

San Diego State University Fall 2020/Spring 2021 Exchange Information



General information about San Diego State University: <http://www.sdsu.edu>
 Information about the International Student Center: <http://www.isc.sdsu.edu>

General contact information

San Diego State University
 International Student Center
 5500 Campanile Drive
 San Diego, CA 92182-5101
 Tel: (619) 594-1982
 Fax: (619) 594-1973

Emergency contacts (after business hours)

On-campus Emergencies: (619) 594-1991
 Off-campus Emergencies: dial 9-1-1

FOR ANY INQUIRIES ABOUT YOUR PROGRAM OR SDSU LIFE PLEASE CONTACT:

Tel: (619) 594-1982
 E-mail: exchange@sdsu.edu

Academic Calendar

Fall 2020	Spring 2021
<p><u>Mandatory</u> Exchange Student Orientation: To be determined – during the week before the first day of classes</p> <p>First day of classes: August 24, 2020</p> <p>Labor Day (campus closed): September 7, 2020</p> <p>Veterans Day Observed (campus closed): November 11, 2020</p> <p>Thanksgiving Break (campus closed): November 26 – November 27, 2020</p> <p>Last day of classes: December 10, 2020</p> <p>Final Examinations: December 11-17, 2020</p> <p>Winter Break (campus closed): December 23-28, 2020</p> <p>Last day of the Semester: December 31, 2020</p>	<p><u>Mandatory</u> Exchange Student Orientation: To be determined – during the week before the first day of classes</p> <p>First day of classes: January 20, 2021</p> <p>Spring Break: March 29 – April 2, 2021</p> <p>Cesar Chavez Day Observed (campus closed): March 31, 2021</p> <p>Last day of classes: May 6, 2021</p> <p>Final Examinations: May 7 – May 13, 2021</p> <p>Last day of the Semester: May 21, 2021</p>



APPLICATION

A COMPLETED APPLICATION CONSISTS OF:

- Coordinator’s official nomination through our link. (provided to you via email.)
- Personal Profile
- Educational History
- A list of 5-7 SDSU courses that have been evaluated by student and home institution academic advisor.
- Financial Statement Form
- Copy of Passport
- Satisfactory TOEFL, IELTS, or Pearson score
- Transcripts (i.e., marks) of ALL university coursework completed and in progress in the original language and in English translation

Graduate students also need to submit:

- Transcripts of **ALL** university level coursework, undergraduate and graduate level in the original language and in English translation
- Copy of diploma
- One recommendation letter from a faculty member
- 500-word essay addressing how study at SDSU will further their academic goals.

****Please note:** Graduate applications take additional time to process as they are reviewed by the academic department.*

****Before starting application process, please confirm with us that graduate program is open to exchange students.**

Applications must be submitted by coordinator through mail and sent to:

Karina Araiza
International Student Center
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-5101
USA

DEADLINES:

*Applications can be submitted as early as January 15 for Fall, or August 1st for Spring, however **are not reviewed until they are complete.** Exchange applications and supporting documents should be received by the SDSU Exchange Coordinator no later than:*

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March 1, 2020 for Fall semester

September 15, 2020 for Spring semester

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS:

The TOEFL or IELTS is required of all applicants who have not attended secondary or post-secondary institutions where English is the language of instruction (not EFL or ESL classes) for a period of at least three years of fulltime study.

Required scores:

- Paper-based TOEFL: 550 or higher (institutional TOEFL is also accepted)
- Internet-based TOEFL: 80 or higher
- IELTS (academic version): 6.5 or higher

Prerequisites

Prerequisites are lower level coursework that must be fulfilled before a student can enroll in a higher level course. Many upper division classes have “pre-requisite” requirements. Exchange students will need to demonstrate, via transcripts and course descriptions, that they have completed equivalent coursework that satisfies the SDSU pre-requisites. Master’s level courses are numbered between 600 and 799. *These classes are not open to undergraduates.* The General Catalog, Graduate Bulletin and Class Schedule all identify any prerequisites required for specific courses. Please check the notes in these documents carefully.

