



2024–2025

# McMaster University Exchange Fact Sheet

[studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca](https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca)

   @MacSSC



### Discover McMaster

<https://discover.mcmaster.ca/>

Founded in 1887, McMaster University is located in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada at the western end of Lake Ontario. With a total student population of over 36,000, McMaster is a top 100 university dedicated to advancing human and societal health and well-being. In 2021 we placed first in [graduate student research intensity](#) and in the top 50 of the [world's most international universities](#). McMaster is ranked 80th by the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2022, and 33rd in the world in the THE's University Impact Rankings 2023 based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

### Campus Locations:

**Mailing Address –**

*Attn: Jenna Levi/Marisa Bachetti*  
Global Learning Coordinator  
International Student Experience/  
Student Success Centre  
Gilmour Hall Room 110, McMaster  
University, 1280 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L8S 4L8

**Main Campus –**

*Undergraduate & Graduate  
Programs*  
  
McMaster University  
1280 Main Street West,  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada  
L8S 4L8

**Burlington Campus –**

*MBA & Executive Programs*  
  
Ron Joyce Centre  
4350 South Service Road  
Burlington, Ontario, Canada  
L7L5R8

## Contact Us – International and Exchange Student Experience, Student Success Centre

Contact	Function	Contact Details
Sean Van Koughnett	Associate Vice-President (Students and Learning) and Dean of Students	avpstudents@mcmaster.ca
Ms. Gisela Oliveira	Associate Director (Skill Development and International Support), Student Success Centre	oliveig@mcmaster.ca
Ms. Jenna Levi	Global Learning Coordinator, Study and Research (Outbound McMaster students)	levij@mcmaster.ca
Ms. Marisa Bachetti	Global Learning Coordinator, Study and Research (Inbound students to McMaster)	bachetmd@mcmaster.ca
Mr. Mitchell Onyedikachi Emmanuel-Kalu	Global Experience and International Program Assistant	macincoming@mcmaster.ca
Student Inquiries	General Exchange Email	macincoming@mcmaster.ca
McMaster Campus Security	After Hours (Emergency) 24 Hour Emergency Line	1-905-525-9140 x 24281
Website		<a href="#">Incoming Exchange</a>

## Contact Us – Office of International Affairs

Contact	Function	Contact Details
Dr. Bonny Ibhawoh	Vice Provost, International Affairs	vpi@mcmaster.ca
Dr. Amira El Masri	Director, International Affairs	Amira.elmasri@mcmaster.ca
Mr. Paul Leegsma	Manager Strategic Initiatives and Special Projects, International Affairs	leegsmp@mcmaster.ca
Ms. Sarah Slasor	Project Officer (Exchange Agreements)	slasors@mcmaster.ca
Website		<a href="http://global.mcmaster.ca/">global.mcmaster.ca/</a>

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## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS:

Faculty of Humanities			<a href="#">website</a>
Cognitive Science of Language	History	Multimedia	
Communication Studies	Integrated Arts	Music Peace Studies	
English and Cultural Studies	Justice, Political Philosophy and	Philosophy	
French	Law (JPPL)	Women's Studies	
Greek and Roman Studies	Linguistics		

  

Faculty of Engineering			<a href="#">website</a>
Chemical Engineering	Electrical & Computer	Materials Science & Engineering	
Civil Engineering	Engineering	Mechanical Engineering	
Computing & Software	Engineering Physics		

  

Faculty of Social Sciences			<a href="#">website</a>
Anthropology	Labour Studies	Social Work	
Economics	Political Science	Society, Culture & Religion	
Environment & Society	Psychology, Neuroscience &	Sociology	
Health, Aging & Society	Behaviour (PNB)		
Indigenous Studies	Social Psychology		

  

Faculty of Science			<a href="#">website</a>
Biochemistry & Biomedical Sciences	Interdisciplinary Science	Psychology, Neuroscience &	
Biology	Kinesiology	Behaviour (PNB)	
Chemistry & Chemical Biology	Mathematics & Statistics		
Earth, Environment & Society	Physics & Astronomy		

  

DeGroote School of Business			<a href="#">website</a>
Commerce			

  

Faculty of Health Science			<a href="#">website</a>
The Faculty of Health Sciences is <b>restricted</b> .			

