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### HISTORY

Princeton University is a private, Ivy League research university in Princeton, New Jersey, United States. Founded in 1746 in Elizabeth as the College of New Jersey, Princeton is the fourth-oldest institution of higher education in the United States and one of the nine colonial colleges chartered before the American Revolution. The institution moved to Newark in 1747, then to the current site nine years later, where it was renamed Princeton University in 1896.

### LOCATION

The campus is located on 500 acres in the heart of New Jersey. Visitors set aside time to explore the region, which includes numerous shops and restaurants, art exhibitions and events, and many parks and historical sites. Princeton is roughly equidistant from New York City and Philadelphia. NJ TRANSIT trains passing through Princeton Junction provide direct service to New York City and Newark Liberty International Airport. Students can also take the train at Trenton, which provides service to Philadelphia. Amtrak trains also connect to Washington, D.C., Boston, and the greater region.

### EXCHANGE PARTNERS

Princeton University has established exchange agreements with the below institutions that allow students from these schools to attend Princeton for study/research programs. Please note: Princeton does NOT accept short-term visiting students except those from recognized exchange partners.

<b>Bocconi University</b> Milan, Italy	<b>Tsinghua University</b> Beijing, China	<b>University of Cantabria</b> Santander, Spain
<b>Institut d'Études Politiques</b> Paris, France	<b>University of Oxford</b> Engineering Oxford, England	<b>University of Tokyo</b> Tokyo, Japan
<b>University of Hong Kong</b> School of Engineering Hong Kong, China	<b>ETH Zurich</b> Zurich, Switzerland	<b>National University of Singapore</b> Singapore

Students arriving on the exchange are fully integrated into university life and have full access to all the services that Princeton offers. Academically, students will be assigned to a primary department based on their academic interests (for Engineering students, normally students should plan to take at least 50% of their courses in the School of Engineering). However, pending adviser approval, students can oftentimes take any additional courses for which they have the necessary academic preparation or background.

**ACADEMIC CALENDAR** The full calendar for Princeton University can be found [here](#). Please be aware **exchange students will be required to arrive on a day the week prior to the start of classes, to be determined by OIP**. Students arriving earlier than required will need to make alternative housing arrangements until the official start date of the program. Students may not arrive later than the official start date except in certain emergency circumstances.

### ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Undergraduate students at Princeton normally take **4 courses** across a range of disciplines and exchange students will be required to take a full course load unless alternative requirements are agreed upon with the sending institution. Engineering students should take at least 50% Engineering courses; for other departments outside of Engineering, it is a bit more flexible, but it is still strongly recommended that at least half of the courses be within the host department at Princeton. For specific course offerings in all departments, please consult [Princeton University Course offerings database](#). For the full list of areas of study, please see [here](#).

### ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

As a general rule, **class attendance** is mandatory, and a portion of a student's final grade often comes from class participation. **Exams** must be taken during official examination sessions and may only be taken at Princeton, unless a student can demonstrate compelling academic reasons for an exception. The exam format may vary and might also include take-home assignments and projects. Since each course may be different, we suggest that students carefully read the final detailed syllabus of the course, usually made available at the beginning of the semester, and always discuss those details with the instructor. **Grading** is normally based on a variety of different things. In some courses, the final grade might be the result of different elements such as group work, assignments, essays and class participation. Students should always clarify with the instructor the exam rules, as well as the weight of class discussions and assignments (e.g., group work) on the final grade. Students will need to request **transcripts** directly from the [Registrar's Office](#) at the end of the semester to be sent to their home university.

### HOUSING & DINING

Princeton on-campus housing consists of [Residential Colleges](#) and upper-classmen housing. Students will indicate a housing preference in their application, but please know that housing is tight on campus, and, therefore, a student's first choice is not guaranteed. If students are placed in upperclassmen housing, students will be affiliated with a Residential college and will be fully included in the college's advising system and of all the college activities. The dining plan options can be found on the [Campus Dining website](#).

The residential college system provides students not simply with housing and dining options, but also advising and other resources to assist them in taking advantage of all that Princeton has to offer. The goal of the colleges is to "create a strong sense of community, collaboration and mutual respect, and to support individual initiative and personal growth."

### STUDENT LIFE

Exchange students have the same access to libraries, computing facilities, and health services as do regularly enrolled students. The campus hosts numerous student events and guest speakers, from the world famous to more esoteric experts, which are open to exchange students. In addition, residential colleges hold regular student events and activities that exchange students will be invited to attend. There are many [student clubs](#) to join: special interest groups, cultural/religious groups, pre-professional groups, performing arts groups, and sports clubs. In short, no matter your interests, you will likely find a group where you share those interests with fellow Princeton students.

### EXPENSES

Exchange students normally pay tuition to their home institutions (with the exception of students coming from the University of Hong Kong, who pay Princeton tuition). Students should also budget for expenses associated with their on-campus room, meals, books, travel, and other personal expenses.

**Estimated costs per semester:**

- **Tuition:** \$29,855 (only for students from HKU; all other students pay home school's tuition)
- **Housing:** \$5,700
- **Meals:** The smallest dining plan (Block 105) is \$1,547 for the semester. This will allow 105 meals per semester plus an additional 30 free meals. The Unlimited Plan is unlimited entry to the dining halls and costs \$3990 for the semester.
- **Health insurance:** \$1575 per semester if you opt for the Princeton Student Health Plan. *Please note: this is a very comprehensive plan. As such, students opting for other plans should be choosing a comparable one.*
- **International airfare:** depending on where you come from, it could be anywhere from \$1000 - \$2000.
- **Books and Personal Expenses:** \$2,025

### TIMELINE (APPROX.)

	Fall 2023/Academic Year 23-24	Spring 2024
<b>Exchange nomination deadline</b>	April 1	September 1
<b>Students may apply</b>	As soon as notified by OIP	As soon as notified by OIP
<b>Princeton online application due</b>	April 15	September 15
<b>Acceptance decisions</b>	May 1	October 15
<b>Mandatory orientation</b>	TBD	TBD
<b>Course registration</b>	Upon arrival	TBD
<b>Classes start</b>	September 5	January 29
<b>Add/drop period</b>	2 weeks after start of classes	2 weeks after start of classes
<b>Midterms</b>	Mid October	March 4 – 8
<b>Classes end</b>	December 7	April 26
<b>Reading period</b>	December 8-15	April 29 – May 7
<b>Exams</b>	December 16-22	May 10 - 16

### APPLICATION PROCESS

First, you must apply through your home institution and be nominated to participate in the exchange. Next, after being contacted by Princeton's exchange manager, apply through Princeton's online [Global Programs System](#) (GPS) by clicking "**Apply Now**" at the top of this page. Scans of all required documents are accepted. Specific instructions can be found in the application, but you will need to include:

- Home School Nomination
- Academic Information (for all) & Research Background (if applicable)
- Billing/Emergency Contact Information
- Exchange Program Essay Questions
- Résumé /CV
- Official Home School Transcript
- Faculty Recommendation
- Proof of English language ability (if relevant)\*\*

**\*\*English language ability:** A minimum score of 100 on the internet-based TOEFL, or a 7 on the IELTS, is required for students from Bocconi, Institut d'Études Politiques, Tsinghua University, University of Cantabria, and the University of Tokyo. These scores will be required at the time of nomination. Exceptions may be made for native English speakers. Your home school may require additional documents, so consult with them before applying.

*Complete student applications are due to Princeton by **September 15 for spring semester or by April 15 for fall semester or full academic year.** However, individual institutions will have their own nomination/application deadlines so please consult with them about internal deadlines and requirements.*