TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY EXCHANGE PROGRAM FACT SHEET
LOCATION
Texas State’s San Marcos campus is located in a growing community of 60,000 people in the Austin Metropolitan Area. Located in the Texas Hill Country, where backland prairies roll into beautiful hills, Texas State enjoys a setting that is unique among Texas universities. The location on the banks of the crystal-clear San Marcos River provides recreational activities for students throughout the year. The Texas State campus is located in the heart of Central Texas, and is a safe and thriving home to nearly 39,000 students, including 560 international students from 74 different countries. Texas State’s San Marcos campus is conveniently close to the cities of Austin, San Antonio, Houston and Dallas.

ACCREDITATION
Texas State University is accredited by the Commission on Colleges (COC) of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the regional accrediting organization for eleven states in the southeastern United States, including Texas. More information can be found at: txstate.edu

ON-CAMPUS SAFETY
Texas State is a safe campus. To ensure students’ safety, the Texas State University Police Department offers a range of security measures including 24-hour foot and vehicle patrols, a late-night student transport service, 24-hour emergency telephones, lighted pathways/sidewalks, safety training classes, a 9-1-1 call service, text alerts, and controlled dormitory access.
More information can be found at: safety.txstate.edu & police.txstate.edu

Additionally, Texas State Education Abroad created the Emergency Action Plan (EAP) for incoming exchange students which is distributed to students prior to their arrival. The Exchange Program Coordinator is the primary contact person for non-emergency situations.

EDUCATION ABROAD
Education Abroad oversees the exchange program at Texas State and provides guidance and assistance to all exchange students prior to and during their program of studies.
More information can be found at: educationabroad.txstate.edu
### ESTIMATED COST OF LIVING

Incoming exchange students are responsible for paying these expenses each semester:

- **Lodging:** $3,000 - $4,000
- **Meals:** $1,600 - $2,000
- **International Operations Fee:** $60 (mandatory)
- **Health Insurance:** $650 - $700 (mandatory)
- **Course Materials:** $300 - $600
- **Personal Expenses:** $1,000 - $3,000

Estimated costs per semester in USD: $7,000 - $9,000

### CAREER SERVICES

The Office of Career Services helps students with career advice, interviewing skills, resume reviews and more. Exchange students are allowed to work on campus up to 20 hours per week. More information can be found at: [careerservices.txstate.edu/students/](http://careerservices.txstate.edu/students/)

### FOOD

Food is a great way to explore the culture of a new setting. Texas State campus has 10 dining locations, where students will find a blend of American food and meals from other cultures. Students can also choose from a variety of dining options in San Marcos. More information can be found at: [dineoncampus.com/txstate/](http://dineoncampus.com/txstate/)

### HOUSING

Texas State University has reserved limited spaces at Blanco Residence Hall for exchange students. More information about Blanco Hall can be found at: [https://www.reslife.txstate.edu/livingoptions/options/blanco.html](https://www.reslife.txstate.edu/livingoptions/options/blanco.html). More information about campus living can be found at: [reslife.txstate.edu/livingoptions/options.html](http://reslife.txstate.edu/livingoptions/options.html)

All students residing on campus are required to purchase a meal plan. Students can select one of the three meal plan options. Please note that it will be important for students to know which one of the three meal plans to select before applying online. More information can be found at: [www.dineoncampus.com/txstate/](http://www.dineoncampus.com/txstate/)

Students can also choose off-campus accommodations. There are many off-campus housing options that are either walking distance to campus or have a shuttle bus to and from campus. More information can be found at: [reslife.txstate.edu/OffCampusLiving.html](http://reslife.txstate.edu/OffCampusLiving.html). For additional information, please contact: Margaret A. Yackel, Off-Campus Living Coordinator, my01@txstate.edu, 512.245.5595. After being admitted to Texas State, further housing application instructions will be provided to students.

### Get in touch!

- **@txstedabroad**
- **educationabroad.txstate.edu**
- **512.245.1967**
According to the institutional agreements, the undergraduate exchange students are covered for 12 credit hours (full-time status) and graduate students for 9 credit hours (full-time students). Only students from the partner institutions listed below may register for up to 15 undergraduate credit hours:

- Baden-Wuerttemberg Cooperative State University Mosbach/Heibronn
- Hogeschool Zeeland
- MAUI-Utrecht Network
- Université Rennes 2
- Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez

Any additional charges not specified in the agreements must be covered by the exchange students.

