2027-28 Fact Sheet

Exchange and American University Experience Programs

General Information	
University Name	Western Michigan University
Address and Phone	**Haenicke Institute for Global Education** Western Michigan University 1903 W Michigan Ave Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5246, USA **Phone: +1 (269) 387-5865/5890**
Director of WMU Study Abroad	**Mr. Joseph Milostan** Email: joseph.milostan@wmich.edu Phone: +1 (269) 387-5890 ➢ Main contact for outgoing exchange programs and exchange balance
Director of International Recruiting and Admissions	**Mr. Daing Nasir** Email: daing.nasir@wmich.edu Phone: +1 (269) 387-4102 ➢ Main contact for incoming exchange programs and American University Experience programs.
Websites	**University**: https://wmich.edu/ **Exchange Program**: https://wmich.edu/internationaladmissions/apply/aue#exchange **American University Experience (Partner students)**: https://wmich.edu/internationaladmissions/apply/aue#aue-semesters **American University Experience (Non-partner students)**: https://wmich.edu/internationaladmissions/apply/aue#aue-semesters
Nearest Airports	**Kalamazoo/Battle Creek (AZO)** - 6.5 miles/10.5km **Detroit Airport (DTW)** - 123 miles/198km **Chicago O'Hare (ORD)** - 168 miles/271 km
Emergency Contact	**WMU Public Safety** Phone: +1 (269) 387-5555 | +1 (269) 488-8911

Nomination and Application Information

Nomination Process

1. Complete the **online nomination form** (a link will be sent separately to partner institutions).
2. After submitting the form, email the following materials to peter.p.dobek@wmich.edu
   - **Official university transcripts** in English, including a **grading scale**.
   - **Official English proficiency test scores** (TOEFL iBT, IELTS, Duolingo, etc) for non-native speakers.
     - Test scores must be **no more than two years old**.
     - For acceptable tests and score requirements, visit wmich.edu/internationaladmissions/proficiency

Application Process

After the **online nomination form and materials** are received, nominated students will receive an email from our office with a link to the **online application system** and a **step-by-step guide**.

Application materials to be submitted online:

- **Cover letter** completed and signed by the student's home university coordinator
- **Proof of finances** (minimum amount specified in the online application guide)
- **Copy of passport** valid for at least **six months beyond** the student's final semester at WMU, with a **visible signature**
- Copy of university transcript in English
- Copy of English proficiency test score

Nomination and Application Deadlines

Exchange Program

Nomination Deadlines	Application Deadlines
• February 1 (Fall) • August 1 (Spring)	• March 1 (Fall) • September 1 (Spring)

American University Experience Program

Nomination Deadlines	Application Deadlines
• March 1 (Fall) • August 1 (Spring)	• May 1 (Fall) • September 1 (Spring)

Eligibility Requirements (GPA and English proficiency)

Exchange Program

https://wmich.edu/internationaladmissions/apply/aue#exchange

American University Experience Program

https://wmich.edu/internationaladmissions/apply/aue#aue-semesters

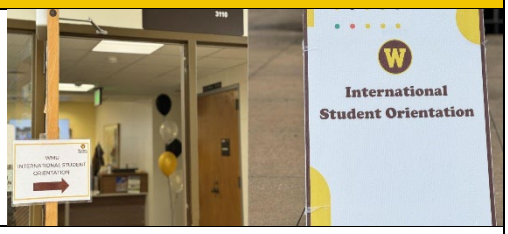
Academic Calendar

Semester/Session	Start	End
Fall	Late August	Mid-December
Spring	Early January	Late April
Summer I	Early May	Late June
Summer II	Late June	Mid-August

For exact dates of each semester/session and detailed calendar information, please go to https://wmich.edu/registrar/calendars/academic.

International Student Orientation

Western Michigan University's International Student Orientation is an online program that supports a smooth academic, social, and professional transition to WMU. Admitted students will receive email instructions to access the modules.