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS:

<b>Faculty of Business</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>
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Business Administration - MBA (Ron Joyce Centre, Burlington Campus)

<b>Faculty of Engineering</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>
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Chemical Engineering	Engineering Design	Materials Science
Civil Engineering	Engineering Entrepreneurship & Innovation	Mechanical Engineering
Computer Science	Engineering Physics	Software Engineering
Computing & Software	Manufacturing Engineering	Technology Entrepreneurship & Innovation
Electrical and Biomedical Engineering	Materials Engineering	UNENE Nuclear Engineering
Electrical and Computer Engineering		
Engineering & Public Policy		

<b>Faculty of Humanities</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>
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Cognitive Science of Language	English	Greek and Roman Studies
Communication & New Media	French	History
Communications Management	Gender and Social Justice	Philosophy
Cultural Studies & Critical Theory		

<b>Faculty of Science</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>
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Biology	Geography	Physics and Astronomy
Chemistry	Health & Radiation Physics	Psychology
Earth & Environmental Sciences	Kinesiology	Statistics
Financial Mathematics	Mathematics	

<b>Faculty of Social Science</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>
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Anthropology	Health & Aging	Religious Studies
Economic Policy	International Relations	Social Gerontology
Economics	Labour Studies	Sociology
Globalization	Political Science	Water Without Borders
Health & Society		

<b>Interdisciplinary Studies*</b>	
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Astrobiology	Computational Science & Engineering	Global Health
Biomedical Engineering	eHealth	Health Policy
Chemical Biology		

*\*Some interdisciplinary courses housed in the Faculty of Health Sciences may not be available to incoming exchange students.*

<b>Faculty of Health Science</b>
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The Faculty of Health Sciences is **restricted**.

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## **Courses and Programs of Interest to Incoming Exchange Students**

### **Africa and Black Diaspora Studies (Faculty of Humanities)**

Africa and Black Diaspora Studies is made up of courses spanning across more than a dozen departments. These courses provide students with in-depth understanding of Black and African-diaspora peoples and societies around the world.

<https://aads.humanities.mcmaster.ca/>

### **Globalization Studies (Faculty of Social Sciences)**

Globalization Studies provides students with the opportunity to explore the complex idea of globalization from a multi-disciplinary perspective. In particular, the course 'GLOBALZN 1A03 - Global Citizenship' will offer an interdisciplinary introduction to globalization through a critical engagement with the idea of "global citizenship" in the contemporary context. The political, economic, and cultural dimensions of globalization will be examined, and students will reflect upon what it means to be a "global citizen" considering how such dynamics shape questions of identity, agency, power and resistance.

<https://socialsciences.mcmaster.ca/globalization>

### **Indigenous Studies Department (Faculty of Social Sciences)**

The Indigenous Studies Department is home to the Indigenous Studies undergraduate program, a planned graduate program, and research and community-focused activities. The Indigenous Studies undergraduate program, one of the longest-standing programs of its kind in Canada, incorporates a very unique teaching structure of Indigenous knowledge which involves many Indigenous peoples and Elders. This unique perspective assists all students from various cultures and background in learning about the history and lives of Indigenous people within an Indigenous perspective.

<https://indigenous.socsci.mcmaster.ca/>

### **Movement and Integration - ARTSSCI 4MN2 (Arts & Science Program)**

This two-unit undergraduate course, which brings together Arts & Science students and international exchange students, prompts critical reflection on the experience of studying in unfamiliar terrain and challenges students to imagine ways of integrating their experiential learning into their lives. The course aims to help students develop an ongoing practice of reflective, lifelong learning.

<https://artsci.mcmaster.ca/courses-faculty/artssci-4mn2-movement-and-integration/>

### **Sustainable Future Program (Office of Sustainability)**

The Sustainable Future Program (SFP) consists of a suite of undergraduate courses focused on providing students with the opportunity for interdisciplinary, student-led, community-based and experiential education focused on sustainability. Courses in the program are open to students from all Faculties.