Exchange students are required to show proof of proficiency in the English language that can be demonstrated by one of the following:

- TOEFL iBT – 78 (with minimum scores of 19 on each subsection and 18 or higher on the writing section)
- TOEFL PBT – 550
- Cambridge IELTS – 6.5 (with minimum 6.0 score in all sections)
- Letter of Evaluation from home institution certifying the university level English proficiency of the candidates

The exchange students may take TSIE courses as a part of the exchange program with no additional fees. TSIE’s enriching credit courses are designed especially for international/exchange and multilingual students. From culture to academic skills, TSIE’s courses provide the arena for dynamic international training and experiences. More information can be found at: [txstate.edu/ie/programs/TSIE-Credit-Courses.html](http://txstate.edu/ie/programs/TSIE-Credit-Courses.html)

Texas State recommends that students enroll in the American Culture class for 3.00 credit hours. This class is specifically designed for the exchange/international students, and includes an examination of contemporary American culture with an emphasis on the acculturation needs of international students. Cross-cultural communication is addressed and topics include (but are not limited to): American values/beliefs, technology/mass media, interpersonal interactions, philanthropy and service learning. More information can be found at [txstate.edu/ie/programs/TSIE-Credit-Courses.html](http://txstate.edu/ie/programs/TSIE-Credit-Courses.html)

**Conversation Partner Programs**

**Improve your English skills**

**Learn about American culture**
The Department of Campus Recreation offers a variety of extracurricular activities for students, ranging from aqua sports courses to fitness courses and outdoor activities. The Student Recreation Center (SRC) welcomes all members with a current Texas State ID or a Campus Recreation Membership Card. Guests must pay the $6 guest fee and be accompanied by a current member. More information can be found at: campusrecreation.txstate.edu

The TSIE Conversational Partner Program pairs International students with American students for social interaction, cultural, exchange, and language practice. Each pair meets an average of one hour per week during the fall and spring semesters. The format of the meetings ranges from formal tutoring to casual conversations. Conversational Circle events are offered every semester by the TSIE office. This program provides students with an opportunity for English conversation with American students outside of the classroom environment. International students and conversation partners are encouraged to participate in this optional event to develop their listening and speaking skills, as well as increase/develop knowledge about campus services and activities. This is a great opportunity to improve your language skills, share your culture and learn more about American culture.
More information can be found at: txstate.edu/ie/services/conversation-partners.html

Texas State has over 370 Registered Student Organizations (RSOs). These organizations are divided into 13 groups: Academic, Chartered, Greek, Honors, Multicultural, Political, Professional, Recreational, Religious, Residence Hall, Service, Special Interest, Sport Clubs. Joining one or some of these organizations helps create a sense of community for international students.

Texas State has 34 different Sport Clubs to choose from. Sport Clubs are open to all Texas State students of any skill level and offer the opportunity to compete with other colleges throughout the great state of Texas and nationally. All Sport Clubs are competitive in nature, with an emphasis on participation, skill development and student leadership. More information can be found at: campusrecreation.txstate.edu/intramural.html

The overview calendars and academic calendar are important online tools that help students to keep track of important dates. Overview calendars give a view of an entire year and indicate dates for final exams, spring break, beginning and ending of each semester, holidays and commencement. The Academic Calendar provides more detailed information on a specific semester. International students are encouraged to check these calendars periodically.

Fall semester: end of August – beginning of December,
Spring semester: beginning of January – beginning of May

Final exam dates: beginning of December (1 week) & beginning of May (1 week)
The Academic Calendar can be found at registrar.txstate.edu/persistent-links/academic-calendar.html
ARRIVAL

The exchange students must attend the mandatory Welcome Meeting, which usually takes place the week before the semester starts and on the day of the early check-in into residential halls. During this meeting students will have the opportunity to meet key staff members as well as other exchange students. Important reminders as well as information regarding registration will be presented. Students will also receive assistance with obtaining their Texas State ID cards and checking-in with the International Student and Scholar Services for immigration requirements. All exchange/international students are required to check in with ISSS to comply with immigration requirements. Students will need to have the following documents with them: passport, visa, I-94 and signed I-20.

INTERNATIONAL RESOURCE FAIR

The exchange students must attend a mandatory International Student Resource Fair sponsored by the International Student and Scholar Services. This orientation is usually scheduled one day after the Welcome Meeting. Please check the ISSS website for the specific date and the registration procedure at: international.txstate.edu

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

The Counseling Center offers free and confidential sessions for a variety of personal, social, career and academic issues. More information can be found at: counseling.txstate.edu

The Office of Disability Services provides support services to students with disabilities, giving them the assistance they need to succeed. More information can be found at: ods.txstate.edu

The Student Health Center promotes healthy lifestyles through education and access to affordable healthcare services. More information can be found at: healthcenter.txstate.edu

SLAC tutors assist students in a range of academic areas, including course content, study skills and test preparation. More information can be found at: txstate.edu/slac

The Writing Center tutors students on writing projects, such as thesis, research papers, cover letters and more. More information can be found at: writingcenter.txstate.edu

The Office of the Attorney for Students provides legal advice with an emphasis on counseling and education to currently enrolled students. The office staff can counsel students on landlord-tenant disputes, criminal law, family law, employment law, consumer and civil matters, contract law, simple wills, and name changes. The office also provides free notary services and apartment lease review. Exchange students are encouraged to take advantage of apartment lease review before signing the lease contract. This office does not advise on matters involving the Texas State University System, disputes between Texas State students, or on immigration issues and does not represent students in court. More information can be found at: attorney.dos.txstate.edu

Get in touch!

