



# UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA EXCHANGE PROGRAMME INFORMATION SHEET 2026/2027



Updated 29 June 2026

# Vice-Chancellor's Welcome

It is my pleasure to welcome you to Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), an esteemed institution dedicated to nurturing future leaders and innovators. At USM, you will find not only a place to acquire knowledge but also an environment that fosters creativity, critical thinking, and innovation.

We are committed to providing a transformative educational experience that empowers you to contribute meaningfully to society.

With a strong foundation in academic excellence and a vibrant community, I am confident that your journey here will be both enriching and inspiring.

I wish you all the best in your endeavors and look forward to witnessing your success.

Thank you.

*Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed, FASc.  
Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Sains Malaysia*





At Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), we proudly welcome students from over 80 nationalities, creating a truly global academic environment. With enrollment numbers exceeding more than 34,000, USM offers a rich blend of cultures, perspectives, and experiences. Our multidisciplinary approach to education spans a wide range of fields-whether you're interested in science, engineering, social sciences, or the arts, our diverse course prepare you for success in an increasingly interconnected world.

Additionally, we offer flexible undergraduate and postgraduate programs beyond our physical campuses, ensuring you can achieve your academic goals from anywhere. Discover how USM can be your gateway to an exceptional educational experience!

|                                                                                       |                                                                             |                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>#1 in Southeast Asia</b><br>Global prominence – Advancing<br>Global Sustainability | <b>#2 in Asia</b><br>Global prominence – Advancing<br>Global Sustainability | <b>Malaysia's 1st</b><br>100Gbps Research & Education<br>Network |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|

| NAME OF INSTITUTION                  | MAILING ADDRESS                                                                                                     | CONTACT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Universiti Sains<br>Malaysia (USM)   | USM International Office<br>(IO@USM), USM Building C09,<br>Universiti Sains Malaysia<br>11800 USM, Penang, Malaysia |  +604-653-2770<br> +604-653-2781<br> <a href="https://io.usm.my">https://io.usm.my</a> |
| EXCHANGE OFFICE                      |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| USM International Office<br>(IO@USM) |                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

# CONTACTS

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# ACADEMIC & EXCHANGE

## RELATED INFORMATION

|                       | SEMESTER I                          | SEMESTER II                        |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ACADEMIC CALENDAR     | 28 Sept 2026 - 7 Feb 2027<br>(Fall) | 8 March - 18 July 2027<br>(Spring) |
| NOMINATION DEADLINES  | 5 June                              | 5 November                         |
| APPLICATION DEADLINES | 10 June                             | 10 November                        |

**NOTE:** Fully completed application along with all required supporting documents **MUST** reach IO@USM by e-mail before the application deadlines.

All applicants are not required to send the hardcopy of the application form.

Please attach a clear .jpeg file passport photo with the e-mail.

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ An Up-to-date Certified Academic Transcript <b>(with translation if necessary)</b></li> <li>✓ A Copy of The Student's Matriculation Card A</li> <li>✓ Curriculum Vitae</li> <li>✓ A Confirmation Letter<br/>Sample: <a href="https://io.usm.my/index.php/mobility">https://io.usm.my/index.php/mobility</a></li> <li>✓ Disability Support Details</li> <li>✓ A fully Completed Course Registration/<br/>Learning Agreement Signed by Home<br/>Institution Coordinator</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ A Recommendation Letter from Your Academic<br/>Advisor (to support your application)</li> <li>✓ A Certified Copy of IELTS / TOEFL / other English<br/>Proficiency Test Result (if English is not first<br/>language)</li> <li>✓ Portfolio (for creative design based courses).<br/>Include slides and an academic reference<br/>authenticating work</li> <li>✓ A Clear Copy of The Details Page of Your Passport</li> <li>✓ A Copy of Your Passport Photo<br/>(White background and 4.5 cm high x 3.5 cm wide)</li> </ul> |
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### DURATION OF EXCHANGE

**One Semester:** 6 months  
**Two Semesters:** 12 months

### REQUIRED CREDITS

Min **9** Units

### COURSE LOAD

Max **21** Units

### EXCHANGE COURSES

Most courses are offered in  
**English.**

For further information:

<https://io.usm.my/index.php/mobility>

### RESTRICTED COURSES



Dentistry



Medicine

### COURSE REGISTRATION

After the **Orientation Week**

# ACADEMIC & EXCHANGE

## RELATED INFORMATION

### ✦ LANGUAGE / GPA REQUIREMENT ✦

| TOEFL    | TOEFL    | TOEFL          | IELTS  | TOEIC |
|----------|----------|----------------|--------|-------|
| ITP: 543 | PBT: 550 | IBT: 4.5 - 5.0 | BAND 5 | 605   |

**NOTES:**• There are no minimum requirements for **GPA**.

- If **English is not the first language**, students are required to fulfill the **minimum language requirement** as above.
- If students **do not have this qualification**, **supporting letter** from their English teacher of the highest level at university is sufficient (**not applicable to Asian students**).
- (**MUST** state that the student is able to communicate and write in English well)

### ✦ USM GRADING SYSTEM ✦

| USM GRADE | POINT | MARKS  | REMARKS             |
|-----------|-------|--------|---------------------|
| A         | 4.00  | 80-100 | PASS                |
| A-        | 3.67  | 70-79  | PASS                |
| B+        | 3.33  | 64-69  | PASS                |
| B         | 3.00  | 58-63  | PASS                |
| B-        | 2.67  | 52-57  | PASS                |
| C+        | 2.33  | 46-51  | PASS                |
| C         | 2.00  | 40-45  | PASS                |
| C-        | 1.67  | 36-39  | PASS WITH CONDITION |
| D+        | 1.33  | 32-35  | PASS WITH CONDITION |
| D         | 1.00  | 28-31  | PASS WITH CONDITION |
| D-        | 0.67  | 25-27  | PASS WITH CONDITION |
| F         | 0.00  | 0-24   | FAIL / ABSENT       |

# ORIENTATION PROGRAMME

SEMESTER I (FALL)

SEMESTER II (SPRING)

ORIENTATION WEEK

14 - 18 Sept 2026

1 - 5 March 2027

- NOTES:**
- Exact dates will be notified later.
  - Suggested date of arrival is 2 days before the orientation.
  - Airport pick-up will only be offered 2 days before the orientation week.
  - Airport pick-up will not be provided during or after the orientation week.
  - Orientation week is compulsory for all exchange students.

