



# UNIVERSITY OF ICELAND

## Fact Sheet for Exchange Students Academic Year 2025/2026

CONTACT INFORMATION	
<b>Address</b>	International Division University Centre Sæmundargata 4 102 Reykjavík ICELAND  Tel: +354 5254311 E-mail: <a href="mailto:ask@hi.is">ask@hi.is</a> Websites: <a href="https://english.hi.is/">https://english.hi.is/</a> <a href="https://english.hi.is/about-ui/central-administration/international">https://english.hi.is/about-ui/central-administration/international</a>
<b>Director</b>	Dr. Fridrika Hardardottir <a href="mailto:fridrika@hi.is">fridrika@hi.is</a>
<b>Contact for inbound exchange students / OLA</b>	Ms. Aníta Hannesdóttir <a href="mailto:incoming@hi.is">incoming@hi.is</a>
<b>Contact for outbound exchange students within Europe</b>	Ms. Ingibjörg Helga Steingrimsdóttir <a href="mailto:outgoing.europe@hi.is">outgoing.europe@hi.is</a>
<b>Contact for outbound exchange students to countries outside of Europe</b>	Mr. Magnús Gunnlaugur Þórarinnsson <a href="mailto:outgoing.international@hi.is">outgoing.international@hi.is</a>
<b>Erasmus code</b>	IS REYKJAV01
NOMINATION AND APPLICATION	
<b>Nomination</b>	International coordinators nominate their students online <b>at least two weeks</b> before the application deadline. Only online nominations are accepted. <b>Autumn semester</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-EU/EEA citizens: 15 March</li><li>• EU/EEA citizens: 15 April</li></ul> <b>Spring semester</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Non-EU/EEA citizens: 15 August</li><li>• EU/EEA citizens: 15 September</li></ul>
<b>Information for exchange students</b>	<a href="https://english.hi.is/study/study-abroad/incoming-exchange-students">https://english.hi.is/study/study-abroad/incoming-exchange-students</a>
<b>Online application</b>	<b>Autumn semester</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-EU/EEA citizens: 1 April</li> <li>• EU/EEA citizens: 1 May</li> </ul> <p><b>Spring semester</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-EU/EEA citizens: 1 September</li> <li>• EU/EEA citizens: 1 October</li> </ul> <p>Further information and access to the online application at University of Iceland will be sent to students who have been nominated by their home university.</p>
<b>Application checklist</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Online application including a course selection. <b>Course selection must total 30 ECTS credits per semester, where at least 60% of courses are within the students' major</b></li> <li>• A photo of a passport or a valid ID</li> <li>• Transcript of records in English or a Nordic language (DK, NO, SE, IS) <b>certified by a signature and stamp or digitally signed</b></li> </ul> <p>Late or incomplete applications will not be processed.</p>
<b>Application status</b>	<p>Students must keep track of their application status online:  <a href="https://english.hi.is/study/study-abroad/-incoming-exchange-students/application-status">https://english.hi.is/study/study-abroad/-incoming-exchange-students/application-status</a></p>
<b>Mentor system</b>	<p>To help exchange students adapt to life and studies the University of Iceland has a Mentor system. Students can apply for a mentor when filling out online application. The main task of the Mentor is to provide the student with practical information about the University of Iceland and Icelandic society, as well as to introduce them to students and student life in general.</p>
<b>STUDY INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Academic year</b>	<p>The academic year is divided into two semesters, autumn and spring, each semester lasting thirteen weeks. The academic calendar varies somewhat from one faculty to another: <a href="https://english.hi.is/study/study-information/academic-calendar">https://english.hi.is/study/study-information/academic-calendar</a></p>
<b>Credits and grading system</b>	<p>30 ECTS credits are considered full time studies per semester. Further information on credits and grading system: <a href="https://english.hi.is/study/study-information/credit-system">https://english.hi.is/study/study-information/credit-system</a></p>
<b>Timetables</b>	<p><a href="https://english.hi.is/university/timetables">https://english.hi.is/university/timetables</a></p>
<b>Courses offered for exchange students</b>	<p><a href="https://ugla.hi.is/kennsluskra/index.php?tab=nam&amp;chapter=exchange_course_list&amp;ken\nsluar=current">https://ugla.hi.is/kennsluskra/index.php?tab=nam&amp;chapter=exchange_course_list&amp;ken\nsluar=current</a></p> <p><b>Course selection must total 30 ECTS credits per semester, where at least 60% of courses are within the students' major</b></p>
<b>Courses with restrictions for exchange students</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The faculties of Medicine, Nursing, Psychology and Pharmaceutical Sciences are restricted to prior agreements between the exchanging faculties</li> <li>• The faculties of Law and Economics do not accept undergraduate students</li> <li>• MBA is closed</li> <li>• Admission to the Earth Science programme is restricted to students that meet prerequisites of at least one year of geology or geophysics study, see <a href="https://english.hi.is/school_of_engineering_and_natural_sciences_faculty_of_earth_sciences/earth_science_for_exchange">https://english.hi.is/school_of_engineering_and_natural_sciences_faculty_of_earth_sciences/earth_science_for_exchange</a></li> <li>• Courses in the English Language Programme are only available to exchange students majoring in English at their home university or students who are very proficient in English (except the course "English for Practical Purposes").</li> <li>• Courses taught in Icelandic are generally not open to exchange students.</li> </ul>

