



MCGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW STUDENT EXCHANGES
INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENT FACT SHEET
2025-2026

ABOUT MCGILL UNIVERSITY FACULTY OF LAW

Recognized as one of the best places in the world to study law, McGill's Faculty of Law offers a challenging, stimulating program that has become a model for modern legal education through its distinguishing features:

- An integrated approach, through transsystemic courses that teach legal traditions in a comparative way, grounded in examples from many places.
A bilingual program, with course materials in English and French. Students are expected to have fluency in one language and at least passive bilingualism in the other.
Hands-on experiential learning and international opportunities complement our foundational grounding in law.
Legal education at McGill is shaped by our roots in Montreal, a deeply pluralist, multilingual city, our openness to the world, and a longstanding commitment to public service. Our unique program instills sensitivity to difference; it equips our graduates with confidence in the face of uncertainty, and diverse and creative tools for solving problems.
Leading legal scholars teach our program's core courses. And outside experts offer intensive courses in matters current to practice.

Exchange Application Deadlines 2025-2026

You will find our 2025-2026 nomination form for Incoming exchange students linked here.

Nomination Deadline:

Table with 2 columns: Term, Nomination Deadline. Rows: Fall or Full-Year (March 15), Winter (September 15)

Application Dates:

Table with 3 columns: Term, Application Period, Decisions Rendered By. Rows: Fall or Full-Year (February 1 to May 1, June 1), Winter (August 1 to October 1, November 15)

\* Winter Exchanges are strongly encouraged to be submitted by the Fall 2025 date.



We cannot guarantee applications will be accepted beyond these dates. If you encounter difficulties in submitting the applications within the deadlines, please contact the Law Admissions Office ([admissions.law@mcgill.ca](mailto:admissions.law@mcgill.ca)) or the SAO at [exchanges.law@mcgill.ca](mailto:exchanges.law@mcgill.ca).

**\*Note about Winter 2026 exchange deadlines:** registration for **both** Fall 2025 and Winter 2026 courses open **mid-July 2025** for all newly admitted Fall 2025, Full-year and Winter 2026 exchange students. We recommend that Winter 2026 applications are submitted before that date so that Winter term exchange students can register for their courses along with other newly admitted exchange students in June.

**Minimum Academic Requirements**

- Must be in good standing and have completed at least one full academic year in a University (law program) by the time you go abroad
- Cumulative **CGPA of 3.00 out of 4.00 (B average)** is required for consideration

**Key Dates for 2025-2026 (tentative)**

A list of McGill University key dates can be found [here](#) and Faculty of Law-specific dates and deadlines can be found [here](#).

***Students must be in Montreal as of the first day of courses at the very latest.\****

**Fall 2025 Semester**

- Fall semester classes: August 27 to December 3, 2025
- Fall break: October 14 to 17, 2025 (inclusive)
- Fall semester examinations: December 5 to December 19, 2025

**Winter 2026 Semester**

- Winter semester classes: January 5 to April 14, 2026
- Winter reading week (no classes): March 3 to March 6, 2026 (inclusive)
- Winter semester examinations: April 16 to April 30, 2026

**McGill is closed on the following dates:**

<b>Summer Fridays</b> <i>*Admin Offices Only*</i>	Jun. 23, Jun. 30, Jul. 11, Jul. 18, Jul. 25, Aug. 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025	<b>Winter Holidays</b>	December 25, 2025 to January 4, 2026 (inclusive)
<b>National Holiday</b>	June 24, 2025	<b>Good Friday</b>	April 3, 2026
<b>Canada Day</b>	July 1, 2025	<b>Easter Monday</b>	April 6, 2026
<b>Labour Day</b>	September 1, 2025	<b>Victoria Day</b>	May 19, 2026
<b>Thanksgiving</b>	October 13, 2025		



## Bilingual Language Policy

McGill's Law program is offered in a bilingual, English & French, environment. While most courses at McGill are offered in English, and the ability to communicate in English is a requirement, irrespective of the language of instruction at the Faculty of Law, reading of complex substantive texts in French and English are assigned in many upper-year law courses. In certain courses, such as private law courses, students will be assigned readings in French.

While examination questions are set in the language in which a course is given, any examination may contain extensive passages in either French or English. To fully participate in courses, communicate fully with all law students and be fully immersed in Montréal's culture, the ability to speak and read French is an asset. Students should consider this when selecting courses and are welcome to contact Faculty advisors with any questions or concerns.

## Orientation

**Faculty of Law:** The Law Faculty organizes orientation information sessions for all newly admitted exchange students. The session for Fall term and full-year exchange students takes place in late August/early September. The session for newly admitted Winter term exchange students will take place in January.

**International Student Services Office:** McGill's International Student Services Office hosts webinar information sessions on their website prior to arrival at McGill so that students can learn more about McGill, Montreal, Study Permits, Health Insurance, Housing, Banking, Cell phone plans, Orientation, and more. The webinars can be accessed here:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/internationalstudents/pre-arrival>

## Course Registration

Law course information is updated each year in May on the [Faculty of Law's website](#), including course offerings and examination timetables. Please note that courses may be added or cancelled, and changes may be made throughout the academic year. We cannot guarantee that the same courses will be offered in the same terms in future academic years.

Exchange students may start registering for courses on Minerva, for both terms, in **mid-July 2025** provided their application and nomination have been received and accepted. Students must take at least 12 credits per term to be considered a full-time student. Incoming Exchange students can register for most of our undergraduate law courses, and undergraduate sections of graduate-level courses upon availability and any necessary approvals. Incoming Exchange students **may not register** for first year (1L) and second year (2L) required courses, Moots, Clerkships, Legal Clinics, Group Assistant and Term Essays.

Please note that McGill Law students have priority registration early courses may be full as priority is usually given to our Law students upon early registration, and we cannot guarantee spots will be available within specific courses.



## Housing

### On-Campus Housing

Information about on-campus student housing can be found on the [McGill Student Housing website](#).

Students may submit a request for on-campus housing via their online exchange application form, however, space is not guaranteed:

- Fall 2025 or Full-year exchange: Indicate “Yes” under “Residence Accommodation” section.
- Winter 2026 exchange: students must verify if available space (email below)

Further inquiries? Email: [housing.residences@mcgill.ca](mailto:housing.residences@mcgill.ca)

### Off-Campus Housing (<https://www.mcgill.ca/students/housing/offcampus>)

- Rental Information
- Apartment Listings
- Useful Information
- Life Beyond McGill Residences

Students unable to receive on-campus housing are encouraged to visit the Off-Campus Housing website for information on finding housing in Montreal.

## Coming to McGill as an International Student

### McGill International Health Insurance (Compulsory)

- Students should consult the McGill International Student Services website for all the details about the compulsory International Health Insurance plan (coverage, fees, the possibility of exemption).
- For further questions, they need to contact directly our Office of International Student Services

### Immigration Requirements

Please consult the [McGill International Student Services website](#) for details on which documents will be needed for exchange.

### Other Information

More information regarding housing, expenses, Compulsory International Health Insurance, Immigration requirements, and transcripts can all be found on the McGill International Education website:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/internationalstudents>

Please visit the Faculty of Law page for [incoming exchange students](#) for additional information.

## Faculty of Law Contact Information

- Faculty of Law Exchange Program (General): [exchanges.law@mcgill.ca](mailto:exchanges.law@mcgill.ca)