

Student Exchange - What does it mean and how to apply?

Tel Aviv University has bilateral agreements with about [200 institutions and Universities](#) in 40 countries around the world

These agreements allow students from Tel Aviv University to study a semester abroad. The Student Exchange Program is designed for those enrolled as students in regular undergraduate and graduate programs at Tel Aviv University. Students pay tuition to Tel Aviv University and are exempt from tuition payments at the host university. Students in graduate programs can go on an exchange program during the third or fourth semester of studies.

Basic requirements for participating in an exchange

- Registration and tuition payment at Tel Aviv University
- An average grade of 82 or above on courses completed
- Some universities require an international English Proficiency requirement (either TOEFL or IELTS).
- At the time of the exchange the student still needs credits in order to fulfill course requirements, and will take courses abroad to complete the program requirements. Alternatively, the students should show the relevance of the semester abroad for the thesis research.
- Participation in the program **is subject to approval of the head of the program.**

What is the cost?

There are two broad programs of student exchange:

(1) Programs based on general agreements with other universities that do not provide scholarships

Academic agreements allow students from Tel Aviv University to study at partner universities abroad, while tuition is paid to Tel Aviv University and not the hosting university.

In general, any payment beyond the tuition costs is the responsibility of the student. The student going on the exchange should make sure s/he resources to cover living expenses and all other expenses overseas. Universities may charge additional fees for learning materials, student unions, and so on.

Health insurance is mandatory for every student that goes out of Israel as an exchange student! Tel Aviv University has no obligation - financial, insurance, medical or otherwise - for the students studying abroad.

(2) The ERASMUS+ program of the European Union

Under this program, calls for applications are published from time to time for a semester abroad at various universities in Europe. In addition to exemption from tuition, students who are selected for the program also receive a modest stipend.

How to apply for the exchange?

Students interested in the program who meet all the preconditions above, can search for a university that matches their interests from a list of [relevant institutions and universities](#). Tel Aviv University is in touch with many universities and students who wish to study abroad must research the conditions of the university to which they want to apply, before submitting the application. For this purpose students may want to directly contact the target University or consult with members of their study program about the university that may suit them. [The Office of International Academic Affairs](#) at Tel Aviv University is not authorized to provide academic advice and is not responsible for the information or conditions on the host university website.

In general, a student is expected to apply for an exchange at one university. Note that acceptance to the university of choice is not guaranteed. In case your chosen university refuses to accept incoming students, it will be possible to apply for a different university.

After deciding on an institution, the student should send by mail (outexchang@tauex.tau.ac.il) a request to the Office of International Academic Affairs. The application should contain a short essay in English in which the student introduces her/himself; list the field of study; the institution selected for exchange, and explanation of the choice made. The essay should also note in which semester the student would like to study abroad. Approval of the head of your program should be attached. Upon receiving the student's application, the Office of international Academic Affairs will send a query to the host university to ascertain willingness and ability to accept students from Tel Aviv for the relevant semester. **This Email is the first stage of process therefore is mandatory.**

After the host university sends an approval in principle to accept you as a candidate, the student will need to prepare the following documents (they must be submitted to the Office of International Academic Affairs **at least 30 days before the deadline for submission to the host university** :

- Application form ([הגשת מועמדות לחילופי סטודנטים](#))
- Registration confirmation (student card) at Tel Aviv University
- CV in English
- Transcript printed in English (showing an average of 82 or above)
- Recommendation from a faculty member or other qualified academic entity in the department.
- Letter of motivations for studying abroad (in English, half page to page)
- [Approval of the head of the program department](#) in which you are enrolled to study abroad and courses selected. It should be noted approval of these courses are recognized by the department as part of the degree requirements.
Form: Department approval to study abroad
- A [form](#) in which the student states that if her/his candidacy is approved, s/he will register and pay fees to Tel Aviv University (it should be informed that this is an exchange listing and not a cessation of studies) and will meet with all the requirements arising from his trip upon his return.
- All forms and documents required by the host university*

After reviewing the documents handed in by the student, s/he will be invited for an interview with the head of the Office of International Academic Affairs.

If the student is approved by Tel Aviv University and accepted by the university abroad, s/he is entitled to travel. Upon receiving a grade sheet (transcript) for the studies completed abroad the study abroad will be counted as credits for the student's program requirements (if the courses were approved in advance by the head of the study program). Note that the hours are calculated as course credit points system which is translated according to the student's department.

Dates for submission of applications

A student who wishes to leave on an exchange according to the above conditions need to start the application process about four months before the date of the closing of registration, so that one month before that date most of the possessions of all the necessary documents will be ready.

Note: If a student leaves for one semester, during which s/he seeks to stay an extra semester, approval of the host University and the Office of International Academic

Affairs is required. The additional semester will not be recognized unless approved in advance.

Keep in Mind

It is not advisable to make flight reservations or other commitments prior to receiving an official letter of acceptance from the host university.

Please keep in mind that you are exchange students from Tel Aviv University. We expect you to conduct yourself in a respectable and ethical manner throughout your stay abroad.

GOOD LUCK!