<https://asp.mcmaster.ca/academic-programs/sustain-courses/>



## Important Dates

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**Semester Dates (General)** Term 1: Early September to end of December (including exams)  
Term 2: Early January to end of April (including exams)  
Term 3: *We do not offer exchanges in the summer term*

**Semester Dates (Detail)**

*Undergraduate:* visit the website for the [Office of the Registrar](#)

*Graduate:* visit the [School of Graduate Studies](#)

*MBA:* visit the [MBA program website](#)

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**Exchange Welcome Day** Usually the day prior to classes, or if this is a holiday/weekend, the Friday of the previous week.

**MOOSE Outdoor Orientation Trips (\$)** Available at the start of both Fall and Winter terms (COVID-19 permitting), MOOSE trips are outdoor orientation programs that bring together new exchange students before the academic year begins. Students have an opportunity to socialize with other exchange students and participate in teambuilding exercises in some of Ontario's most beautiful natural parks. Held the week before classes begin or soon after.

## Application & Process

*\*Please contact us prior to your internal recruitment deadline to check the number of students we can accept from your institution each year. This number is reviewed according to the overall balance of the agreement.*

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**Partner Nomination Deadline** *Includes both Fall and Winter exchange terms*

**March 31, 2024 (Recommended)\***

**April 15, 2024 (Final)**

*\*Due to processing delays of Canadian study permits, we highly recommend partners nominate their full year exchange students as early as possible. We will be reviewing and processing applications on an ongoing basis. This will help ensure your students receive all documentation by their start date.*

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**Late Nomination Deadline (Winter term only)** We have some flexibility to accommodate late nominations from partners if shared by September 1<sup>st</sup> each year. If you have a late nomination, please be aware that:

1. **Our course registration period has already begun (June). Courses are first-come, first-served.** As such, some courses may no longer be available. Please have your undergraduate students check our [MyTimetable](#) for available offerings before they formally apply. Graduate students must review our [course listings page](#), shared through email.
2. The on-campus housing deadline has passed. Students may apply as part of the late housing deadline, spaces permitting.

**Partner Nomination Process** Please nominate your students using our online nomination portal. Please refer to your annual update email for the link and password.

The system allows for multiple nominations at once. Please remember to logout.

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**Student Application Deadline** Includes both Fall and Winter exchange terms. Student applications are considered equally whether submitted as part of the preferred or final deadline.

**March 31, 2024 (Recommended)\***

**April 30, 2024 (Final)**

\*Due to processing delays of Canadian study permits, we highly recommend students submit their applications as early as possible. We will be reviewing and processing applications on an ongoing basis. This will help ensure students receive all documentation by their start date.

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**Student Application Process** Upon receipt of student details via the nomination system, the McMaster Exchange Office will contact each nominated student with instructions on how to apply through our **online application system**. Invitations to apply will go out to students beginning in February 2024.

Students will need to complete the online application, which will include uploading supporting documents (resume, statement of interest, course list).

*\*Please **do not** send us additional scanned or printed copies of the online application\**

The student's home international office is asked to please send **verified scans** of the following (Please send as **1PDF attachment per student**):

- 1) 1 official transcript (verified scan) with [English translation](#) and [grading system attached](#). (Please include Bachelor transcripts for Graduate and MBA applicants)
- 2) English Language Certification (If required, see [Language Requirements below](#)).

*Transcripts must come from the Home Institution Coordinator and be uploaded to our **2024-25 transcript upload link** (shared in our annual update email). Transcript scans should clearly show the institutional seal/stamp or home coordinator's signature verifying that the document was taken from an official source. We cannot accept scanned supporting documents directly from students.*

*Alternatively, we can accept official, university-generated e-transcripts directly from students via a secure portal/ link. Students can send to [macincoming@mcmaster.ca](mailto:macincoming@mcmaster.ca)*

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## Language Requirements

The language of instruction at McMaster is English. Although we offer informal (non-credit) workshops to assist students with the English language, we **do not** offer English as a Second Language (ESL) for-credit courses for incoming exchange students. Students must be proficient in English prior to arrival.

### Study Abroad (fee-paying) Applicants

Applicable to students from the below partners:

- University of Science & Technology Beijing
- Shanghai International Studies University
- Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics
- Northwestern Polytechnic University
- South China University of Technology
- Chinese University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen
- Jimei University

Study Abroad applicants are asked to submit official language test scores according to [McMaster's English Proficiency requirements](#). These must be received by the appropriate deadline. The McMaster University institution code for ETS/TOEFL is **0936**.

