# Information for Students on Exchange

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>A. University</strong></th>
<th>École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>B. Country</strong></td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## C. Academics

### i) Course Mapping & Credits Transfer

Please ensure that your Study Plan is approved by the academics at your home faculty before the exchange.

Courses approved in the past might not be offered by the host university or approved by your faculty when it is time for your exchange. Please check the latest course offerings at the host university while you are preparing your Study Plan.

### ii) Academic Calendar

- **Semester 1**: September to December (excluding examinations)
- **Semester 2**: February to June (excluding examinations)


### iii) Exchange Duration

One semester

For more student exchange information, please refer to:

### iv) Examination

Students are expected to attend the mandatory examination at the host university.

Exams for the fall semester are from mid-January until the beginning of February. Exams for the spring semester take place from mid-June until the beginning of July.

### v) Curriculum Structure

Students can expect to take courses totalling to 20 – 30 ECTS per semester, from different faculties (except in Management of Technology and Financial Engineering).

EPFL is strong in Mathematics and Aerospace. It is recommended that students go in semester 2 which does not overlap with NUS’ calendar.

For more course information, please refer to:
### vi) Entry Requirements

- (a) Registered as a full-time undergraduate student of NUS
- (b) Have successfully completed at least two (2) semesters of study at NUS upon admission to the host university;
- (c) not eligible for exchange in the graduating year
- (d) a student of good standing at NUS with
  - a. a minimum upper division second class honours or;
  - b. a minimum B average grade or;
  - c. a GPA of at least 3.0 (out of 5) for NUS students

### vii) Language Proficiency Requirements

It is recommended to have a good command of French (level B2) and/or English (level B1). Bachelor courses are mainly taught in French and Master courses are mainly taught in English. Although no language certificate is required for an exchange at EPFL, basic knowledge is very useful for practical life in Lausanne.

A French course is organised for exchange students before and during term time. For more information on courses and registration refer to [https://www.epfl.ch/campus/services/internal-trainings/language-centre/languages/all-modules-in-french/](https://www.epfl.ch/campus/services/internal-trainings/language-centre/languages/all-modules-in-french/) and the Language Centre.

### viii) Faculties & Schools accepting exchange students

- School of Architecture, Civil and Environment Engineering (students are not allowed to take Architecture courses)
- School of Computer and Communication Sciences
- School of Sciences
- School of Engineering Sciences and Techniques
- School of Life Sciences
- College of Humanities (only 1 course – students would have to take a majority of their courses from other schools)
- College of Management of Technology

**Courses available in English (Bachelor):**

**Courses available in English (Masters):**

### ix) Course restrictions and pre-requisites

The courses and projects listed [here](https://www.epfl.ch/education/international/en/coming-to-epfl/semester-courses/studies/english-bachelor-courses/) are not accessible to exchange students. Exchange students can take courses on the Master level, but they have to meet the pre-requisites. Incoming Bachelor students are advised to take courses starting with 2xxx or 3xxx.
### D. Application

**i) Procedures**

Students may apply for SEP one year in advance through their home faculty in NUS between September and June. Please look out for your faculty’s announcement regarding the application period.

Once you have been selected by your home faculty for SEP, your faculty will contact you and provide information regarding application with your host university. Please prepare the necessary documents before the start of the application period at your host university.

**ii) Deadlines**

All NUS students must abide by the internal application deadline set by their home faculty for exchange participation in the following academic year. After clearing the internal application and selection process, students have to take note of the application deadline set by the host university.

Failure to submit a formal application to the host university will result one’s exchange being forfeited even if he or she has been selected by NUS for the exchange.

### E. Accommodations

**i) University Accommodation**

Accommodation is not guaranteed for NUS students.

For more information about accommodation, please refer to [https://www.epfl.ch/campus/services/housing/en/](https://www.epfl.ch/campus/services/housing/en/).

### F. Visa

**Consular/Visa Regulation**

If you need a visa, the visa application must be submitted at least 3 months prior to the start of your study curriculum by means of the appropriate visa application form.

All students are advised to apply for the necessary visa immediately after they received the official offer letter/email from their host university.

Foreign nationals who are not EU/EFTA citizens and who do not require a visa should consult the Swiss embassy or consulate in their country for the current entry and residence requirements and formalities.

For more information on visa applications, please refer to:

### G. Safety, Health & Medical Insurance

**i) Health/Medical Insurance**

All registered NUS students are covered under the university health insurance and the blanket travel insurance. For more information on the university health insurance coverage, please refer to [http://www.nus.edu.sg/uhc/general-health/billing-insurance/insurance-matters](http://www.nus.edu.sg/uhc/general-health/billing-insurance/insurance-matters).

For more information on the blanket travel insurance, please refer to [https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/](https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/).

Health and accident insurance is compulsory in Switzerland and all foreign students must have insurance approved by the Swiss authorities and keep up to date with the payments.

For more information on health and insurance, please refer to [https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/epfl-studies/insurance/](https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/epfl-studies/insurance/).

**ii) Emergency Number at host university**

- **Safety, Prevention and Health:** +41 21 693 3000
- **Advice and Support:** +41 21 693 1222
- **Student Services:** +41 21 693 43 45

### H. Cost of Living

**i) Estimated Monthly Living Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Breakdown of Costs</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>CHF 750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>CHF 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>CHF 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>CHF 90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (Entertainment, clothes)</td>
<td>CHF 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monthly Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>CHF 2,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more details, please refer to: [https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/financing-study/cost-of-living/](https://www.epfl.ch/education/studies/en/financing-study/cost-of-living/)

### I. Useful reference

- **Guide for Exchange Students**

Last updated: August 2023

Note: All information is subjected to change.