

International Exchange and Study Abroad Information Sheet 2025/2026

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[Information for Incoming students](#)

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[Information for Outgoing students](#)



Nomination and Application Information

Nomination

Partners should nominate their student via our [online form](#). Information required includes student name, email address, degree/major, current level of study, and the time period they will be applying for.

Application

Nominated students should complete our [online application](#), uploading the following supporting documents:

- Official academic transcript in English
- Evidence of English Language proficiency (see Language Requirements)
- Photo/scan of a valid passport

If the passport is unavailable at time of application, it can be emailed to us later.

Deadlines

Term 1/Fall Term/Full Year (September entry)

- Nomination 15 April *Application 15 May*

Term 2/Spring Term/Calendar Year (January entry)

- Nomination 15 September *Application 15 October*

Entry Requirements

Academic Requirements

Nominated students should have a GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent. Applicants with a lower GPA may be considered on a case-by-case basis, with endorsement from the home university.

Language Requirements

Single-semester students

- Home institution to provide a signed [Statement of Language Level](#), confirming English is B2 or above on [CEFR scale](#)

Full-year students

- We accept a range of [official certificates](#) and [high school qualifications](#) to evidence English language level, issued within two years prior to planned commencement at University of Aberdeen.



Study Information

Language of teaching

English

Credits

- Standard full-time load is 60 credits (30 ECTS) per semester
- Approval is required for variations (min 46 to max 75 credits)
- Most courses at Levels 1 and 2 are worth 15 credits
- Most courses at Levels 3 and 4 are worth 30 credits

Course catalogue

Our [course catalogue](#) lists our available courses, grouped by subject discipline.

Course restrictions

- Students from a partner with which we have a subject-specific agreement must select at least 50% of their courses from the hosting School.
- Courses at Level 1 and 2 tend to be open to incoming students without prior study of the subject. Courses at Level 3 and 4 require evidence of prior study at the home university, as noted in the course catalogue.

Limited Availability

Some courses have a limited number of places. Students will be entered into an electronic lottery, along with Aberdeen degree students, to determine enrolment.

Moderately impacted

- Level 3 and 4 courses (particularly in subjects such as History, Law, Politics)
- Sixth Century courses

Highly impacted

- Level 3 English and Linguistics Courses
- Education Courses
- Field Courses – places are limited so students will only be able to enrol if the course is mandatory for their degree, space permitting

No Availability

- Level 5 courses
- Level 4 English and Linguistics courses
- Level 3 English Creative Writing courses
- Clinical Medicine & Dentistry courses
- Diploma in Legal Practice courses
- Dissertation, Project or Professional Practice courses (unless these are specifically listed as open to non-graduating students, eg HI304J/CM4032)
- JB, JC, QB, QC, QI and QL-coded courses

Grading

We use the [Common Grading Scale](#), a 22-point grading scale.

Support Services

We have a wide range of [support services](#), including support for disabled students.

Transcripts

At the end of the period of study, an academic transcript will be emailed to each student and copied to their home institution, where the home institution is a partner.



Academic Calendar

Academic Year

The academic year runs from mid-September until mid-May. It is divided into Term 1 (Fall Term) and Term 2 (Spring Term).

Arrival/Orientation

The arrival period runs from the Wednesday immediately prior to the start of term. The first week of term is Welcome Week, with a mandatory Orientation for incoming students on the Monday. During Welcome Week, students are also expected to meet with their Go Abroad Tutor (academic advisor), finalise their registration, attend social events for new students and acquaint themselves with campus/city.

Term Dates

Term 1: Monday 15 September to Friday 19 December 2025

Term 2: Monday 19 January to Friday 15 May 2026

[Full term dates information](#)

Practical Information

Accommodation

[University accommodation](#) is guaranteed to all incoming students, provided they apply by the deadline. Students will be emailed information on how to apply and updated costs once they are accepted into the programme.

Most incoming students opt to live in Hillhead Student Village, which is self-catered accommodation. Catered options are available with the purchase of a weekly [Food & Drink Card](#).

Queries about accommodation must be sent directly to our accommodation team on studentaccomm@abdn.ac.uk

Cost of Living

[UK Visas & Immigration](#) indicate that, from 2 January 2025, those entering the UK on a student visa should have £1,136 for each month that they will spend in the United Kingdom. Although no official advice is given for standard visitor visa students, we suggest they budget the same – see [breakdown of estimated costs](#).

Insurance

The University of Aberdeen does not require students to purchase coverage through our institution.

Travel Insurance

- Students are encouraged to purchase travel insurance that will cover their personal belongings.

Health/Medical Insurance

- Depends on immigration status so is covered in Visas section.



Visas

Single-semester students

Students coming for one semester (six months or less) with a non-UK/non-Irish passport should enter the UK on a [Standard Visitor Visa](#). Students from [Electronic Travel Authorisation](#) countries are also required to apply for an ETA (see below for more information). The cost and process depend on where the student is applying/country of domicile and nationality.

- Students are not permitted to work in the UK while studying on these types of entry clearance and must leave the UK within six months of the date of arrival.
- Students can access some free medical services via the National Health Service (NHS) in Scotland. However, there is often a long wait for NHS treatment, sometimes several months. Purchasing a health/medical insurance policy which gives you access to private medical services could give you much quicker access to the treatment you need, and is therefore recommended.

Electronic Travel Authorisation

- An Electronic Travel Authorisation (ETA) has been introduced for [nationals of certain countries](#) who wish to come to the UK for up to 6 months for tourism, visiting family and friends, business or short-term study.
- You must apply for an ETA before you travel to the UK. The cost is £10.
- As an ETA only provides permission to travel to the UK, eligible individuals with an ETA must also subsequently obtain permission to enter the UK on arrival.

Standard Visitor Visa

- Students of a nationality which does not appear on the Visa National list (NB: use hyperlink as below bullet point) should seek entry clearance on a Standard Visitor Visa on arrival to the UK
- Students of a nationality which appear on the [Visa National list](#) should seek entry clearance by applying for the Standard Visitor Visa in advance of departure.

Full-year students

Students coming for longer than six months on a non-UK/non-Irish passport must apply for a [Student Visa](#). This visa has a strict application process.

- Students are generally allowed to work up to 20 hours per week on this type of visa.
- Those coming on a Student Visa to study in the UK must pay the [Immigration Health Surcharge](#) and associated additional costs when applying for a visa. Students can thereby access free medical services via the National Health Service (NHS). However, there is often a long wait for NHS treatment, sometimes several months. Purchasing a health/medical insurance policy which gives you access to private medical services could give you much quicker access to the treatment you need, and is therefore recommended.

UK/Irish Passport Holders

Students coming on a UK/Irish passport do not require a visa to study in the UK.

- Students who have a UK passport can access free medical services via the National Health Service (NHS). However, there is often a long wait for NHS treatment, sometimes several months. Purchasing a health/medical insurance policy which gives you access to private medical services could give you much quicker access to the treatment you need, and is therefore recommended.



Get inspired

Social Media Channels

Facebook

- [University of Aberdeen](#)

Instagram

- [University of Aberdeen](#)

- [Abroad at Aberdeen](#) (channel for incoming students)

LinkedIn

- [University of Aberdeen](#)

TikTok

- [University of Aberdeen](#)

YouTube

- [University of Aberdeen](#)

Our Location

Our Campus

- [Student Tour](#) - Simba

- [Student Tour](#) - Theo

Our Accommodation

- [Student Tour](#) - Rebecca

Our Local Area

- [Visit Aberdeen](#)

- [Visit Scotland](#)