### Undergraduate (Exchange) Applicants

For undergraduate applicants, written confirmation/proof of language proficiency is not required. With that said, students are expected to have sufficient proficiency in English to study at the university level and be able to read, write and participate in verbal class discussions. McMaster University assumes that the student's language skills have been assessed at the home institution and deemed sufficient for participation in a study abroad/exchange program in English.

### Graduate (Exchange) Applicants

Official English language certification or a letter from your home exchange coordinator/professor confirming proficiency in English is required.

Common language proficiency evidence:

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- TOEFL: minimum score of 92 (internet based), 237 (computer based) or 580 (paper based), minimum of 20 per band; for the Faculty of Engineering a minimum score of 88 (internet based) or 213 on the (computer based) or 550 (paper based)
  - IELTS (Academic): minimum overall score of 6.5, with at least 5.5 in each section
  - CAEL: minimum overall score of 70, with at least 60 per band
  - MELAB: minimum score of 85
  - PTE Academic: minimum score of 63; for the Faculty of Engineering a minimum score of 70

Each program may set additional/higher requirements. Please review the program website for details.

### **MBA (Exchange) Applicants**

No certification is required if you have studied for a minimum of three years in a university where the medium of instruction was English. A letter from your home exchange coordinator confirming this is sufficient. For all other applicants, official certification is required.

We accept TOEFL and IELTS scores. We do not have individual band score requirements for IELTS or TOEFL.

- TOEFL requirement: Overall score of 100
- IELTS requirement: Overall score of 7.0

Please make arrangements with TOEFL or IELTS to have your results sent to us directly.

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## **Course/Subject Information**

### **Course Listings**

#### **Undergraduate Students:**

Use the [MyTimetable Tool](#) to find courses offered during the current calendar year. Incoming exchange students may also review the [Academic Calendar](#) for Undergraduate students to find a list of courses offered, however please note this is a historical collection of all courses. Undergraduate courses begin with numbers 1-4. The updated UG course schedule is released in May each year. Undergraduate exchange students will be registered in Level 3 at McMaster and should expect to take mostly Level 2 and Level 3 courses. **Enrolment in Level 4 and many Level 1 courses is generally reserved for McMaster students.** Access to Level 1 elective courses may be given, space permitting.

#### **Graduate Students:**

Use the PDF of all GRAD course offerings to find courses offered during the current calendar year. Students wishing to study at the graduate level must be currently

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enrolled in an equivalent graduate level program at their home university and enrolled in their second year of master's study (5<sup>th</sup> year). Students are expected to take graduate courses at the **700-level** and will be admitted at the department level. As graduate (non-MBA) courses are often offered on a biennial basis (every two years), incoming exchange students may also review the [SGS Graduate Calendar](#), however please note this is a historical collection of all courses so the best route would be to [contact the graduate administrator](#) for the most updated information/advice. **Graduate students must be flexible in their course selections.** The updated Graduate course schedule is released in June each year.

Note: With the permission of their home university, graduate students may request to take 1 course at the undergraduate level (600 and below), with the exception of courses from the School of Business.

### **MBA Students:**

Visit the MBA website and select the term you wish to join McMaster for a list of [MBA Courses](#) available. Students are expected to take final year 700-level MBA courses only.

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### **Course Load per Semester**

#### **Undergraduate**

One course typically consists of 3 units. A full-time course load is 9 to 15 units per term (3 to 5 courses). Engineering students may take up to 18 units (6 courses).

#### **Graduate**

A full-time course load is 6-9 units (2-3 courses) at 700 level per term.

#### **MBA**

A full-time course load is 4-5 courses per term.

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### **Course Outlines**

Course outlines are most often found on the individual department webpages.

#### **Undergraduate**

- [Business](#)
- [Science](#)
- Engineering ([Chemical](#), [Civil](#), [Computing & Software](#), [Electrical & Computer](#), [Physics](#), [Materials](#), [Mechanical](#)).
- [Humanities](#)
- [Social Science](#) (First select department)
- Health Sciences ([Biochemistry and Biomedical Sciences](#), [Bachelor of Health Sciences](#))

#### **Graduate**

- (By request from program office)

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## MBA

- [Course Outlines](#)
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## **Registration**

### Undergraduate

Official course registration for both Semester 1 and 2 takes place in mid-June and is done online. Students may also drop/add courses during the two-week window at the beginning of each academic term.

