

FACT SHEET ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-2027

STUDENT EXCHANGE IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE GLOBAL EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

1. General information

Name of the institution:	KU Leuven
Offices in charge of student exchange programme:	International Office (in charge of Global Exchange Programme) Faculties (in charge of inbound/outbound students)
Director / Head of Office:	Dr. An Descheemaeker Director International Office
Mailing address:	International Office: Naamsestraat 63 - box 5001 3000 Leuven, BE
Programme coordination:	Ms. Anneleen Cornelis Policy Adviser on International Mobility anneleen.cornelis@kuleuven.be
Coordination of KU Leuven outbound exchange students:	Ms. Katrijn Van Cutsem Project Manager for International Mobility katrijn.vancutsem@kuleuven.be
Coordination of partners' inbound exchange students:	Ms. Fiona De Jaegher Project Manager for International Mobility fiona.dejaegher@kuleuven.be
Contact person for inbound students after selection:	Faculty Exchange Coordinators and Contact Persons: www.kuleuven.be/english/admissions/exchange/coordinators

2. Term dates for 2026-2027

Fall 2025 / 1 st term:	End of September 2026 – End of January 2027 (<i>exact dates tbc.</i>) Orientation days are organised at the start of each semester, a week before the start of the academic activities.
Spring 2026 / 2 nd term:	Beginning of February 2027 – End of June 2027 (<i>exact dates tbc.</i>) Orientation days are organised at the start of each semester, a week before the start of the academic activities.
Website:	www.kuleuven.be/about/calendars

3. Admission requirements

Minimum GPA (or academic result in other scales):	Good academic standing; some faculties have specific requirements (please consult our online Programme Guide for requirements per programme and course).
Years of studies students should have completed:	Depending on the faculty/programme, students should have completed 2 or 3 years of study.
TOEFL / IELTS score:	<p>TOEFL minimum iBT score: 79 - 80 IELTS minimum score: 6.5</p> <p>For more information: www.kuleuven.be/english/admissions/lang/lang-test</p> <p>Please note that some faculties might have different requirements for English proficiency. Check to requirements per course in our Programme Guide or contact the faculty exchange coordinator: www.kuleuven.be/english/admissions/exchange/coordinators</p>
Degree level:	Bachelor's or master's students
Available exchange period:	One semester (Fall or Spring) or one academic year

4. Application deadlines and procedures

Nomination deadline:	<p>One month before application deadline:</p> <p>Fall / 1st term nomination: 30 March 2026 Spring / 2nd term nomination: 1 September 2026</p>
Nomination procedure:	<p>The home institution submits following documents per candidate via e-mail to fiona.dejaegher@kuleuven.be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Nomination form, completed by the home institution - Transcripts of records <p>The nomination form is provided by KU Leuven. Instructions and information on the proposed course list are included in the form.</p> <p>Please note: additional documents may be requested dependent on Faculty requirements (such as a statement of interest or language proficiency certificate).</p>
Application deadline for:	<p>Fall / 1st term admission: 30 April 2026 Spring / 2nd term admission: 1 October 2026</p>
Application procedure:	www.kuleuven.be/english/application/instructions-exchange
Required documents:	www.kuleuven.be/english/apply/requested-documents

5. Courses and credits

Course offer:	<p>Programme Guide: https://onderwijsaanbod.kuleuven.be/opleidingen/e (for all courses available to exchange students per Faculty)</p> <p>Course search: https://onderwijsaanbod.kuleuven.be/opleidingen/e/partials</p> <p>Almost all English-taught courses are open to exchange students. Exceptions may apply. Please see the “What Can I Study at KU Leuven” Guide for exchange students for more details.</p> <p>Please note the course offer is subject to change without prior notice.</p>
Course load:	<p>Students should take a normal study load of approximately 24-30 ECTS credits per semester, with no less than 18 ECTS credits. Courses usually range from 4 to 6 credits.</p>
Guidelines:	<p>The exchange coordinator from the involved Faculty (or Faculties) reviews the student’s proposed course programme after nomination and provide feedback.</p> <p>The majority of the credits registered for at KU Leuven have to be obtained from the Faculty where the student is registered. Most Faculties offer the possibility to take up some courses (usually max. 2 courses) from other Faculties.</p> <p>Please note that some courses are offered at a different campus. Students should only select courses at one and the same campus.</p>
Grading system:	<p>www.kuleuven.be/english/education/student/examinations/grading-system</p>
Credit system (ECTS):	<p>KU Leuven is an ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) label holder.</p> <p>www.kuleuven.be/english/education/ects</p> <p>1 ECTS credit corresponds to 25 to 30 hours of work (including both course hours and individual work and study hours).</p>

6. Practical information

Life at KU Leuven:	<p>www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven</p>
Cost of living and expenses:	<p>www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/money-matters/cost-of-living-in-belgium</p>
Student visa:	<p>www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/immigration-residence</p>
Accommodation:	<p>www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/housing</p>
Students with a disability:	<p>www.kuleuven.be/english/stuvo/studentswithadisability</p>