

# Information Sheet – Exchanges 2025-2026

Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)

[epfl.ch](https://epfl.ch)

## Exchange Procedure

### Nomination procedure

(For courses and/or research project in a lab)

The home school nominates the student per email to the Student Exchange Office using the template provided (Excel sheet).

### Nomination & application deadlines for courses and/or research project\*

(Nomination should arrive before the student applies)

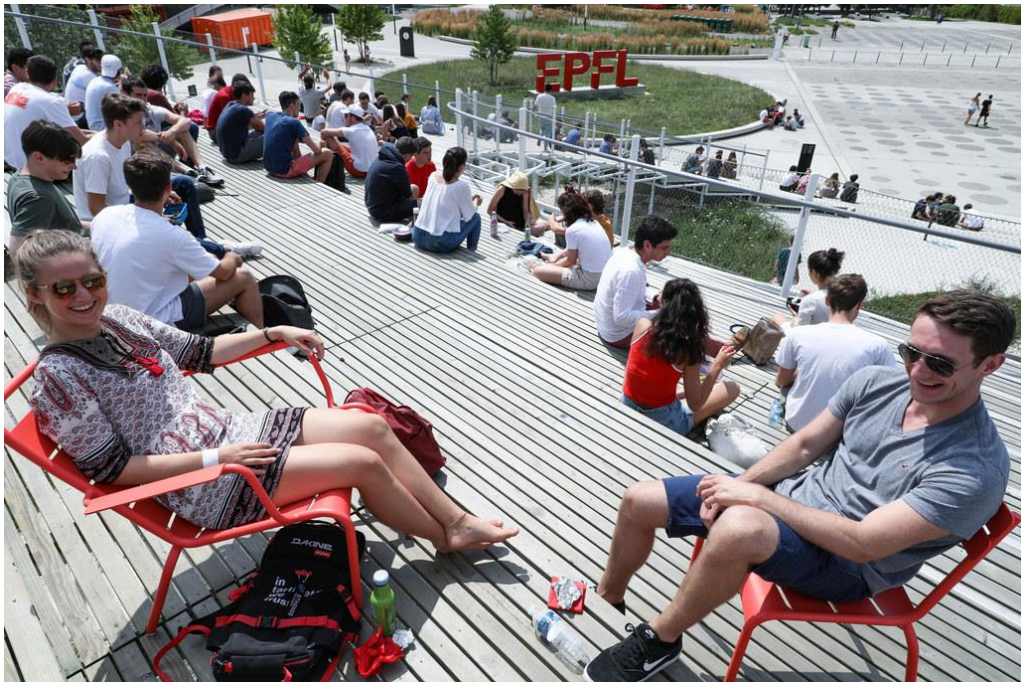
	Universities outside Europe	Universities in Europe
Academic year	1 <sup>st</sup> April	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Autumn semester	1 <sup>st</sup> April	15 <sup>th</sup> April
Spring semester	1 <sup>st</sup> October	15 <sup>th</sup> October

\*Students doing a project in a lab can apply 2 months before the beginning of the project (4 months if the student needs a visa)

### Application procedure

[epfl.ch/education/international/en/coming-to-epfl/](https://epfl.ch/education/international/en/coming-to-epfl/)

Semester periods	Autumn semester 2025: 08.09.2025 - 19.12.2025  Spring semester 2026: 16.02.2026 - 29.05.2026
Examination periods	Winter session: 12.01.2026 - 31.01.2026 Summer session: 15.06.2026 - 04.07.2026
Courses and study plans	<a href="https://go.epfl.ch/studies">go.epfl.ch/studies</a> Exchange students are requested to register for 20-30 ECTS/semester. The study plan must contain a <b>majority</b> of courses from the program in which you have been nominated.
Restricted courses	Please be mindful of the restricted courses list: <a href="https://go.epfl.ch/studies">go.epfl.ch/studies</a>
Courses registration	Online registration for your courses no later than 2 weeks after the semester starts. Registration opens in August for the autumn semester and in December for the spring semester.
Language of instruction	Bachelor classes are taught in French and to some extent in English. The <a href="#">offer</a> varies from one section to another. Master courses are mainly taught in <a href="#">English</a> .
Language requirements	Based on the language of instructions of the courses, it is strongly recommended to have a B2 level in French and/or in English. No certificate is required.
Academic Structure	Bachelor = 3 years Master = 2 years
Credit system	ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) Workload for a full-time student: 30 ECTS per semester 60 ECTS per academic year
Marking system	Excellent 6.0 Very good 5.5 Good 5.0 Satisfactory 4.5 Pass 4.0  Nearly sufficient 3.5 Insufficient 3.0 Poor 2.5 Very poor 2.0 Non measurable 1.0
Official Transcript of Records	Sent to the exchange students by postal mail one month after the end of the examination period.





## Accommodation

[go.epfl.ch/housing](http://go.epfl.ch/housing)

## Language Course

(Only French courses for exchange students)

2 weeks intensive French course:

*Fall semester* Course starts mid- August  
Application deadline: mid-July

*Spring semester* Course starts mid-January  
Application deadline: mid-December

Online application: [go.epfl.ch/modules-french](http://go.epfl.ch/modules-french)  
Courses are free of charge for exchange students.

## Visa

[go.epfl.ch/visa-en](http://go.epfl.ch/visa-en)

It takes up to three months to get a visa.

## Insurance

[go.epfl.ch/insurances](http://go.epfl.ch/insurances)

## Integration activities

ESN EPFL is a student association which welcomes and supports international students: <http://epfl.esn.ch>

They organise a Welcome Week for you the week before the semester starts, as well as integration activities during the semester.

