join the UM [Global Scholars Program](#) (GSP). GSP offers a traditional dorm experience with added intercultural learning sessions and community, and is located in North Quadrangle Residence Hall. Students must apply both to GSP and to the UM Housing office. Applicants must be admitted to UM before applying to GSP.
- Students who stay in UM housing are required to have certain [immunizations](#). These immunizations are also highly recommended for students who are staying off-campus. Please see the [Vaccination Requirements](#) webpage for more information.

## Visa

- The UM Office of Undergraduate Admissions (OUA) advises all incoming exchange students to apply for the F-1 visa.
- The vast majority of incoming exchange students receive an F-1 student visa.
- The UM Office of Undergraduate Admissions (OUA) will send the Form I-20 to admitted students. This form is required when applying for an F-1 visa.
- The UM International Center (IC) handles all F-1 and visa-related matters.

## Working on Campus, OPT, and CPT

- F-1 and J-1 students are eligible to work on-campus while attending classes. The work does not need to be related to the student's field of study. Students must maintain legal F-1 or J-1 status while engaging in on-campus employment. Please see the UM International Center (IC) link below for more information and requirements:
  - [On-Campus Employment for F-1/J-1 Students](#)

- Exchange students are not permitted to participate in the Optional Practical Training (OPT) program or the Curricular Practical Training (CPT) program. Please see the UM International Center (IC) link below for more information:
  - [Optional Practical Training \(OPT\) for F-1 Students](#)
  - [Curricular Practical Training \(CPT\) for F-1 Students](#)
- Please be aware that some courses require students to complete an internship. These courses are not available for exchange students to complete, as the internship requires participation in OPT.

## Arrival and Orientation

- Orientation is mandatory for all exchange students.
- During orientation, students learn about health and safety resources, how to meet with academic advisors, and about the US educational system.
- Students must perform their mandatory immigration check-in online upon arrival. They will be required to submit scanned copies of their immigration documents so that the UM [International Center](#) (IC) can activate their SEVIS record.

## Fees

- Exchange students do not pay UM tuition. Instead, they pay their home institution tuition while studying at UM. Exchange students will receive a UM tuition waiver.
- Students registering for more than 18 credits will be charged additional tuition per hour. Some courses may carry an additional Lab Fee, which is not covered as part of the exchange agreement.
- CGIS exchange students are not required to pay the \$500 International Student Fee.

## Health and Safety

- All international students are required to purchase [health insurance](#), which is coordinated by the UM International Center (IC).
- New students will automatically be enrolled for health insurance during orientation, a few exceptions apply. Please consult the IC for health insurance waiver information.
- Students who stay in UM housing are required to have certain [immunizations](#). These immunizations are highly recommended for students who are staying off-campus. Please see the [Vaccination Requirements](#) webpage for more information.

- Students can access a wide variety of health, mental health, and public safety resources while on campus. Please see the links below for more information:
  - [University Health Service](#) (UHS)
  - [Dental Care](#)
  - [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) (CAPS)
  - [UM Division of Public Safety and Security](#)