<b>Transcript of records</b>	Exchange students can access a digitally signed and sealed version of their transcript of academic records at the end of their stay. Students can then forward the transcript to their home university.
<b>LANGUAGE</b>	
<b>Language of instruction</b>	The principal language of instruction at the University is Icelandic. Most faculties offer some courses in English that are open for exchange students: <a href="https://ugla.hi.is/kennsluskra/index.php?tab=nam&amp;chapter=exchange_course_list&amp;ken&lt;br/&gt;nsluar=current">https://ugla.hi.is/kennsluskra/index.php?tab=nam&amp;chapter=exchange_course_list&amp;ken nsluar=current</a>
<b>Language proficiency</b>	Applicants from countries outside the EU/EEA whose native language is not English, need to prove their English proficiency by submitting TOEFL (min. 79) or IELTS (Academic, min. 6.5), PTE (Academic) or Cambridge English (CAE or CPE) tests. This is to make sure students do not have problems during their exchange period as they cannot expect any special assistance due to language problems. A self-assessment of English proficiency is included in the student application.
<b>Icelandic language courses</b>	The University of Iceland offers courses in Icelandic as a second language
<b>REGISTRATION AND STUDENT PERMIT</b>	
<b>How to register</b>	All international students must meet the requirements set by either the Directorate of Immigration or Registers Iceland depending on their citizenship: <a href="https://english.hi.is/study/application/residence-permit-students">https://english.hi.is/study/application/residence-permit-students</a>
<b>Health issues</b>	<b>Students from countries outside EU/EEA</b> must have health insurance: <a href="https://island.is/en/residence-permit-students/document-requirements">https://island.is/en/residence-permit-students/document-requirements</a> The cost of such insurance valid for six months varies from ISK 15,000 according to the policy. Applicants for a student residence permit who must undergo a medical examination should go to the Communicable Disease Control Health Clinic (Þönglabakki 1, 109 Reykjavík) before going to the Directorate of Immigration: <a href="https://island.is/en/residence-permit-students/document-requirements">https://island.is/en/residence-permit-students/document-requirements</a> <b>European citizens</b> must bring the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) and/or the insurance form E-104. For further information or if in doubt, see the website of Icelandic Health Insurance: <a href="http://www.sjukra.is/english">www.sjukra.is/english</a>
<b>PRACTICAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Cost of living</b>	The estimated cost of living in Iceland for a single person is ISK 239.895 per month (minimal support guidelines set by the municipalities): <a href="https://english.hi.is/study/living-iceland/living-costs-reykjavik">https://english.hi.is/study/living-iceland/living-costs-reykjavik</a>
<b>Housing</b>	The University of Iceland does not provide or guarantee housing for students but information on this website may be helpful: <a href="https://english.hi.is/study/living-iceland/housing">https://english.hi.is/study/living-iceland/housing</a>
<b>Last update of this information:</b> December 2024	