## Information for Students

**A. University**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boston University</th>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.bu.edu">http://www.bu.edu</a></td>
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**B. Location**

| Boston, Massachusetts, USA |

**C. Academics**

- **i) Module Mapping & Credits Transfer**

  Please ensure your Study Plan is approved by the academics at your home School or Faculty before the exchange.

  Modules approved in the past may not be offered by the host university or approved by your Faculty when it is time for your SEP. Please check the latest course offerings at the host university while you develop your Study Plan.

- **ii) Academic Calendar**

  **Semester 1 (Fall):** September* to December  
  **Semester 2 (Spring):** January to May

  [https://www.bu.edu/reg/calendars/](https://www.bu.edu/reg/calendars/)

  *Please note: Students should arrive in time to attend BU Orientation (late-Aug for Sem 1 and mid-Jan for Sem 2). On-campus residences will open in time for students to move in and attend the orientation.*

- **iii) Exchange Duration**

  | One semester |

- **iv) Examination**

  Students should check the exam timetable at their host university, and ensure they can stay at their host university until after the end of the official exam period.

- **v) Curriculum Structure**

  Most classes at BU are worth 4 credits each. Your home school or faculty Dean’s Office will be able to explain to you how these 4 BU credits convert to NUS credit system.

  As an exchange student, you must maintain full-time status at BU, which means that you must register for at least 12 credits per semester. You cannot register for more than 18 credits. For most students, this means that you will take 3 or 4 academic classes per semester.

- **vi) Entry Requirements**

  | CAP of 3.5 out of 5.0 with no grade below C |

- **vii) Language Proficiency Requirements**

  | English |
Please note: Boston University requires English Language Proficiency documentation from Non-Singaporean students applying for exchange to BU from NUS.

Forms of Documentation accepted:

- TOEFL or IELTS (OR)
- Copies of standardized exam results that were submitted as
  - part of the applicants admission to NUS (OR)
- A written statement from a NUS instructor of English attesting to
  - the students ability to perform and thrive in an English speaking university level education environment.
  - Proof of English Language proficiency is subject to change at any time.

Exchange students primarily enrol in classes within Boston University’s College of Arts and Sciences, College of Engineering, and College of Communication.

As an international exchange student at BU, you will be registered as a full-time non-degree student. Your status as a non-degree student means that you are not assigned to one particular BU school or college. You can select your courses from most of the schools and colleges at Boston University and are not required to take all of your classes within the same school.

Available BU courses and the course descriptions can be found online. Make sure you select the correct semester for your search. Not all courses are offered in every semester. You should use the course descriptions in order to get courses approved by your home school or faculty Dean’s Office.

Exchange is open only to NUS students from the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences (FASS), Faculty of Engineering (FoE) and Faculty of Science (FoS) and School of Computing (SoC).

Exchange students may not enrol in courses offered at the BU Medical School, School of Dental Medicine, Law School, Graduate School of Management, and Kilachand Honors College.

For more information on academic matters, please refer to the following link: http://www.bu.edu/abroad/plan/academics/

All NUS students have to be nominated by NUS before they can apply for a fee-waiver exchange at the host university.
The application procedures and list of supporting documents needed by the host university can be found in the SharePoint. Please look for the SEP coordinator at your Dean’s Office for the link to the SharePoint.

### 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 by the stipulated deadline, may result in your exchange being forfeited even if you have been selected by NUS for the exchange.

### E. Accommodation

#### i) University Accommodation

Upon acceptance exchange students will receive a brochure outlining Boston University on-campus housing options and costs. Residence rates are assessed based on the type of room or apartment to which a student is assigned. In dormitory-style residences, there are seven different room types—single, double, triple, and quad rooms that have either shared bathrooms on a floor or private bathrooms within a room or suite. In apartment-style residences, there are five different types of accommodations—single- or multiple-occupancy bedroom apartments, all with bathrooms and kitchens.

Dining plan rates vary depending on the dining plan selected. Students assigned to dormitory-style residences are required to choose one of the six dining plans. Visit the [BU Housing website](https://housing.bu.edu/) for more information on on-campus housing options.

**Note:** Exchange student may choose to live off-campus; if you choose to live off campus you are responsible for finding your own housing.

### F. Visa

#### Consular/Visa Regulation

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

Some visa application processes can take up to 2 months to process. Your exchange at the host university depends on the clearance by the immigration of the host country.

If you are traveling on a passport issued by a country other than the USA, you should check with the nearest consulate of the country to which you are traveling or transferring through on a connecting flight in order to determine whether a visa will be required. Do this as far in advance as possible and notify our office of the documentation you will need to apply for your visa. Also check with the local consulate of your home country to determine whether there are any passport or travel regulations of which you need to be aware. Investigate whether you will need to apply for a new
Global Relations Office

visa to re-enter the United States, if you plan to do so upon completion of the program.

The Boston University Office of International Students and Scholars (ISSO) administers visa documentation. International students who are accepted to a BU exchange program must obtain a J-1 visa. Upon acceptance, the ISSO will issue each exchange student a SEVIS Form DS-2019. Students must bring the form to the nearest American Embassy/Consulate in their country to obtain a visa.

For more information on J-1 visas, please consult the ISSO Immigration web pages which contain specific information about the J-1 visa process.

Detailed instructions for the visa application will be included in the packet sent to the home university along with the necessary Form DS-2019 and official acceptance letter.

The same instructions can be found here: [http://www.bu.edu/isko/travel-visas/apply-for-a-visa/](http://www.bu.edu/isko/travel-visas/apply-for-a-visa/)

### 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 blanket travel insurance, please refer to the following link: [https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/](https://myportal.nus.edu.sg/studentportal/student-insurance/all/)

Students are strongly encouraged to purchase a supplemental travel insurance to ensure they are adequately covered during their exchange semester.

In addition, students will be required to enrol in the compulsory health insurance policy or scheme at their SEP host university.

*For BU, please note all exchange students are required to purchase Boston University Student Health Insurance. This is a reflection of Massachusetts State Law and exceptions are rare. Please see the Finances section of: [http://www.bu.edu/abroad/plan/health-and-safety/](http://www.bu.edu/abroad/plan/health-and-safety/). For reference, the cost was around USD $1,080 per semester (2020-2021) for basic coverage.*

#### ii) Emergency Number at host university

Boston University Police

+1 617 353 2121 (emergencies only)

For emergency contact information, please refer to the following link: [http://www.bu.edu/safety/network/](http://www.bu.edu/safety/network/)
### H. Cost of Living

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Information on the cost of living and attendance at Boston University can be found via: <a href="http://www.bu.edu/abroad/plan/financial-aid/">http://www.bu.edu/abroad/plan/financial-aid/</a> (Budgeting Tab)</th>
<th>Exchange students can deduct the cost of tuition which they will not need to pay to BU.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i) Estimated Monthly Living Expenses</td>
<td>Information correct as of July 2021. Please refer to the various BU links for the most up-to-date information.</td>
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