



2020-2021

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

EXCHANGE PROGRAM FACT SHEET

QUERIES FROM STUDENTS & STAFF

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*This is an interactive fact sheet
Look for this icon!*



Bienvenue à Montréal!

There's no place in the world quite like Montreal. It is a city steeped in culture and infused with internationalism. Of Montreal's 3.6 million residents, nearly 800,000 were born outside of Canada. A further 220,000 are students at universities or other professional post-secondary programs, making Montreal one of the world's most student-friendly cities. Its safe, socially vibrant setting makes Montreal one of the world's most livable cities.

McGill University is a thriving city within a city – a community of learners where passionate, independent minds come together to combine their great ideas and make even greater ones. It's a place pulsing with life, where our students – 35,000-strong from about 150 countries – are earning their places at the vanguards of their fields – from music to medicine, from the art of architecture to the science of sustainability.

More about Montréal





AGREEMENTS & RESTRICTIONS

Students can be accepted to the exchange program for one semester or the full year (Fall start only). The preference is to have an even number of spaces nominated to both terms - please do not send all in one term.

In general, students should be enrolled in the same program at their home university OR present sufficient educational background in chosen subject area.

MUSIC

- strongly recommend starting in the Fall term
- must be registered in same program at home university
- certain course restrictions apply and students may be responsible for supplemental fees associated with particular courses
- applicants who wish to participate in lessons, ensembles, or other performance classes are required to submit a recorded audition for evaluation

ENGINEERING, MANAGEMENT

- limited spaces in all Engineering disciplines
- limit nominations to 2 per term for non-faculty specific agreements
- students may be responsible for supplemental fees associated with particular courses

GRADUATE PROGRAMS

- courses at the 600-700 level ONLY
- MUST verify if exchange is possible (not all programs are open)
- must apply by program specific deadlines (not general deadlines)

LAW, ARCHITECTURE

- normally not open to university-wide agreements (space permitting)
- must be registered in same program at home university
- for Law, refer to the Law Fact Sheet for further instructions (available on request)
- for Architecture a portfolio is required

Faculties not open to Exchange: Medicine, Dentistry, Continuing Studies

Students may take up to 1 course in the School of Continuing Studies with permission from their admitted faculty, see Registration section.

Academic calendar



| | |
|-------------|---|
| Fall 2020 | September 2 to December 22, 2020 (including exam period). |
| Winter 2021 | January 4 to April 29, 2021 (including exam period). |
| Summer 2021 | Not open for exchanges |

NOTE: Students should wait for the FINAL exam schedule to be available on McGill's website prior to making any travel arrangements for the end of the term. If they must book their flight in advance, students must book a flight for any date AFTER the end dates listed here.



NOMINATION & APPLICATION PROCESS

Nomination Deadlines

Fall or full year: March 15
Spring (Winter): August 15

Exchange coordinators/managers should submit their nominations by the indicated deadlines. A link to the nomination webform will be sent by to your university's incoming exchange coordinator once available.

Once the nomination has been approved, students should be provided with a copy of this fact sheet for the next steps in the process.

Application instructions will NOT be sent by our office directly to your students.

Application deadlines

Fall start: January 1 to May 1
Spring start: June 1 to October 1

After a student is nominated by their home university, they must complete the online application and provide required supporting documentation.

Requirements:

- Have a minimum CGPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 scale), B average
- Demonstrate proficiency in English if the home university's primary language of instruction is NOT English: letter signed by an academic official (i.e. Director of the English language program) OR copy of official test results (TOEFL, IELTS)

Instructions:

- Program Choice Selection: Choose faculty then "Exchange" for both Major and Subject fields
- After submitting the online application: a confirmation email will be sent within 48 hours with login details to Minerva. *Make sure to check junk folders.*
- Upload required supporting documents to the online account:
 - Copy of recent transcript in English (include ALL pages).
 - Copy of official letter of nomination.
 - If applicable, copy of letter from an academic official (not exchange coordinator) confirming proof of English proficiency or copy of official test results
 - If applicable, mail, email or upload program specific documents (example: Architecture portfolio, Music audition file)
- Decision: If admitted to McGill, students will be prompted to accept their offer of admission. The official decision letter will be available for download and printing via Minerva. Hard copies of the acceptance letter are not sent by mail.

