THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS EXCHANGE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

EXCHANGE STUDENT FACT SHEET 2026-2027

This fact sheet provides information for prospective graduate exchange students to help prepare them for a semester in Washington, D.C.

Global & Experiential Education Office

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY,
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

2201 G Street NW; Duquès Hall, Suite 550
Washington, D.C. 20052; United States of America
+1.202.994.6798 • sbintl@gwu.edu
http://business.gwu.edu/global

To contact for more information about exchanges please email sbintl@gwu.edu

Semester Dates

The academic year is divided into two semesters, which are outlined below. The duration of classes vary according to the course schedule. **All exchange students are required to participate in the three orientations that take place prior to the start of the semester.**

Fall Semester

17 August - 21 August 2026	International Student Orientations
24 August - 8 December 2026	Fall Semester
11 December - 17 December 2026	Final Examinations*

Spring Semester

4 January - 8 January 2027	International Student Orientations
11 January - 26 April 2027	Spring Semester
1 May - 7 May 2027	Final Examinations*

*Please note that final examinations may take place the last day of the exam period and cannot be adjusted or moved up due to departure flights. Students are strongly encouraged to make their flight arrangements with these dates in mind.

EXCHANGE PROGRAM EXPERIENCE
WHY CHOOSE GWSB?

Global Recognition:

The George Washington University School of Business is AACSB accredited and recognized for **scholarly research**, **teaching excellence**, and **innovative curricula**, focused on the **responsible management** of organizations in the global environment.

Rankings:

GWSB is ranked 1st in the US and 2nd worldwide by the Financial Times for International Business and the full-time MBA program is ranked in the top 50 nationwide in the Bloomberg Businessweek 2023 rankings.

Key Strengths:

Diverse Academic Offerings—We offer seven MBA programs and 14 specialized masters programs. Exchange students may enroll in graduate-level coursework in our MBA program and many of our Specialized Masters programs.

Location—We are located blocks from the White House, the State Department, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, as well as the headquarters and offices of thousands of national and multinational corporations, nonprofits, and nongovernmental organizations. For exchange students, it means an extraordinary opportunity to be involved in current international and national debates and to engage with prominent global leaders and business executives.

Global Focus—GWSB is renowned for our International Business Department. Our students come from across the globe to build their business acumen with 584 graduate international students representing 60 countries. Leveraging our global reach, we send over 200 graduate students abroad each year on academic programs.

Flexibility—Exchange students have the opportunity to take graduate-level courses across the School of Business and the entire university in areas such as: international affairs, economics, public policy, and political management.

Integration—Exchange students are paired with a student ambassador prior to their arrival, have access to specific programming, career center workshops, and may join any of GWSB's student organizations.

Application for Exchange

Eligibility for Exchange to GWSB

Prospective students are required:

- **To be officially registered students at one of our partner universities https://business.gwu.edu/academics/programs/international/study-abroad/long-term**
- **To be in good academic standing**
- **To be nominated by their home university**
- **To have advanced or fluent English language abilities**

  International applicants from countries in which English is not the official language must meet or exceed the exam scores as outlined below:

  - **TOEFL internet exam (iBT): 100**
  - **TOEFL administered paper exam: 600**
  - **Academic IELTS: Overall band score of 7.0, with no individual band score below 6.0**
  - **Pearson Test of English (PTE) Academic: 68**
  - **Duolingo Engilsh Test: 110 or higher**

  Official scores are considered valid up to two years from date of testing

  The TOEIC and the Institutional TOEFL are not accepted by the George Washington University.

Application Process:

Inbound exchange students spend one fall semester (August – December) or one spring semester (January – May) as non-degree students at GWSB. Exchange students do not earn a Masters degree from GW—they enroll in regular graduate-level classes.

Step 1:
Contact the Exchange Coordinator at your home university.

Step 2:
Approved students are nominated by the Exchange Coordinator to GWSB.

Step 3:
Complete GW's Inbound Exchange Student application through the online application portal, GW Passport.

Application Materials

- GWSB Exchange Student Application
  - Includes statement of purpose and resume/C.V.
- Application Verification (Electronic Signature Document)
- Official Academic Transcript
- Proof of English Language Competency (if applicable)
- Passport Biographical Information
- Proof of Funding
- Visa Request Form for International Applicants

Note: Greater details about these application documents are outlined in GW Passport, which is made accessible to students after their nomination is confirmed

Step 4: Upload application documents to GW Passport by the application deadline. GW upholds the right to request the original copy of any uploaded application material. *Please retain original copies of all application materials!*

Step 5: A GWSB administrator will contact you about the results of your application.