## FACILITIES & SERVICES AVAILABLE

### FACILITIES



Libraries



Sport facilities

(Swimming pool, gym, tennis court etc.)



Cafeterias



On-campus Commuters



Museum



Banks



Post Office

### SERVICES

- ✓ Orientation
- ✓ Airport Pick-up (semester basis students)
- ✓ Student Buddies/ Student Helpers
- ✓ Assistance on securing On-Campus Accommodation
- ✓ Student Visa Application Process
- ✓ Assistance on Course Registration
- ✓ Activities for Exchange Students throughout the Semester (e.g. Outing, Counseling, etc.)
- ✓ International Student Support

## ACCOMMODATION

### ON-CAMPUS HOSTELS

- From RM5 / day  
(for Partner Universities in Main Campus only)
- Offered only **upon request**
- Subject to availability
- **No application fee** is required
- **Twin-sharing room** with a common sharing bathroom
- There is **no meal plan** provided
- **Cafeterias** are available in each hostel and various **food outlets** are located within the vicinity

### OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

- Approximately from **RM 1200 / month**
- Exchange students may opt to rent private apartments off-campus; located within **walking distance from USM**
- Contacts of off-campus housing are available **upon request**

# INSURANCE & VISA

## INSURANCE

- Each Exchange Student **MUST** keep a valid insurance coverage throughout their stay in Malaysia.
- All international students must be covered by a locally purchased medical health insurance scheme (student will have to buy the insurance upon your arrival at USM). International Travel Insurance is not valid for the Student Pass Application.



## MEDICAL

- All students are compulsory to run the **medical check up** in **USM Health Centre** during the orientation week.

Pre-medical test are not required but students must submit the **Health Declaration Form** provided together with the **application form**.

## VISA

- All international students are required to apply for **the Student Pass (Mobility)** for the purpose of their stay in Malaysia.
- USM will assist International students throughout the application process in obtaining the student pass (Mobility) through **Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS)**.

**\*To apply for Student Visa:**

<https://visa.educationmalaysia.gov.my/customer/account/login/>



- For further information, please visit our website: <https://io.usm.my>

# EXPENSES



## FOOD / MEALS

RM900.00++/  
month



## LOCAL TRANSPORTATION

RM150.00++/  
month



## ACADEMIC EXPENSES

RM350.00



## PERSONAL EXPENSES

RM400.00 - RM600.00  
/month

## ADMINISTRATIVE F E E S

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| APPLICATION FEE     | RM 50.00  |
| REGISTRATION FEE    | RM 40.00  |
| STUDENT ID CARD FEE | RM 60.00  |
| ORIENTATION FEE     | RM 200.00 |
| LIBRARY FEE         | RM 100.00 |
| MEDICAL CHECK-UP    | RM 360.00 |

## V I S A F E E S



(e-Visa Approval Letter – EVAL & Student Pass)

**EVAL & EMGS PROCESSING FEES** RM470.00 ++

(subject to change) (include Ikad & courier charges)

## INSURANCE

**6 MONTHS** RM265++

**12 MONTHS** RM350.00 ++

**USM VISA ADMINISTRATIVE FEE** RM340.00 ++

**\*\*\*STUDENT ACTIVITIES FEES**

*(THE AMOUNT VARIES DEPENDING ON THE ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATED IN)*



# ACADEMIC CALENDAR

## SEMESTER I (FALL) 28 September 2026 – 7 February 2027

| Activity                                                                                               | Dates                              | Duration |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
|  Arrival & Pick-up    | 12-13 Sept 2026*                   | 2 Days   |
|  Orientation Week     | 14-18 Sept 2026*                   | 1 Week   |
|  Teaching Period 1    | 28 September – 15 November 2026    | 7 Weeks  |
|  Mid-Semester Break   | 16 – 22 November 2026              | 1 Week   |
|  Teaching Period 2  | 23 November 2026 – 10 January 2027 | 7 Weeks  |
|  Revision Period    | 11 – 17 January 2027               | 1 Week   |
|  Examination Period | 18 January – 7 February 2027       | 3 Weeks  |
|  Semester Break     | 8 February – 7 March 2027          | 4 Weeks  |

## SEMESTER II (SPRING) 8 March – 18 July 2027

| Activity                                                                                               | Dates                       | Duration |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
|  Arrival & Pick-up  | 27 & 28 February 2027*      | 2 Days   |
|  Orientation Week   | 1 – 5 March 2027*           | 1 Week   |
|  Teaching Period 1  | 8 March – 25 April 2027     | 7 Weeks  |
|  Mid-Semester Break | 26 April – 2 May 2027       | 1 Week   |
|  Teaching Period 2  | 3 May – 20 June 2027        | 7 Weeks  |
|  Revision Period    | 21 – 27 June 2027           | 1 Week   |
|  Examination Period | 28 June – 18 July 2027      | 3 Weeks  |
|  Semester Break     | 19 July – 26 September 2027 | 10 Weeks |

**NOTE:**  
Dates marked with \* are subject to final confirmation (TBC).

\*\*\*This Academic Calendar is subject to change.

