



2020 - 2021

# McMaster University Exchange Fact Sheet

[studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca](http://studentsuccess.mcmaster.ca)

   @MacSSC



## About McMaster

Founded in 1887, McMaster University is located in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada at the western end of Lake Ontario. With over 28,000 full-time undergraduate students and 4,800 full-time graduate students, McMaster is a research-intensive, student-centred university dedicated to advancing human and societal health and well-being. McMaster was ranked 72 in the world's Top 75 by the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings, and second in the world in the THE's University Impact Rankings 2019 based on the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

## McMaster Exchange Program Contacts:

Contact	Function	Contact Details
Ms. Jenna Levi	Education Abroad Coordinator (In/Outbound Exchange Students)	levij@mcmaster.ca 1-905-525-9140 x 26105
Mr. Ni Jadon	Exchange Agreements	jadon@mcmaster.ca
Ms. Gina Robinson	Director	robing@mcmaster.ca
Student Inquiries	General Exchange Email	macincoming@mcmaster.ca
McMaster Campus Security	<b>After Hours (Emergency)</b> 24 Hour Emergency Line	1-905-525-9140 x 24281
Website		<a href="#">Incoming Exchange</a>

## Campus Locations:

### Mailing Address –

*Attn: Jenna Levi*  
Education Abroad Coordinator  
International Student Services/  
Student Success Centre  
Gilmour Hall Room 110, McMaster  
University, 1280 Main Street West  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, L8S 4L8

### Main Campus –

*Undergraduate & Graduate  
Programs*

McMaster University  
1280 Main Street West,  
Hamilton, Ontario, Canada  
L8S 4L8

### Burlington Campus –

*MBA & Executive Programs*

Ron Joyce Centre  
4350 South Service Road  
Burlington, Ontario, Canada  
L7L5R8

## UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS:

<b>Faculty of Humanities</b>			<a href="#">website</a>
Art	French	Music	
Art History	History	Music Cognition	
Classics	Justice, Political Philosophy and	Peace Studies	
Cognitive Science of Language	Law	Philosophy	
Communication Studies	Linguistics	Theatre & Film Studies	
English and Cultural Studies	Multimedia		
<b>Faculty of Engineering</b>			<a href="#">website</a>
Business Informatics	Electrical Engineering	Mechatronics Engineering	
Chemical Engineering	Electrical and Biomedical	Software Engineering	
Chemical Engineering & Bioengineering	Engineering	Software Engineering (Embedded	
Civil Engineering	Engineering Physics	Systems)	
Computer Engineering	Materials Engineering	Software Engineering (Game Design)	
Computer Science	Mechanical Engineering		
<b>Faculty of Social Sciences</b>			<a href="#">website</a>
Anthropology	Inuktitut	Psychology	
Cayuga	Labour Studies	Reconciliation	
Economics	Mohawk	Religious Studies	
Geography	Ojibwe	Sanskrit	
Globalization Studies	Political Science	Social Psychology	
Health, Aging & Society	Psychology, Neuroscience &	Social Work	
Indigenous Studies	Behaviour	Sociology	
<b>Faculty of Science</b>			<a href="#">website</a>
Actuarial & Financial Mathematics	Chemistry	Mathematical Science	
Astrophysics	Environmental & Earth	Mathematics and Statistics	
Biochemistry	Sciences	Medical & Biological Physics	
Biology	Environmental Sciences	Medical Radiation Sciences	
Biology & Environmental Science	Geography and Environmental	Molecular Biology & Genetics	
Biology & Pharmacology	Sciences	Music Cognition	
Biology & Psychology	Integrated Science	Physical Science	
Biophysics	Kinesiology	Physics	
Chemical Biology	Life Sciences	Psychology, Neuroscience &	
		Behavior	
<b>DeGroote School of Business</b>			<a href="#">website</a>
Commerce			
<b>Faculty of Health Science</b>			<a href="#">website</a>
The Faculty of Health Sciences is <b>restricted</b> .			