Website	https://wmich.edu/international/orientation

Housing Information

Undergraduate Students

Undergraduate Exchange and American University Experience students are **required** to live **on campus in residence halls**. Students should apply online for housing immediately after receiving admission to Western Michigan University.

WMU's residence halls house nearly 5,000 students and offer a vibrant, diverse community with access to leadership opportunities, hall activities, high-speed Internet, 24-hour staff support, nearby dining halls, and other on-campus amenities designed for student success.



Graduate Students

Graduate Exchange and American University Experience students are strongly encouraged to live in university-sponsored (on-campus) housing during their program. While on-campus housing is not mandatory, students who choose to live off campus are solely responsible for securing accommodations, signing rental agreements, and complying with lease terms.

Please note that most **off-campus leases are for a full year (12 months)**, making **short-term arrangements challenging** and **potentially costly** to terminate early.

Graduate students who wish to **live off campus** are encouraged to visit the **website below** for information on private apartments.

https://www.apartmentguide.com/apartments/Michigan/Western-Michigan-University/

Meal Plans	**WMU students** can choose from a wide variety of fresh, healthy, and comfort food options on campus. **Meal plans** can be used in several ways, depending on each student's schedule and dining preferences.

Websites	WMU Housing and Residence Life: https://wmich.edu/housing Room and Board Rates: https://wmich.edu/housing/info/rates Meal Plans: https://wmich.edu/dining/mealplans Dining Services: https://wmich.edu/dining Dining Options: https://wmich.edu/dining/options
Course Information	
Courses Available for Exchange and American University Experience Students	 **Exchange and American University Experience students** may enroll in most WMU courses, provided they meet the necessary prerequisites, demonstrate sufficient English proficiency, and submit all required documents by the stated deadlines. Some courses may require **pre-approval** from the relevant academic department or college. Please note that **flight science courses in the College of Aviation** are not open to exchange or American University Experience students. Additionally, many **College of Fine Arts** courses (Art, Dance, Music, and Theatre) have major restrictions and limited availability. Priority enrollment is given to WMU degree-seeking students, and these classes may not be accessible to exchange participants.
Credits Required for Exchange and American University Experience Students	**Undergraduate students** must enroll in **12 to 15 credit hours per semester**, with **12 credits** being the minimum required to maintain visa status. **Graduate students** typically take **6 to 9 credit hours per semester**, with a **minimum of 6 credits** required to maintain visa status.
Course Registration Procedure	**After submitting** the online application, **students** will be contacted about their **course selection**. **WMU advisors will register** Exchange and American University Experience students based on their choices, eligibility, and course availability.
Academic Transcripts	**Students must request and send** their official transcript to their home institution after grades are posted. Due to **U.S. privacy laws (FERPA)**, **WMU cannot send transcripts** on behalf of students. For more information, please visit: https://wmich.edu/registrar/transcripts.
Grading Scale	Students **receive** a **single grade** for **each course**, reflecting coursework, tests, and final exams. Letter grades carry specific honor points per credit hour. For more information, please visit: http://www.wmich.edu/registrar/policies/grades.
Websites	Course Offerings Website: https://www.wmich.edu/classlookup/ University Catalog: https://wmich.edu/registrar/catalogs Office of the Registrar: https://wmich.edu/registrar

Estimated Program Costs

Exchange Program

2027–28 Estimated Cost per Semester: $9,150

WMU exchange agreements **cover 12–15 credit hours** per semester for **undergraduates** and **6–9 credit hours** per semester for **graduates**. Students taking **additional credits will pay non-resident tuition per credit**.

Standard WMU registration fees apply to all students, including exchange students, depending on the home university agreement. **Additional course-specific fees may apply** at registration and vary by student and course choice. These **fees are not known in advance** and may be the student's responsibility.

Students should consult their home university's international office to confirm which fees are covered under their exchange agreement.