@txst_iss
@TXSTisss
@Txst_iss

international.txstate.edu
512.245.7966
**NOMINATION**

All students participating in a Texas State exchange program are required to be nominated by their home institution. The coordinator of the partner institution must fill out the Texas State Nomination Form to nominate the student(s) who wish to participate in the exchange program at Texas State University. More information can be found at: educationabroad.txstate.edu/VISITING-INTERNATIONAL-STUDENTS/Exchange-Program-Coordinators.html

**PRE-POST ACCEPTANCE STEPS**

After Texas State Education Abroad accepts the nominations, international exchange students must complete the online International Exchange Student Application. Other pre-accepted and post-accepted steps can be found at educationabroad.txstate.edu/VISITING-INTERNATIONAL-STUDENTS/Exchange-Students.html

Application Deadline for the Fall Semester (August - December): April 1st

Application Deadline for the Spring Semester (January - May): October 1st

**HEALTH INSURANCE**

The exchange/international students are required to purchase the Texas State Health Insurance Plan while studying at Texas State University. More information can be found at: healthcenter.txstate.edu/international

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AND SCHOLAR SERVICES**

International Student and Scholar Services issues I-20 forms for international/exchange students, assists with immigration processes related to non-immigrant F-1 issues, advises international/exchange students and scholars on matters related to maintaining their legal status, and provides programs for integrating international students/exchange into the campus life, etc. More information can be found at: international.txstate.edu

**ACADEMICS**

Texas State University offers approximately 98 bachelor’s, 91 master’s and 13 doctoral degree programs.

Incoming Exchange Students can choose courses from the following colleges: Applied Arts, McCoy College of Business, Education, Fine Arts and Communication, Health Professions, Liberal Arts, Science and Engineering, University College and The Graduate College.

All areas of studies are open to undergraduate students.

The exchange program encourages graduate students from all around the world to come to Texas State University. However, some departments/programs may not admit exchange students, and others may admit after evaluating course availability. More information about the Graduate Student Exchange Program can be found at The Graduate College website: gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/exchange.html
The Bobcat Shuttle transportation has 45 shuttle buses covering 10 routes around campus. Texas State’s GPS transit system allows real-time location data for Bobcat Shuttle – Real-Time Tracking System. International students/scholars can use a computer or mobile device to track Bobcat Shuttle. The municipal bus offers services to major areas of San Marcos along seven routes in the city, and the interurban bus connects to Austin from Monday to Friday. More information can be found at: transportation.txstate.edu

TRANSPORTATION

There are two international airports near San Marcos: Austin-Bergstrom International Airport (ABIA) and San Antonio International Airport (SAIA). Austin-Bergstrom International Airport is approximately 30 miles (48 km) north of San Marcos; San Antonio International Airport is approximately 45 miles (80 km) south of San Marcos. We recommend that you choose to arrive in Austin. SuperShuttle offers special pricing for ground transportation from Austin to Texas State University for students, faculty and staff. Book online at supershuttle.com

AIRPORT INFORMATION
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| Exchange Program Coordinator (incoming and outgoing exchange students) | Dr. Oleksandra Sehin  
**Education Abroad / Exchange Program Coordinator**  
512-245-9660  
osehin@txstate.edu  
[https://www.educationabroad.txstate.edu/](https://www.educationabroad.txstate.edu/) |
| Visa and Immigration Team                                            | Victoria Elizabeth Gonzales  
**Student Development Specialist I**  
512-245-7966  
i20request@txstate.edu  
[https://www.international.txstate.edu/](https://www.international.txstate.edu/) |
| Undergraduate ApplyTexas Application (Transient Application) for Undergrad Students | Jonathan W. Tyner  
**International Office Coordinator**  
512-245-7966  
Jwt43@txstate.edu  
[https://www.international.txstate.edu/](https://www.international.txstate.edu/) |
| \[ApplyTexas Non-Degree/Visiting Student application for Graduate Students\] | Mart Douglas  
**Undergraduate Admissions Specialist**  
Office of Undergraduate Admissions  
512-245-2095  
mld111@txstate.edu  
[https://www.admissions.txstate.edu/](https://www.admissions.txstate.edu/) |
| \[Off-campus Living\]                                               | Mark Moore, M.Ed.  
**Graduate Admissions Specialist**  
512-245-2581  
mm1854@txstate.edu  
[https://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/exchange.html](https://www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/programs/exchange.html) |
| \[Off-campus Living\]                                               | Margaret A. Yackel  
**Off-Campus Living Coordinator**  
512-245-5595  
my01@txstate.edu  
[https://www.reslife.txstate.edu/OffCampusLiving.html](https://www.reslife.txstate.edu/OffCampusLiving.html) |
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