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS:

<b>Faculty of Business</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>
Business Administration - MBA (Ron Joyce Centre, Burlington Campus)	

<b>Faculty of Engineering</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>	
Chemical Engineering	Engineering Design	Materials Science
Civil Engineering	Engineering Entrepreneurship & Innovation	Mechanical Engineering
Computer Science	Engineering Physics	Software Engineering
Computing & Software	Manufacturing Engineering	Technology Entrepreneurship & Innovation
Electrical and Biomedical Engineering	Materials Engineering	UNENE Nuclear Engineering
Electrical and Computer Engineering		
Engineering & Public Policy		

<b>Faculty of Humanities</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>	
Classics	Cultural Studies & Critical Theory	Gender Studies & Feminist Research
Cognitive Science of Language	English	History
Communication & New Media	French	Philosophy
Communications Management		

<b>Faculty of Science</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>	
Biology	Geography	Physics and Astronomy
Chemistry	Health & Radiation Physics	Psychology
Earth & Environmental Sciences	Kinesiology	Statistics
Financial Mathematics	Mathematics	

<b>Faculty of Social Science</b>	<a href="#"><u>website</u></a>	
Anthropology	Health & Aging	Religious Studies
Economic Policy	International Relations	Social Gerontology
Economics	Labour Studies	Sociology
Globalization	Political Science	Water Without Borders
Health & Society		

<b>Interdisciplinary Studies*</b>		
Astrobiology	Computational Science & Engineering	Global Health
Biomedical Engineering	eHealth	Health Policy
Chemical Biology		

*\*Some interdisciplinary courses housed in the Faculty of Health Sciences may not be available to incoming exchange students.*

<b>Faculty of Health Science</b>
The Faculty of Health Sciences is <b>restricted</b> .



## Important Dates

### **Semester Dates (General)**

Term 1: Early September to end of December (including exams)  
 Term 2: Early January to end of April (including exams)  
 Term 3: *We do not offer exchanges in the summer term*

### **Semester Dates (Detail)**

*Undergraduate:* visit the website for the [Office of the Registrar](#)  
*Graduate:* visit the [School of Graduate Studies](#) (sessional dates, top right of page)  
*MBA:* visit the [MBA program](#) website

### **Exchange Welcome Day**

Usually the day prior to classes, or if this is a holiday/weekend, the Friday of the previous week.

### **MOOSE Outdoor Orientation Trips (\$)**

Available at the start of both Fall and Winter terms, MOOSE trips are outdoor orientation programs that bring together new exchange students before the academic year begins. Students have an opportunity to socialize with other exchange students and participate in teambuilding exercises in some of Ontario's most beautiful natural parks. Held the week before classes begin or soon after.

## Application & Process

*\*Please contact us prior to your internal recruitment deadline to check the number of students we can accept from your institution each year. This number is reviewed according to the overall balance of the agreement.*

### **Partner Nomination Deadline**

*Includes both Fall and Winter exchange terms*  
**April 15, 2020**

\*McMaster can sometimes accommodate late nominations. If you have a late nomination, please email us directly to confirm eligibility.

### **Partner Nomination Process**

Please nominate your students using our [online nomination portal](#).

2020 Username: **guest2020**  
 2020 Password: **nommac2020\***

The system allows for multiple nominations at once. Please remember to logout.

## Student Application Deadline

*Includes both Fall and Winter exchange terms*

**March 31, 2020** (Preferred Deadline)

**April 30, 2020** (Final Deadline)

## Student Application Process

Upon receipt of student details via the nomination system, the McMaster Exchange Office will contact each nominated student with instructions on how to apply through our **online application system**. Invitations to apply will go out to students beginning in January 2020.

Students will need to complete the online application, which will include uploading supporting documents (resume, statement of interest, passport style photo). *\*Please **do not** send us additional scanned or printed copies of the online application\**

The student's home international office is asked to please send original or **scanned copies** of the following (Scans: Please send as **1PDF attachment per student**):

- 1) 1 original, official transcript (or verified scan) with English translation and grading system attached. (*Please include Bachelor transcripts for Graduate and MBA applicants*)
- 2) English Language Certification (*If required, see Language Requirements below*).

*Supporting documents must be sent from the Home Institution Coordinator. Transcript scans should clearly show the institutional seal/stamp or home coordinator's signature verifying that the document was taken from an official source.*

*We cannot accept scanned supporting documents directly from students. We can accept official, university-generated e-transcripts directly from students via a secure portal/ link. Please send to [macincoming@mcmaster.ca](mailto:macincoming@mcmaster.ca)*

## Language Requirements

The language of instruction at McMaster is English. Although we offer informal (non-credit) workshops to assist students with the English language, we **do not** offer English as a Second Language (ESL) for-credit courses for incoming exchange students. Students must be proficient in English prior to arrival.

