EXCHANGE
For CUHK Students
Discover A New You

There are a thousand reasons to go on exchange, but embarking on a life experience is the most important one.

You will undertake adventures in unfamiliar places.

You will break language and cultural barriers.

You will challenge yourself to new knowledge and examine them from different perspectives.

You will acquire a range of skills, both academic and interpersonal, which will stand you in good stead for future career and life.

YOU WILL DISCOVER A WHOLE NEW YOU.

As a CUHK student, you are presented with this invaluable opportunity to achieve all of the above during your full-time education. This will be an once-in-a-lifetime experience that you cannot afford to miss.
Why Should I Go On Exchange?

- **Pick up a second language**
  - Learn and develop a language in and out of the classroom with native speakers
  - Return with the ability to read text in quantity and communicate effectively in written and verbal presentations

- **Expose yourself in a new environment**
  - Study your major or minor subjects from new cultural perspectives
  - Take-up courses not offered at CUHK

- **Prepare for career and future studies**
  - Gain knowledge on career and explore postgraduate study options
  - Enhance international experience to add value to your resume

- **Explore the world and make new friends**
  - Experience the wealth of culture of your host country and surrounding regions
  - Make lifelong friendships and build valuable career networks

- **Build confidence and develop yourself**
  - Increase self-confidence and independence in a new environment
  - Gain life lessons that will shape your future

- **Become a global citizen**
  - Enrich yourself with enhanced language, social and working skills
  - Bridge across cultural and national boundaries
What Are My Options?

Programme types
Three types of exchange programmes are offered at CUHK:

- UNIVERSITY-WIDE (U-WIDE) PROGRAMMES
  Open to students from all colleges and faculties

- COLLEGE PROGRAMMES
  Open to students of specific colleges only

- FACULTY AND DEPARTMENTAL PROGRAMMES
  Open to students of specific faculties or departments only

Duration
Exchange programmes are available in various durations:
- One Term (First or Second Term)
- One Year (First and Second Terms)
- One Summer

Visit [www.oae.cuhk.edu.hk/destinations](http://www.oae.cuhk.edu.hk/destinations) for a comprehensive list of programmes available.

You can choose from more than 280 programmes in over 30 locations.

- Australia
- Canada
- Chile
- China
- France
- Germany
- Korea
- Japan
- Mexico
- Sweden
- USA
- UK
- and many more!
I’m Interested.
What Should I Do?

01  Start early. Begin planning during your first year at CUHK.

02  Identify programmes that provide the academic and cultural experiences you are looking for.

03  Decide when and how long you wish to go on exchange.

04  Check the requirements of programmes you selected.

05  Seek advice if you have questions on the exchange programmes.

When should I go?
Ideally you should go during your second or third year at CUHK, or your fourth year if applicable. Most students choose to go after their second year.

How long should I go for?
Exchange programmes last either one term, one year (two terms) or one summer. CUHK full-time students can go on exchange for a cumulative maximum of one academic year. Consider your major programme requirements, your budget, along with your goals and objectives when deciding on the duration of your exchange.

What are the requirements?
Many programmes require you to meet a certain academic standard (e.g., a minimum GPA). A lot of programmes have English language requirements (e.g., minimum IELTS or TOEFL scores), or require certification in the host institution’s language of instruction (e.g., French, German, Japanese, Spanish etc.).

Do I need to delay my graduation?
Depending on your choice of academic courses you may not have to delay your graduation. Speak with your academic advisor or department on transferability of courses when identifying exchange programmes.

Can I transfer my credits back to CUHK?
Academic credits earned while on exchange may be transferred back to CUHK in accordance with the relevant regulations. Consult your academic advisor or department on identifying exchange programmes and courses to take. You must meet minimum course load requirements while on exchange.

Who can I talk to if I have a question?
• Advisers at i-Centre: for guidance and advice on programme details and application
• Your department: for details on your graduation requirements and credit transfer
• Returned exchange students: for their experience abroad
• Students on exchange at CUHK: for information on their home countries and institutions
• Your professors: for study advice when you are on exchange
• Your friends and family: for emotional support during your exchange
How Much Will It Cost Me?

The cost of living during exchange vary according to where you go and how long you go for.

**What do I need to pay for?**

If you participate in an approved exchange programme, your tuition fee at the host institution will be waived. You pay the CUHK tuition fee for regular term-time exchange. Typical fees associated with your exchange include (but not limited to) the following:

- CUHK tuition
- Airfare and transportation
- Student visa
- Accommodation
- Meals
- Books and stationery
- Cultural activities
- Student union fees
- Health and travel insurance
- Personal expenses

**When do I pay?**

You pay CUHK tuition and student union fees before departing for your exchange. Fees payable to your host institution are due either before or during your exchange, depending on the programme and the nature of the fees.

**Are scholarships or financial aids available?**

Scholarships, awards, grants and financial aids are available to support your exchange. Information are available from the Office of Academic Links, the Office of Admissions and Financial Aid, as well as your college, faculty and department.
How Do I Apply?

Follow these steps to apply for exchange programmes administered by the Office of Academic Links. For other exchange programmes, please consult the offering college/faculty/department.

01 Read through programme requirements and identify up to 10 preferred programmes
02 Take appropriate language proficiency tests (e.g., TOEFL, IELTS, etc.) if necessary
03 Invite two current CUHK full-time teaching staff as referees
04 Complete and submit online application through CUSIS
05 Check the applicant shortlist posted in CUSIS
06 Select an interview session in CUSIS and attend as required
07 View composite score and finalise choice of programmes in CUSIS
08 Accept or decline offer in CUSIS and complete deposit form
09 Apply for financial aid and scholarship in CUSIS

The above steps apply to the first selection round only. Visit www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/ for more detailed instructions on applying to exchange programmes.
When Do I Apply?

Application for exchange in the following summer and academic year will take place in October. There are two placement rounds:

**First placement round**
Open to all full-time undergraduate and postgraduate students.

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<th>Period</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Early to mid-October</td>
<td>Online application opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Late October</td>
<td>Online application closes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early to mid-November</td>
<td>Shortlist and interview registration available in CUSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid to late November</td>
<td>Interviews</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid to late January</td>
<td>Composite scores available in CUSIS</td>
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<td>Late January to early February</td>
<td>Exchange offers posted in CUSIS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early February</td>
<td>Deadline to accept exchange offers</td>
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**Second placement round**
Only for applicants who were shortlisted in the first placement round, and indicated their wish to participate in the second placement round.

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<th>Period</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mid to late February</td>
<td>Online application opens for updating</td>
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<tr>
<td>Early to mid-March</td>
<td>Individual selection appointment and acceptance of offer</td>
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Visit [www.oat.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/](http://www.oat.cuhk.edu.hk/applying/) for more details about the application timeline and restrictions. The above timelines are subject to change without prior notice.
“A life-changing experience!”
“I learned to embrace diversity.” “I am proud of myself.”
“Taught me how big this world is.” “Just great!”
“Never too late to challenge yourself!”
“One of the most precious experiences in my university life.”
“Enjoyed the freedom!” “The best choice I have ever made.”
“Had a blast!” “Academically challenging, but very rewarding.”
“Chance to realise my dream.”