Students who are nominated outside the official nomination/application deadlines will be registering for classes late and some classes may no longer be available. Late applicants must be flexible with their study plan and check our [MyTimetable](#) tool for availability before they apply.

### Graduate

Graduate course registration takes place in mid-July each year. It is important to note that graduate students are only permitted to register in undergraduate courses (600 and below) AFTER undergraduate registration has taken place. This means that some undergraduate courses may not be available for graduate students due to seat restrictions. Graduate students should expect to take no more than 1 course at the undergraduate level.

## MBA

MBA course registration takes place in early July each year.

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## **GPA Requirements**

### Undergraduate

We recommend students have maintained a B- cumulative average to apply for the exchange program.

### Graduate/MBA

GPA Requirement:

- Engineering - 7.0/12.0 or 2.70/4.00
  - All other Faculties - 9.0/12.0 or 3.30/4.00
  - \*These are minimums. Individual departments may require higher admissions averages.
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**Course/  
Program**      **Undergraduate**

**Restrictions**

*General Restrictions*

**Students accepted at the undergraduate level are NOT eligible to take courses at the graduate (master) level.** Exchange with the Arts & Science Program is not permitted, with the exception of the ARTSSCI 4MN2 / Movement and Integration course.

Faculty of Humanities

Media Arts and Integrated Arts (iArts) courses are restricted but may be open to students registered in a similar program at their home university (space permitting). Students interested in these courses should contact McMaster early to check availability and, if interested in Integrated Arts, may be asked to submit a portfolio. MELD courses are not open to exchange. Level 4 Humanities courses are generally not open to exchange students.

Faculty of Engineering

The Bachelor of Technology (BTECH) program is not available to exchange students. Some courses in the BTECH program, along with Computer Science and Software Engineering courses, are available but very limited to exchange students. Engineering students are permitted to register in most Level 4 courses.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Students applying for 'PNB' (Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour) courses must have completed 'A' Level Mathematics and at least 'O' level Biology. This would equate to university Calculus and grade 12 Biology (highest biology level in high school). Students applying to the psychology program must provide copies of A and O Levels.

Faculty of Science

Enrolment in Science Inquiry and Senior Projects is restricted (may be waived on case-by-case basis). Students should email McMaster in advance to confirm eligibility. Students within the Faculty of Science may be permitted to take courses within the Faculty of Health Sciences. *This will depend on seat availability and sufficient background knowledge.* Students will be considered on a case-by-case basis, negotiating all requests with their McMaster academic advisor.

DeGroot School of Business

The Economics program is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences, and not part of the School of Business. This may affect some students' eligibility for Commerce courses depending on the agreement between McMaster and a partner university. Students should have a background in Business in order to apply. Courses in the Integrated Business and Humanities program (IBH) are not available. Exchange students are not permitted to take the following courses: Commerce 1GRO, Commerce 2GRO, Commerce 3GRO, Commerce 4GR3, Commerce 2INO, Commerce 3MD3, Commerce 4AK3, Commerce 4EL3, Commerce 4FP3, Commerce 4FW3, Commerce 4QA3, Commerce 4SY3

Non-commerce courses that are restricted to students within their home faculty or require department consent.

Faculty of Health Sciences

[Restricted] By partnership agreement only.

## **Graduate Level**

### *General Restrictions*

Undergraduate courses/programs: Any undergraduate course offered within the DeGroote School of Business is not open to graduate students of any discipline.

### *Graduate courses/programs not available:*

- Faculty of Health Sciences (All Programs).
- Masters of Finance
- Executive Business Administration (EMBA).
- Professional Accountancy (Diploma)
- MiNDS Neuroscience.
- Global Health 702 - Global Health Foundations (Course)
- Masters of Health Management
- Interdisciplinary Studies – some courses crossing with the Faculty of Health Sciences may not be available.

