



# NOTES OF GUIDANCE FOR YOUR EXCHANGE DESTINATION

## McGill University, Canada

### Fast Facts:

<b>Website:</b>	<a href="#">McGill website</a> <a href="#">Exchange students' webpage</a>
<b>Language of instruction:</b>	English
<b>Semester dates:</b>	Semester 1 (Fall): August to December Semester 2 (Winter): January to April
<b>Number of students currently enrolled</b>	40,000
<b>Academic restrictions at a glance</b> <i>Please note: These are guidelines. It is your responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme.</i>	Dentistry, medicine or continuing studies faculties are not open for exchange. There are limitations on law courses for university-wide exchange and space limitations on engineering courses. Music and architecture require auditions/portfolio
<b>General Costs</b>	~\$23,500 CAD for academic year, including mandatory insurance
<b>About the University</b>	There's no place in the world quite like Montreal. It is a city steeped in culture and infused with internationalism. Of Montreal's 3.6 million residents, nearly 800,000 were born outside of Canada. A further 220,000 are students at universities or other professional post-secondary programs, making Montreal one of the world's most student-friendly cities. McGill University is a thriving city within a city—a community of learners where passionate, independent minds come together to combine their great ideas and make even greater ones. It's a place pulsing with life, where our students—35,000-strong from about 150 countries—are earning their places at the vanguards of their fields – from music to medicine, from the art of architecture to the science of sustainability.

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## What to expect

### Application process

You apply for study exchanges through SWAY. You can find out more about our [study exchange routes here](#), and more about the [application process here](#).

After applying, if you are allocated an exchange place at McGill University, you will be officially nominated by the International Programmes Team. We will then provide you with your detailed application instructions. **You can ONLY apply to any exchange destination if you have been allocated a place there, and if you are officially nominated by us.**

### Academics

For support with the academic side of your exchange, your best point of contact is your Exchange Coordinator, [found here](#). The Exchange Coordinator is a member of academic staff who will be a key contact throughout your exchange.

<b>Course Load and Credit Load</b>	<p>You are normally <b>required</b> to take whatever constitutes a full academic credit or course load at your host university.</p> <p>The page linked below contains a copy of the <b>International Exchange Credit Requirements</b>. This outlines the number of credits you are required to take at your host institution. There are also more answers to frequently asked questions about the academic side of your exchange.</p> <p><a href="#">Academic matters   The University of Edinburgh</a></p>
<b>Courses</b>	<p>See the course catalogue <a href="#">here</a></p> <p><b>**Please be aware, there may not be an up-to-date course catalogue available at this exchange destination. Please use the information available to get an idea about what you can study while on exchange**</b></p>
<b>Academic Restrictions</b>	<p>In the addition to the restrictions in the at a glance section:</p> <p>Courses with limited availability include: Anatomy and Cell Biology, Biochemistry, Biology, Computer Science, Mathematics, Microbiology, Pharmacology, Psychology, Physiology, Courses in the Faculty of Engineering, Courses in the Faculty of Management</p> <p>Due to high demand, maximum 2 Faculty of Management courses per subject area</p>

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	<p>Exchange students may not take lab courses, research projects, special topics, thesis courses, student teaching practicum courses.</p> <p><b>Please note:</b> These are guidelines. It is <b>your</b> responsibility to research whether the partner provides appropriate courses for your degree programme. <b>Even if there are not restrictions on your degree subject, it does not mean that there are appropriate courses for you. Please check.</b></p>
<b>Orientation</b>	<p>Orientation sessions for new students are to help prepare for McGill's academic and social life, provide information about the University and its services, and living in Montreal.</p> <p><a href="#">Pre arrival webinars are available</a></p>

## Accommodation

Finding accommodation that you are happy with on your year abroad is very important and there are often many aspects to consider when looking for somewhere to live.

Many host institutions do offer university accommodation but please do note, **this is not always guaranteed**. You may also need to pay for things like agent or administrative fees that is not always the case here in Edinburgh. It is a good idea to do your research so you do not have any surprises!