Exchange Deadlines:

Semester	Nomination Deadline	Application Deadline
Fall	March 15	April 1
Spring	September 15	October 1

Courses/Curricula

- The GWSB offers a wide variety of graduate-level business courses through its MBA and specialized master's degree programs
- Exchange students are eligible to take courses numbered 6000 or above in schools or departments throughout the George Washington University, except those in the School of Medicine and Health Sciences, the Law School, and certain courses with specific prerequisites or that are restricted to students seeking specific degrees
- All coursework should be approved by the home university to ensure compliance with the requirements of students' home degree program
- Exchange students typically take a full course load of 9-12 credits, but may take 13-15 credits if approved by their home institution
- Exchange students are required to enroll in at least 3 credits of coursework in the School of Business. The departments in the School of Business are found on our website: **business.gwu.edu/academics/departments**
- If admitted students have questions about courses, they should contact Global & Experiential Education at **sbintl@gwu.edu**

Visas

Upon acceptance as an international exchange student, GW will provide the appropriate documentation for students to apply for a student visa at their local U.S. Embassy or Consulate. The visa application process can be time-consuming. **It is essential that students send complete materials by the application deadline in order to not delay obtaining their visa**. Exchange students should allow ample time for visa processing by the U.S. Embassy in their home country.

Health

Health Insurance

Exchange students are **automatically enrolled** in the GW Student Health Insurance plan that meets University and J-1 exchange visa requirements. Students with a plan that meets the University and J-1 visa requirements are able to request to waive the GW Student Health Insurance plan. The online waiver must be completed prior to the established deadline, or students will be charged for the GW Student Health Insurance plan. Please visit the following sites for more information:

Student Health Center:
studenthealth.gwu.edu/student-health-insurance

International Services Office:
internationalservices.gwu.edu

Aetna Health Insurance:
www.aetnastudenthealth.com
(Search "The George Washington University")

Immunizations

Washington, D.C., requires that **all students under the age of 26** have a record on file with the Student Health Center (SHC) documenting vaccinations to Measles, Mumps, Rubella, Varicella, Hepatitis B and a current Tetanus/Diphtheria booster. The Meningococcal Vaccine or waiver is also required. Students will complete a mandatory health form to demonstrate their immunization history and should consult with their physician in a timely manner in order to submit the form by the **June 15th** deadline. Not beginning this process in a timely manner could result in delayed receipt of official transcripts.". Visit the SHC website for more information and the most current forms:
healthcenter.gwu.edu/immunizations

Location

One of the GWSB's advantages is its location in downtown Washington, D.C. The School of Business is located on GW's Foggy Bottom campus in Duquès Hall and Funger Hall at 2201 G Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20052. The Foggy Bottom campus is easily accessible by metro and bus.

Approximate Living Costs

The following is an estimated cost of living for an exchange student in Washington, D.C. for one semester and expressed in US$. Student expenses vary greatly based upon housing and lifestyle.

Housing, Meals, Transportation, Personal Expenses	$10,425
Health Insurance*	$1,166 - $1,833
Books & Supplies	$250
Total**	**$11,841 - $12,508**

Notes:
* Health insurance cost varies from the fall to the spring semester. Final cost will be communicated when students are nominated by host institution.
** Exchange students' costs do not include any tuition or fees to the George Washington University since they will pay their home university's tuition.

Accommodation

Exchange students must make their own housing arrangements. GW does NOT offer on-campus housing for graduate students, including exchange students. Students may consult the following resources for further information:

GW Off-Campus Housing:
offcampus.students.gwu.edu

The International Student House:
ishdc.org

Graduate Student Housing:
living.gwu.edu/graduate-students

Student Services

Each semester Global & Experiential Education organizes events specifically for GWSB exchange students. In previous years exchange students have visited the World Bank, the U.S. Capitol, and the International Monetary Fund. Students are matched with local GW student "ambassadors", to help them navigate student life at GW. These ambassadors are invited to attend all events with the exchange students.

Career Development

The F. David Fowler School of Business Career Center provides career advising services to all GWSB students, including exchange students. Recruiting events are restricted to GWSB degree-seeking students, however, exchange students may request assistance with resumes, interviews, and other advising services for preferred careers. Because of restrictions on foreign nationals working in the United States, international students are encouraged to first talk with the GW International Services Office about the employment guidelines for their particular visa type.

International Services Office (ISO)

In addition to hosting the International Student Orientation, the ISO serves as the primary administrative, programming, and advising office for the GW international community. International students in the GWSB consult with a specific advisor in the ISO during their stay.

Campus Life

There are always a host of activities going on in the George Washington University community. Students can visit **https://gwu.campuslabs.com/engage** for more information.