



**Center for
Global Engagement**
THE FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

***Fact Sheet for Incoming Exchange Students
Fall 2021 - Spring 2022***

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Institutional Profile: Florida State University is a public research university located in Tallahassee, Florida. Established in 1851, FSU has 16 colleges which offer more than 275 undergraduate, graduate, doctoral, professional and specialist degree programs, including medicine and law. There are more than 40,000 students enrolled at FSU. The average age for undergraduate students is 21. Students from all 50 states and over 130 countries are represented. For more information:
www.fsu.edu/about/.

Deadlines for Nominations and Applications:

The partner university coordinator nominates students by the deadlines below. Nominations are submitted online (link below). Please include: name, email, year of study, area of study for each student as well as the grade point average and a transcript copy, if available.

After nominations are reviewed, application instructions will be sent by email to the student and the coordinator if the nomination is accepted.

ONLINE NOMINATION FORM LINK:

https://fsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_aa7EmGcpVecDVwp

Semester	Nominations Open	Nomination Deadline	Student Application Deadline
Fall	February 1	March 1	March 15
Spring	September 1	October 1	October 15

Academic Calendar: FALL 2021:

Required Orientation: To Be Announced (usually the Thursday or Friday before classes begin)
Classes Begin: August 23, 2021
Classes & Exams End: December 10, 2021

SPRING 2022:

Required Orientation: To Be Announced (usually the Thursday or Friday before classes begin)
Classes Begin: January 5, 2022
Classes & Exams End: April 29, 2022

<http://registrar.fsu.edu/calendar/extended/>

Requirements for Incoming International Exchange Students:

- Degree-seeking students at the home university.
- Students in good academic standing:
 - Undergraduate students with at least a 3.0/4.0 GPA are preferred. Students with lower than 3.0 GPA may be considered.
 - Graduate students must have 3.3/4.0 GPA or above to be considered.
- Studying and seeking courses in the academic college or departments that are partners within the specific exchange or within academic areas offered by terms of exchange agreement.
- Students with flexibility in course selection and academic requirements:
 - FSU courses may be limited due to high-demand from current FSU students.
 - It is important for exchange students to have flexibility in course selection. Students with specific course requirements needed to graduate may not be able to fulfill these requirements while on exchange if the courses needed are not available.
 - Partner university coordinators are asked to confirm that the nominated students have flexibility in course selection during their exchange.
- Proof of financial support on Certificate of Financial Responsibility form. Students must show finances for at least the amount listed below to receive student visa. See “Estimated Expenses” section on next page for more details about cost of attendance estimates:
 - **Academic Year 2021/22: \$17,824**
 - **Fall 2021 only: \$8,586**
 - **Spring 2022 only: \$9,329**
- International Student Health Insurance Compliance (See “Student Health Insurance” section)
- Immunization Forms
- Official university transcript (scanned copy accepted)
- Required scores for language proficiency*:
 - TOEFL Internet based (IBTOEFL): 80
 - Note: TOEFL iBT “My Best Scores” score and TOEFL Special Home Edition are also accepted.
 - Paper based TOEFL: 550 (institutional TOEFL reports are not accepted)
 - International English Language Testing System (IELTS): 6.5
 - Note: IELTS Indicator (test at home) is also accepted.
 - Cambridge C1 Advanced Exam: 180
 - Michigan English Language Assessment Battery (MELAB): 77
 - Pearson Test of English: 55

** Incoming exchange Graduate students to the School of Communication are required to have a score of 100 on the Internet Based TOEFL. Incoming exchange graduate students to the College of Law are required to have a 90 on the Internet Based TOEFL.*

Classes Offered and Restrictions:

FSU classes may be limited due to high-demand from current FSU students. It is important for exchange students to have flexibility in class selection. Students with specific requirements from their home university may not be able to fulfill these requirements while on exchange and must have alternates. Students will be sent a list of classes currently offered classes and suggested for exchange students.

Class Restrictions for all exchange partners:

Classes from the following academic areas are not permitted for exchange students:

- College of Motion Picture Arts (Film School)
- College of Medicine
- College of Music (except classes offered for non-majors)
- Department of Theatre & Dance

Classes from the College of Law are permitted only if student is attending from a College of Law exchange partner university.

Other limited-access majors with restricted classes:

- College of Education (most subject areas)
- Department of Criminology
- School of Entrepreneurship

For University-Wide Exchange Agreements:

Students may request classes from a variety of Colleges and Departments (with exception of those listed above). Some FSU academic departments have restricted courses, particularly offered at the upper-level (3000 and 4000 levels). Pre-requisite courses may further limit course availability. Students selecting from lower-level (1000 or 2000-level) courses will in general be more available than upper-level courses.

For Department/College-Specific Exchange Agreements:

Courses available to exchange students are limited to the FSU College or Department that initiated the exchange. In some cases, students may also be able to select from lower-level Liberal Studies (1000 or 2000-level) courses on a space available basis. Upper level courses (3000 or 4000-level) outside of the specific College or Department initiating the exchange cannot be accommodated.