### Study Abroad (fee-paying) Applicants

Applicable to students from the below partners:

- University of Science & Technology Beijing
- Shanghai International Studies University
- Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics
- Northwestern Polytechnic University
- South China University of Technology

Study Abroad applicants are asked to submit official language test scores according to [McMaster's English Proficiency requirements](#). These must be received by the appropriate deadline. The McMaster University institution code for ETS/TOEFL is **0936**.

### **Undergraduate (Exchange) Applicants**

For undergraduate applicants, written confirmation is not required, but students are expected to have sufficient proficiency in English to study at the university level and be able to read, write and participate in verbal class discussions. McMaster University assumes that the student's language skills have been assessed at the home institution and deemed sufficient for participation in a study abroad/exchange program in English.

### **Graduate (Exchange) Applicants**

Official English language certification or a letter from your home exchange coordinator/professor confirming proficiency in English.

### **MBA (Exchange) Applicants**

No certification is required if you have studied for a minimum of three years in a university where the medium of instruction was English. A letter from your home exchange coordinator confirming this is sufficient. For all other applicants, official certification is required.

We accept TOEFL and IELTS scores. We do not have individual band score requirements for IELTS or TOEFL.

- TOEFL requirement: Overall score of 100
- IELTS requirement: Overall score of 7.0

Please make arrangements with TOEFL or IELTS to have your results sent to us directly.

## Course/Subject Information

### Course Listings

#### Undergraduate Students:

Use the [Search for Classes Tool](#) to find courses offered during the current calendar year. Undergraduate courses begin with numbers 1-4. The updated UG course schedule is released in May each year. Undergraduate exchange students will be registered in Level 3 at McMaster, and should expect to take mostly Level 2 and Level 3 courses. Enrolment in Level 4 and many Level 1 courses is generally reserved for McMaster students. Access to Level 1 elective courses may be given, space permitting.

#### Graduate Students:

Use the [Search for Classes Tool](#) to find courses offered during the current calendar year. Students wishing to study at the graduate level must be currently enrolled in an equivalent graduate level program at their home university and enrolled in their second year of master's study (5<sup>th</sup> year). Students are expected to take graduate courses at the **700-level** and will be admitted at the department level. As graduate (non-MBA) courses are often offered on a biennial basis (every two years), incoming exchange students may also review the [SGS Graduate Calendar](#), however please note this is a historical collection of all courses so the best route would be to [contact the graduate administrator](#) for the most updated information/advice.

*Graduate students must be flexible in their course selections.* The updated Graduate course schedule is released in mid-June each year. Note: With the permission of their home university, graduate students may request to take 1 course at the undergraduate level (600 and below), with the exception of courses from the School of Business.

#### MBA Students:

Visit the MBA website for the list of [MBA Courses](#). Students are expected to take final year 700-level MBA courses only.

### Course Load per Semester

#### Undergraduate

A full-time course load is 9 to 15 units per term (3 to 5 courses). Engineering students may take up to 18 units.

#### Graduate

A full-time course load is 6-9 units (2-3 courses) at 700 level per term.

#### MBA

A full-time course load is 4-5 courses per term.

## Course Outlines

Course outlines are most often found on the individual department webpages.

### Undergraduate

- [Business](#)
- [Science](#)
- Engineering ([Chemical](#), [Civil](#), Computing & Software (by request), Electrical (by request), [Physics](#), [Materials](#), [Mechanical](#)).
- [Humanities](#)
- [Social Science](#) (Choose department > Courses from main menu)
- [Health Sciences](#)

### Graduate

- (By request from program office)

### MBA

- [Course Outlines](#)

## Course Registration

### Undergraduate

Official course registration for both Semester 1 and 2 takes place in mid-June and is done online. Students may also drop/add courses during the two week window at the beginning of each academic term. Students who are nominated outside the official nomination/application deadlines will be registering for classes late and some classes may no longer be available. Late applicants must be flexible with their study plan.