[View minimum scores](#)

UNDERGRADUATE
APPLICATION LINK



GRADUATE PROGRAMS
Contact us for further info:
studentexchanges@mcgill.ca



REGISTRATION

Registration dates:

- Fall / full year - late May / early June
- Winter - early December

Accept your offer of admission!

Students register for courses prior to arrival to McGill, online via Minerva (unless otherwise specified in sections below).

[More about course registration](#)



The maximum course load at McGill for an exchange student per term is 15 credits (12 is considered full-time).

Faculty Notes for Registration

ALL:

- Students are permitted to take up to 1 course outside their admitted faculty - this course can be from the School of Continuing Studies WITH FACULTY APPROVAL
- If there are restrictions or pre-requisite errors while registering, student must contact the department offering the course to obtain permission to register in the course
- **Courses not available for registration: Research project, thesis, special topic**

Click on the faculty for more information

ARTS

- View Policy for enrolling in Continuing Studies courses
- View other useful information

MANAGEMENT

- Register with faculty
- Due to high demand, registration for more than 2 courses per area cannot be accommodated

ENGINEERING

- Register with faculty
- Course space is limited

ARCHITECTURE

- Register with faculty

EDUCATION

- Student Teaching practicum (EDFE) courses are subject to additional restrictions

MUSIC

- Register with faculty

SCIENCE

- Courses with limited enrolment: Anatomy and Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Biology, Computer Science, Mathematics, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Physiology
- Lab courses are not available



Click on
the icon



Immigration documents

Full-year (2 terms): Students must obtain a Certificate of Acceptance from Immigration Quebec and a Study permit from Citizenship and Immigration Canada.

One term only: Students must have a valid passport and students from certain countries may need to obtain a Temporary resident visa or an electronic Travel Authorization.

Documents must be submitted to McGill as per the instructions on the linked website.



International Health Insurance

The McGill International Health Insurance Plan is **mandatory** for all international students. Refer to the handbook for details on coverage i.e. basic dental is not included

Students from certain countries may qualify for an exemption provided they submit the required documentation.



Housing

On-campus housing: While priority is given to first-year degree students, limited places are available for exchange students. Once they have accepted their offer of admission, students should contact Housing directly at housing.residences@mcgill.ca

Other useful sites include: [Off-campus housing](#)

[SSMU Marketplace](#)



Students with Disabilities

McGill has a dedicated Office for Students with Disabilities.

Students are encouraged to contact the office after being admitted to see if the appropriate services are available to them during their exchange.



Official transcript and Proof of Enrolment Letter

McGill transcripts show only letter grades (not numeric grades). Students have access to their official transcript as soon as they register for courses. All grades should be available by February (Fall exchanges) or June (Full year/Winter exchanges).

Students are responsible for ordering their McGill transcript to be sent to their home institution, in either paper or electronic format.

Students who require confirmation of their status at McGill can access their Proof of Enrolment letter in Minerva. The proof of enrolment letter is an official letter which includes our seal and Registrar's signature.



Expenses while on exchange

Students participating in the exchange program are exempt from regular tuition charges and compulsory term charges. However there are some charges that they may see on their fee account:

- International Health Insurance - approximately \$380 CAD per term
- Program/course charges that are compulsory upon registration, such as special activity charges, course materials, textbooks, music lessons, etc. - approximately \$600-1000 CAD per term
- Residence and meal plan (if applicable)

[Basic Living Costs](#)



Orientation & arrival to McGill

Orientation sessions for new students are to help prepare for McGill's academic and social life and provide information about the University and its services and living in Montreal.

The sessions are usually held:

Fall term or year-long: the last week of August

Winter term only: first or second week of January

Be sure to also check out the Pre-Arrival Webinars hosted by International Student Services