### Faculty of Engineering

The Faculty of Engineering limits the total number of exchange students in its programs' graduate courses at any time to twenty, with a limit of five in each academic unit. These limits do not apply to visiting students who do not take courses while at McMaster. Inbound exchange students who submit complete applications and meet all requirements will be reviewed and accepted on a first-come first-serve basis until the maximum number per department, or the Engineering faculty, is reached.

## **MBA**

Not permitted to take undergraduate courses in the School of Business. Not permitted to take courses with the following codes: I600 level, 650 level, HSM C700, T level, D700.

## **Transcripts /Grades**

A transcript is a copy of a student's permanent academic record at McMaster University, duly certified by the Registrar and bearing the embossed seal of the University. A transcript is privileged information and is available by submitting a request via [Mosaic](#). A transcript reflects the current status of the student record at the time it is issued.

Students can view their grades via their transcript or in their Mosaic Student Centre. Information on the McMaster [grading scale](#) for undergraduate and graduate students can be found on the website for the Office of the Registrar.

### **Types of transcript requests**

<b>Type of transcript</b>	<b>Processing time</b>	<b>Delivery Method</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Official e-transcript	Up to 3 business days	Secure email hosted by Parchment Ordering Services ©	\$2.37 US (\$3.00 CDN)
Official paper transcript	7-10 business days	Mailed via Canada Post	Free

		*allow time for delivery	
Official paper transcript (Courier)	1-3 business days	FedEx	\$30 CAD
Unofficial	Immediate	Download copy through Mosaic Student Center ( <a href="#">access required</a> )	Free

More information on how to request a transcript can found [here](#).

\*Transcripts are available to current students and alumni who have no financial holds on their record.

\*\*Given the expansion of transcript service options and ease of electronic delivery, the McMaster Exchange Program will no longer send official hardcopies by mail at the end of the exchange period. Students will instead be sent instructions on how to send a transcript by their preferred method to their home university coordinator.

### University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)

Ontario's University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) is **mandatory** for all international and exchange students studying in Ontario. The UHIP fee will be automatically charged to the students' account. Payment is due within the first month of study.

UHIP is a comprehensive plan appropriate for coverage in the Province of Ontario only. **Students traveling outside of Ontario or Canada must purchase supplemental health insurance.** UHIP coverage begins on the tenth day of the month before the academic term start date or the student's scheduled arrival date in Canada, whichever is later.

General information on UHIP at McMaster

<https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/international-students/health-insurance/>

For details on what is and is not included in UHIP:

<https://uhip.ca/Enrollment/PlanDetails>

#### Not covered under UHIP:

- Prescription Medication
- Dental Care
- Vision Care

**Students requiring health insurance for prescription medications, dental and/or vision care should seek out alternative insurance well in advance of departure to Canada.** McMaster is not able to advise on third-party health care options.

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**McMaster Students Union (MSU) Health & Dental Plan**

The MSU Health and Dental plan is **not available** to incoming exchange students.

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**Student Accessibility & Wellness**

Students who may require additional services or accommodations during their exchange with McMaster should notify McMaster as soon as possible to confirm availability.

The below websites will provide students and counsellors with further information on services available at McMaster.

Student Wellness Centre: <http://wellness.mcmaster.ca/>

Student Accessibility Services: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>

Students with disabilities requesting on-campus accommodation should answer “Yes” to requiring [residence accommodation](#) and complete the required sections.

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**Canadian Immigration****Canadian Immigration**

Students should visit [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada \(IRCC\)](#) upon receiving their acceptance letter from McMaster University to understand the immigration requirements for their visit. As processing times vary, students should apply as soon as possible.

**Immigration support**

Adjusting to a new country can be challenging, especially when dealing with the immigration process. Through McMaster’s free immigration advising services, we can offer advice and connect students with resources to complete the Canadian immigration process. Students should first review the information found at the websites below and contact [immigration@mcmaster.ca](mailto:immigration@mcmaster.ca) with any questions.

Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC): <http://www.cic.gc.ca>

McMaster Immigration Advising: <https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/international-students/immigration-advising/>

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**Living in Hamilton****Accommodation**

The availability of housing in the Fall (September) term can be very limited and most difficult for single semester exchange students. We encourage partners to nominate their semester students for the Spring (January) term when possible and encourage students to apply for the on-campus room lottery as a minimum step.