### Graduate

Graduate course registration takes place in mid-July each year. It is important to note that graduate students are only permitted to register in undergraduate courses (600 and below) AFTER undergraduate registration has taken place. This means that some undergraduate courses may not be available for graduate students due to seat restrictions.

### MBA

MBA course registration takes place in mid-July each year.

## GPA Requirements

### Undergraduate

We recommend students have maintained a B- cumulative average to apply for the exchange program.

### Graduate/MBA

GPA Requirement:

- Engineering - 7.0/12.0 or 2.70/4.00
- All other Faculties - 9.0/12.0 or 3.30/4.00
- \*These are minimums. Individual departments may require higher admissions averages.

**Course/ Program  
Restrictions**

**Undergraduate**

*General Restrictions*

Students accepted at the undergraduate level are NOT eligible to take courses at the graduate (master) level. Exchange with the Arts & Science Program is not permitted, with the exception of the ARTSSCI 4MN2 / Movement and Integration.

Faculty of Humanities

Multimedia and Studio Art courses are restricted, but may be open to students registered in a similar program at their home university (space permitting). Students interested in these courses should contact McMaster early to check availability and, if interested in Studio Art, submit a portfolio. MELD courses are not open to exchange.

Faculty of Engineering

The Bachelor of Technology program is not available to exchange students. Engineering students are permitted to register in most Level 4 courses. Engineering students wishing to take a business course must be enrolled in an Engineering Management program at their home university to be eligible.

Faculty of Social Sciences

Students applying for 'PNB' (Psychology, Neuroscience, and Behaviour) courses must have completed 'A' Level Mathematics and at least 'O' level Biology. This would equate to university Calculus and grade 12 Biology (highest biology level in high school). Students applying to the psychology program must provide copies of A and O Levels.

Faculty of Science

Enrolment in Science Inquiry and Senior Projects is restricted (may be waived on case-by-case basis). Students should email McMaster in advance to confirm eligibility.

Students within the Faculty of Science may be permitted to take courses within the Faculty of Health Sciences. *This will depend on seat availability and sufficient background knowledge.* Students will be considered on a case by case basis, negotiating all requests with their McMaster academic advisor. Full exchange with the Faculty of Health Sciences is not permitted.

DeGroote School of Business

The Economics program is part of the Faculty of Social Sciences, and not part of the School of Business. This may affect some students' eligibility for Commerce courses depending on the agreement between McMaster and a partner university. Students should have a background in Business in order to apply.

Faculty of Health Sciences

[Restricted] By partnership agreement only.

**Graduate Level**

*Undergraduate courses/programs:* Any undergraduate course offered within the DeGroote School of Business is not open to graduate students of any discipline.

*Graduate courses/programs not available:*

- Faculty of Health Sciences (All Programs).
- Masters of Finance
- Executive Business Administration (EMBA).
- Professional Accountancy (Diploma)
- MiNDS Neuroscience.
- Global Health 702 - Global Health Foundations (Course)
- Masters of Health Management
- Interdisciplinary Studies – some courses crossing with the Faculty of Health Sciences may not be available.

### **MBA**

Not permitted to take undergraduate courses in the School of Business. Not permitted to take courses with the following codes: I600 level, 650 level, HSM C700, T level, D700.

### **Transcripts/Grades**

Students can view their grades in their Mosaic Student Centre. Information on the McMaster [grading scale](#) for undergraduate and graduate students can be found on the Office of the Registrar.

Unofficial transcripts are available for download by students at any time via their Mosaic Student Centre. Official transcripts can also be requested via Mosaic at any time from the Office of the Registrar. There is no cost for the printing of official transcripts, assuming standard processing time.

McMaster University will automatically send 1 official, hardcopy transcript to the student's home international office upon completion of the exchange program. Transcripts will be mailed in late January/May at the conclusion of the exchange period.

More information on requesting transcript requests can found [here](#).

## Health & Wellness

### **University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)**

Ontario's University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP) is **mandatory** for all international and exchange students studying in Ontario. The UHIP fee will be automatically charged to the students' account.

UHIP is a comprehensive plan appropriate for coverage in the Province of Ontario only. Students traveling outside of Ontario or Canada must purchase supplemental health insurance.