Selecting courses

Students should meet with faculty at their home institution to plan what courses to take while at SDSU to ensure that coursework completed here will transfer successfully on return. Undergraduates should refer to the [General Catalog](#) for a description of courses in their preferred field of study. Graduate students should refer to the [Graduate Bulletin](#).

Both undergraduates and graduates should refer to the [Class Schedule](#) for schedule information.

Impacted majors

"Impacted" means that student demand for classes exceeds what can be accommodated. If you want to study Business Administration (Accounting, Finance, Information Decision Systems, Management, Marketing,) Communications, Journalism; Television, Film, and New Media, or any of the other impacted programs listed on the web page above, enrolling in upper division classes in your major at SDSU will be challenging. **In light of this situation, exchange students may not enroll exclusively in classes in the impacted programs.**

Registering for classes

Once accepted to SDSU, students must create a **SDSU WebPortal** account. Students enroll for their classes through WebPortal. A registration date and time will be posted in their account. **To register for courses, students are given a priority registration time in April for the Fall semester and in November for the Spring semester and should register at the exact time and date assigned.**

In most cases, students will be able to enroll in courses requiring pre-requisites through their WebPortal accounts. They will receive a message advising them to take transcripts and descriptions of coursework completed to class to show the instructor they have satisfied the pre-requisites.



TRAVEL TO SAN DIEGO AND SDSU

Arriving in San Diego: Students should fly into San Diego International Airport (abbreviated SAN, local name is Lindbergh Field).

NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION

Exchange Students are required to arrive one day prior to the beginning of the International Student Orientation and attendance is **MANDATORY**. The orientation program provides information on housing, visa/immigration matters, health/safety, academics and registration, getting involved on campus, and campus tour.

TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATIONS

Resources can be found at **[Short-Term Housing/Hotels](#)**.

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

Students may apply for on-campus housing once they have been admitted to SDSU and issued a “Red ID” (student number). On-campus housing is **VERY limited**. You may add your name to an Interest List, however looking for off-campus options is highly recommended.

For more information, go to the [Office of Housing and Residence Education website](#).

None of the campus residences provide bedding or other linens (towels, etc.). Students should be prepared to provide their own, bring these items with them from home, or purchase them upon arrival.

Housing Administration has an official move-in date that is a few days after the Exchange Student Orientation Program. It is the students’ responsibility to submit an early arrival application to the Office of Housing Administration, for consideration of early arrival.

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Many students prefer to live in off-campus apartments or to rent a room in a private home. This is many times a more affordable option than living on-campus. More information about finding off-campus options will be sent to your email once admitted. You may start looking at off-campus resources [here](#).

ESTIMATED PERSONAL EXPENSES

Students are responsible for room and board (lodging and food), and all other personal expenses such as: fees that may be associated with specific classes (e.g. computer, language, science lab fees, and equipment rental fees for sports classes), health insurance, books, local transportation, entertainment, etc. Personal expenses can vary greatly depending on housing, and personal spending habits. SDSU has estimated that students spend approximately US\$ 9,650 for 1 semester (4.5 months). This includes costs for Food, Housing, Books/Supplies, Health Insurance and Personal Expenses.

Health Insurance

Exchange students are **REQUIRED** to purchase the Health Insurance policy offered through the International Student Center - [JCB Insurance Solutions](#).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



How many classes does a student take per term? Undergraduate exchange students typically take 4-5 classes per semester. Graduate exchange students typically take 3-4 classes. Most classes are 3 units (credits) in value. 1 credit/unit = 15 hours of classroom instruction.

Be advised that immigration regulations require that undergraduate students take a minimum of **12 units** and that graduate students take a minimum of **9 units**. Exchange students cannot take more than 17 units because the workload is too heavy and it would not allow students to participate in student life.

What is the ratio of ECTS units to SDSU units?

SDSU has determined that the ratio of ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) units to SDSU (semester) units is 2 to 1 (for example, 6 ECTS units = 3 SDSU units). However, conversion of units to credits is up to the discretion of exchange students' home institution.

How many hours per week does the typical student spend in the classroom?

Four classes of three units/credits will total 12 hours of class time, five classes of 3 units/credits total 15 hours of class per week.

How many weeks are there in a term?

15 weeks per semester (Fall or Spring), plus one week for final exams.