<b>University Accommodation</b>	<p>Limited places are available for exchange students. Once they have accepted their offer of admission, students should contact Housing directly at <a href="mailto:housing.residences@mcgill.ca">housing.residences@mcgill.ca</a></p> <p>Assignments for Fall 2022 will be done on a <b>first come, first served basis</b> and we cannot guarantee any location or room type.</p> <p><a href="#">Housing webpage</a> for exchange students</p>
<b>Private Accommodation</b>	<p>Information on off campus housing is <a href="#">available here</a>.</p>

## Costs

It is important to budget for different expenses while on exchange. Your exchange destination may be more expensive than Edinburgh, and different expenses may be required. For example, rent may be higher; you might need to take public transport

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more; essentials may be more expensive or different, like sun cream in warmer climates or woolly socks in colder climates! These costs will add up so it is good to have an estimate of how much money you might need.

<p><b>Tuition Fees</b></p>	<p>While on exchange, you will continue to pay fees to the University of Edinburgh, as appropriate, and your fee status will determine how much you pay.</p> <p>Consult our webpage <a href="#">here</a> and follow the link to consult the university's information on tuition fees for students studying abroad.</p>
<p><b>Estimated Cost of Living</b></p>	<p>Room and board (meal plan): \$16,000 to \$18,000 CAD</p> <p>Books and Supplies: \$1000 CAD</p> <p>Personal expenses: \$2000 CAD</p> <p>Phone plan: \$35-50 a month (this is often an unexpectedly high cost for UK students)</p> <p>Health insurance: \$700 CAD</p> <p>Visa: \$150 + possible biometrics CAD</p> <p>Flights: \$1500 CAD</p> <p><b>Total: \$23,500 CAD</b></p> <p>You may also be required to pay for administrative fees at your host institution. This can include paying for your transcript to be sent to us at the end of your exchange.</p>
<p><b>Insurance</b></p>	<p>The McGill International Health Insurance Plan is <b>mandatory</b> for all international students. Refer to the handbook for details on coverage i.e. basic dental is not included. Students from certain countries may qualify for an exemption provided they submit the required documentation.</p>
<p><b>Student Loans and Grants</b></p>	<p>Consult our <a href="#">funding webpages</a> for more information about the Funding available to you through SWAY while on your year abroad.</p> <p>If you receive a student loan or grant, you may still be eligible to receive them during your exchange. Contact your funding providers for more information on the availability and eligibility of funding during your exchange, as well as any additional support they may offer. For example: some loan providers offer travel grants to students.</p>

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## Other

<b>Passports</b>	<p><b>Make sure that your passport will be in date for the entirety of your stay, and for any additional required time after the end of your exchange for entry requirements and visa purposes.</b></p> <p>If you need to apply for a new passport during the application process to your host institution, this may delay the application and visa processes.</p>
<b>Visas</b>	<p>The visa process will vary from country to country, and your own citizenship will influence the visa process you need to undertake. You must make sure to enter your host country on the appropriate visa.</p> <p><b>Students must obtain a Certificate of Acceptance from Immigration Quebec and a Study permit from Citizenship and Immigration Canada.</b></p> <p>Here in SWAY we cannot give specific visa advice. Please research using the relevant embassy and government websites for more information. There is more information on our webpage about things to consider regarding visas <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>Once you have received an offer from a host institution, you will be given more advice from them about the visa processes.</p>
<b>Employment</b>	<p>With the current Canadian Student Authorization, students are allowed to work up to 20 hours per week on the McGill campus</p>
<b>Disability Statement and Accessibility</b>	<p>Some destinations may be more accessible than others for disabled students. If you require any adjustments due to disability or specific learning difficulties or disabilities and you wish to study abroad please contact The International Programmes Team via email: <a href="mailto:international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk">international.outgoing@ed.ac.uk</a>.</p> <p>We will work together with you to explore the help available at your host institution. It may also be helpful if you discuss this with your Personal Tutor and the Disability and Learning Support Service as well.</p>

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