Overview of academic colleges and departments, including course descriptions and pre-requisites:

- Undergraduate: <http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/undergraduate/>
- Graduate: <http://registrar.fsu.edu/bulletin/graduate/>

Course Search:

- List of courses offered at FSU by semester: http://registrar.fsu.edu/class_search/.

Language of Instruction: English

Estimated Expenses: Students must complete the "Certificate of Financial Responsibility" form before FSU can issue the immigration document (DS-2019) needed for the student visa (called the "J-1 Exchange Visitor" visa). The required minimum funds to show on the Certificate of Financial Responsibility is:

- Academic Year 2021/22: \$17,824
- Fall 2021 only: \$8,586
- Spring 2022 only: \$9,329

The amount required for the student visa is based on estimated expenses from the categories below. Note that these figures are average estimates and are subject to increase.

Shipment of Immigration Documents:	\$50-90 depending on location
Tuition:	Paid to home university directly
Housing (on campus):	\$3,800 on average per semester
<i>or</i>	
Housing (off-campus):	\$800-\$1200 per month
Food:	\$300-\$600 per month
Books & Supplies:	\$500 per semester
Personal expenses:	\$1,000 per semester
FSU Student Health Insurance:	Academic Year: \$3,115 Fall: \$1,186; Spring/Summer: \$1,929
FSU Student ID Card Fee:	\$5 per semester

Additional Expenses:

In addition to the expenses listed above, students should budget for any personal travel during their program as well as for expenses during their 30-day grace period upon the end of their final semester as an exchange student. Many exchange students use that time to pursue travel throughout the US during the grade period. Personal travel is not included in the estimated cost of attendance.

Visa Information:

After admission to FSU and enrolling in the required insurance, Center for Global Engagement staff will review the student's financial documentation submitted with application and will issue the immigration document required for the J-1 visa application (DS-2019). Students will be responsible for requesting the shipment of the DS-2019 form and for paying for the shipment. Students will be provided instructions about how to apply for the J-1 visa, which should be done as soon as possible after receiving the paper form DS-2019.

Student Health Insurance:

Florida State University and the State of Florida, in addition the US government, have very specific requirements regarding health insurance for J-1, non-degree students.

The FSU Student Health Plan offers comprehensive coverage that meets all of these requirements and allows students to use the FSU Student Health Center without paying for the visit and costs upfront. Therefore, it is recommended that international students enroll in the university's approved plan. Students may purchase insurance after receiving notice of admission to FSU and creating an "FSUID" login account.

Purchase the FSU Student Health Plan: <http://studentinsurance.fsu.edu/>.

In addition to the FSU Student Health Plan, an alternative plan option that meets the FSU/State of Florida/US government requirements is offered from a company named "ISO". Note that in general a cheaper health insurance plan does not mean it offers the same coverage as another plan. It is important to do one's own research to make the best choice that meets an individual's needs. There are two acceptable plans through ISO, listed at: https://www.isoa.org/Florida_State_University_J1_Exchange.

If purchasing insurance through ISO, students must register with the following information:

- **Visa:** J1

- **Status:** International Student
- **School:** Florida State University J1 Exchange

Health insurance and/or Travel insurance plans from the student's home country do not meet the very specific state requirements for mental health care, and they require students to pay for healthcare services out of pocket and apply for reimbursement, which can cause a significant financial burden during the short study program. Therefore, only the FSU Student Health Plan or the 2 ISO health insurance plans mentioned above will be accepted. **No other insurance plans will be reviewed or accepted to meet this requirement.** Students must submit proof of insurance enrollment after admission to FSU.

Student Immunization Requirements:

All students are required to submit proof of immunizations before being registered for classes by the Center for Global Engagement. Two combined MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) vaccinations administered after the student's 1st birthday and at least 28 days apart are required. The Immunization Form must be signed by a doctor or clinician.

Download the Immunization Form at:

<https://studentinsurance.fsu.edu/immunization-requirements>

Housing/Accommodations:

Student accommodation may be available on campus, but is not guaranteed due to high student demand. Students seeking on-campus housing should apply as soon as possible after being formally admitted to FSU. <http://housing.fsu.edu/>. Students cannot apply for on-campus housing until after receiving their FSU ID log in. A deposit of \$225 is due within 7 days of a student signing a housing contract. The housing contract cannot be cancelled later if a student decides to not live on-campus so students should consider their options carefully!

For off-campus housing, the Center for Global Engagement maintains a list of off-campus apartments at: <http://cge.fsu.edu/living-tallahassee/housing>. The "Short Term" housing options section lists apartments offering less than 12-month leases. Off-campus housing may be limited, particularly if only attending FSU for one semester. Furnished apartments may be available, but are offered at a higher monthly cost.

For additional information about living in Tallahassee:

www.cge.fsu.edu/living-tallahassee.

Meal Plan Options:

Students living on or off-campus may purchase a meal plan to use the FSU dining halls and retail food service locations. <https://seminoledining.sodexomyway.com/meal-plans>.

Student Buddy Program:

Exchange students have the option to request a "buddy" from our Global Noles Mentor Program. The "Global Nole" is a current FSU student who volunteers to help an incoming exchange student with questions before arrival and maintains a social connection with the student during the student's exchange period at FSU. Students are information for requesting a "Global Nole" after admission.