For more details visit [www.uhip.ca](http://www.uhip.ca) or <https://iss.mcmaster.ca/studentlife/healthcare/>

#### **Not covered under UHIP:**

- Prescription Medication
- Dental Care
- Vision Care

### **McMaster Students Union (MSU) Health & Dental Plan**

The MSU Health and Dental plan is **not available** to incoming exchange students.

### **Student Accessibility & Wellness**

Students who may require additional services or accommodations during their exchange with McMaster should notify McMaster as soon as possible to confirm availability.

The below websites will provide students and counsellors with further information on services available at McMaster.

Student Wellness Centre: <http://wellness.mcmaster.ca/>

Student Accessibility Services: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>

Students with disabilities requesting on-campus accommodation should answer "Yes" to requiring [residence accommodation](#) and complete the required sections.

## Canadian Immigration

### **Canadian Immigration**

Students should visit Citizenship and Immigration Canada upon receiving their acceptance letter from McMaster University to understand the immigration requirements for their visit. As processing times vary, students should apply as soon as possible.

More information can be found at the links below:

Canadian Immigration & Citizenship Canada - <http://www.cic.gc.ca>

International Student Services - <https://iss.mcmaster.ca/immigration/study-permits/>

## Living in Hamilton

### Accommodation

The availability of off-campus housing in the Fall (September) term can be very limited, most difficult for single semester exchange students. We encourage partners to nominate their semester students for the Spring (January) term when possible and encourage students to apply for the on-campus room lottery.

It is easier to find 4 month accommodation (both on/off campus) in the January-April term.

### ON-CAMPUS

[housing.mcmaster.ca/future-residents/](https://housing.mcmaster.ca/future-residents/)

If the number of applications exceeds the number of available rooms, a lottery system will determine the final offer. Unfortunately, we are unable to guarantee on-campus housing for exchange students.

#### Important Notes:

- Meal plans are mandatory.
- Residence accommodation is only available to Undergraduate students
- Residences typically host first year students.
- McMaster facilities close over the Christmas holiday break, but some residences remain open for students who apply to stay over the holidays. More information on "[December Stay](#)" can be found on the housing website and is requested as part of the residence application.
- An admin charge of \$300 Canadian is applied to semester students staying Sept-Dec only.

Students with disabilities should answer "Yes" to requiring residence accommodation and complete the required sections which includes an explanation of the student's situation and documentation from an attesting professional.

Deadline to apply is early June each year.

### OFF-CAMPUS

[housing.mcmaster.ca/living-off-campus/](https://housing.mcmaster.ca/living-off-campus/)

McMaster is located close to many affordable housing options suitable for incoming exchange students. Off-campus housing provides students with the ability to live in close proximity to campus while experiencing shared living with other Canadian students. Through McMaster's Off-Campus Resource Centre, exchange students can browse through rental listings for shared housing in the nearby Community of Westdale and surrounding area.

### Cost of Living

The following is an estimate

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(in Canadian dollars - CAD)

**1 Term (4 months)**

<b>Accommodation (shared)</b>	On campus	\$ 3,200 – \$ 4,000
	Off campus	\$ 2,200 – \$ 3,000
<b>Food</b>	On campus	\$ 2,000– \$ 3,000
	Off campus	\$ 1,400– \$ 1,600
<b>Public Transport (HSR – Hamilton Street Railway)</b>		HSR is free for exchange students (Except MBA)
<b>University Health Insurance Plan (UHIP)</b>		\$ 212
<b>Personal Expenses</b>		\$1,000
<b>Textbooks</b>		\$300

### Helpful Websites

International Student Services: <https://iss.mcmaster.ca/>  
Student Wellness Centre: <http://wellness.mcmaster.ca/>  
Student Accessibility Services: <http://sas.mcmaster.ca/>  
Athletics and Recreation: <https://rec.mcmaster.ca/>  
Libraries: <http://library.mcmaster.ca>  
Student Accounts & Cashiers: <https://student-accounts.mcmaster.ca/>  
Clubs and Organizations: <https://www.msumcmaster.ca/clubs>  
Office of the Registrar: <https://registrar.mcmaster.ca/>  
Class Search: <https://registrar.mcmaster.ca/build-degree/class-search/>  
HSR Transit: <https://www.hamilton.ca/hsr-bus-schedules-fares>