It is easier to find 4-month accommodation (both on/off campus) in the January-April term.

**ON-CAMPUS**

[housing.mcmaster.ca/future-residents/](https://housing.mcmaster.ca/future-residents/)

If the number of applications exceeds the number of available rooms, a lottery system will determine the final offer. Unfortunately, we are unable to guarantee on-campus housing for exchange students.

Important Notes:

- Meal plans are mandatory.
- Residence accommodation is only available to Undergraduate students
- Residences typically host first year students.
- McMaster facilities close over the Christmas holiday break, but some residences remain open for students who apply to stay over the holidays. More information on "[December Stay](#)" can be found on the housing website and is requested as part of the residence application.
- An admin charge of \$300 Canadian is applied to semester students staying Sept-Dec only.

Students with disabilities should answer "**Yes**" to requiring residence accommodation and complete the required sections which includes an explanation of the student's situation and documentation from an attesting professional.

On-time deadline to apply is early June each year.

**OFF-CAMPUS**

[housing.mcmaster.ca/living-off-campus/](https://housing.mcmaster.ca/living-off-campus/)

McMaster is located close to many shared housing options suitable for incoming exchange students. Off-campus housing provides students with the ability to live in close proximity to campus while experiencing shared living with other Canadian students. Through McMaster's Off-Campus Resource Centre, exchange students can browse through rental listings for shared housing in the nearby Community of Westdale and surrounding area.

**Cost of Living**

The following is an estimate  
(in Canadian dollars – CAD)

**1 Term (4 months)**

<b>Accommodation</b>	On campus	\$ 3,250 – \$ 5,200
	Off campus	\$ 2,500 - \$4,000
<b>Food</b>	On campus	\$ 1,600– \$ 2,900
	Off campus	\$ 1,400– \$ 1,700
<b>Public Transport</b> (HSR – Hamilton Street Railway)		HSR is free for exchange students (Excluding MBA)
<b>University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)</b>		\$ 252
<b>Personal Expenses</b>		\$1,000
<b>Textbooks</b>		\$300
<b>Athletic Facilities (Base membership)</b>		Free (Excluding MBA)

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**Fee Paying Mobility Programs****Applicable to students from the partners below:**

- University of Science & Technology Beijing
- Shanghai International Studies University
- Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics
- Northwestern Polytechnic University
- South China University of Technology
- Chinese University of Hong Kong – Shenzhen
- Jimei University

Fee-paying study abroad applicants are responsible for paying the international student fees determined by McMaster University for the duration of their time abroad. Students are responsible for researching the cost of living, and are encouraged to review the following webpages to estimate their tuition fees:

All students can refer to the [cost estimator tool](#) available on McMaster’s webpage.

Undergraduate students can navigate to [Undergraduate fees](#) and refer to the column “Non-Canadian/International Visa students” under their McMaster faculty of study. Graduate students can navigate to [Graduate fees](#) and refer to the column “International Status” under their McMaster faculty of study. All students must review the supplementary and user fees for their level of study and program.

**\*International fees are subject to change****Helpful Websites**

McMaster COVID-19 Website: <https://covid19.mcmaster.ca/>

Student Success Centre (Incoming Exchange):

<https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/international-students/incoming-exchange-students/>

Writing and Academic Skills: <https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/writing-and-academic-skills/>

Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.mcmaster.ca/>

MyTimetable tool: <https://mytimetable.mcmaster.ca/criteria.jsp>

Black Student Success Centre: <https://blackstudentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/>

Indigenous Student Services: <https://indigservices.mcmaster.ca/>

Student Wellness Centre: <http://wellness.mcmaster.ca/>

Student Accessibility Services: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>

MODEL/MELD: <https://meld.humanities.mcmaster.ca/model/>

Experience building Career Treks: <https://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca/experience-building-career-treks/>

Athletics and Recreation: <https://rec.mcmaster.ca/>

Libraries: <http://library.mcmaster.ca>

Clubs and Organizations: <https://msumcmaster.ca/clubs/clubs-directory/>

HSR Transit: <https://www.hamilton.ca/hsr-bus-schedules-fares>

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