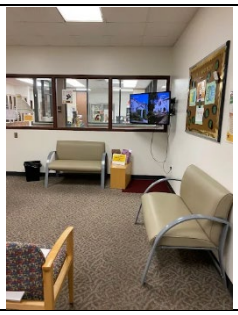
Due to a recent change in U.S. tax law, **scholarships exceeding tuition are subject to a 14% tax**. **This tax** will be **charged to exchange students' accounts**, and students are **responsible for payment**. The withheld amount is typically **reimbursed when students file U.S. tax forms**, which will be available on our website in late January. (http://www.wmich.edu/internationaladmissions).

American University Experience Program (Fee-Paying Program)

Program fees for the American University Experience vary by program option. For estimated semester costs, please refer to the **Tuition and Fees** section on https://wmich.edu/international/apply/short-term#aue-semesters

Health Insurance Requirements

WMU automatically enrolls all international students in the international student health insurance plan. WMU has contracted with GeoBlue which is a single, comprehensive plan designed to meet student's health care needs, regardless of age or preexisting conditions. The plan also meets the coverage requirements established by the U.S. Department of State for exchange visitors and international students on J-1 or J-2 visas.

J-Visa Holders Insurance Requirements	Students entering the U.S. on a **J visa** must have health insurance that meets the **minimum requirements** set by U.S. Department of State regulations: http://j1visa.state.gov/sponsors/how-to-administer-a-program/
International Insurance Coordinator	Tiedra Robertson - WMU International Insurance Coordinator Call: (269)387-5804 Email: ias-insurance@wmich.edu Website: https://wmich.edu/international/insurance
Tuberculosis Testing Requirement	**Incoming students** from countries identified by **the World Health Organization** as **high-risk for tuberculosis** must undergo testing at WMU's health center. Sindecuse Health Center provides the **Quantiferon Gold (QFG) test** for M. tuberculosis exposure. For more information, please visit: https://wmich.edu/healthcenter/clinic/services/tb. 

Getting Around WMU Campus and Kalamazoo

Most classes are within walking distance of on-campus housing, making walking the primary mode of transportation for students.

Transportation Options

WMU Campus Busing: https://wmich.edu/busing

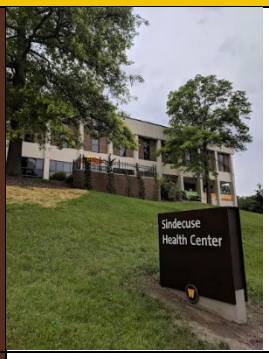
Metro Transit Buses (greater Kalamazoo area): http://www.kmetro.com/

Uber and Lyft are also an option.



University Facilities

Health Services



Sindecuse Health Center: http://www.wmich.edu/healthcenter/

Located on WMU's main campus, **Sindecuse Health Center** provides convenient, affordable care through an experienced, multidisciplinary team dedicated to supporting student health and wellness.

Counseling Services

Counseling Services at **Sindecuse Health Center**: http://www.wmich.edu/healthcenter/counseling/



Counselors assist students in addressing challenges and managing the emotional and social difficulties that may arise during college life.

Academic Support Services

Academic Success Programs: https://wmich.edu/merzetate/academics/support



The **Center for Academic Success Programs** supports teaching excellence and student learning through collaborative, research-based initiatives.

Student Success Services: https://wmich.edu/merzetate/academics/support/success



Student Success Services in the **College of Arts and Sciences** at Western Michigan University offers academic support and connects students with resources to help them achieve their academic and personal goals.

Special Needs and Accommodations

Disability Services for Students: https://wmich.edu/disabilityservices

	All students deserve the opportunity to succeed, regardless of challenges or conditions. **Disability Services for Students (DSS)** advocates equitable access by providing appropriate academic accommodation and adjustments that support learning while maintaining the integrity of course content and outcomes. 
Exercise and Recreation	**Student Recreation Center**: http://www.wmich.edu/rec/  This center promotes **healthy lifestyle choices**, **team building**, **leadership development**, and **positive social engagement**.