

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Exchange Information Sheet



2026-2027

NOMINATION AND APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Please use our **nomination link** to nominate your students:

https://wet.kuleuven.be/formulieren/nomination_of_exchange_students.

Nomination deadline:

- First semester/Full year: **15 April**
- Second semester: **15 September**

We will contact nominated students directly with the application instructions.

Application deadline:

- First semester/Full year: **30 April**
- Second semester: **1 October**
- For traineeships: minimum 2 months before the start of the traineeship for applications of EEA citizens and minimum 4 months before the start of the traineeship for applications of non-EEA citizens

Website: [Application instructions for exchange students — Applications](https://onderwijsaanbod.kuleuven.be/opleidingen/e/SC_51801801.htm)

COURSE INFORMATION

A course list for exchange students can be found on

https://onderwijsaanbod.kuleuven.be/opleidingen/e/SC_51801801.htm. On this webpage students can also find the academic requirements for the different courses.

For students who are staying 1 semester, we recommend to take 30 ECTS. If they stay a full academic year, we recommend 60 ECTS.

Students can take courses offered in different programmes of the Faculty of Science. They can also take up to two courses from other faculties. The majority of the courses always needs to be taken at the Faculty of Science.

RESEARCH

Students who would like to do research, need to find a supervisor. More information about the research conducted at our Faculty can be found on <https://wet.kuleuven.be/english/research>

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

Defined in the exchange agreement.

Exchange students are not required to submit an English proficiency certificate but the student must be able to understand, speak, read and write both general and academic English fluently. We expect our partners to vouch for this.

Dutch language course: an introductory Dutch language course for exchange students is provided by the Leuven Language Institute.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

- 2026/2027
- Orientation Days: Before the start of each semester (September and February) the Orientation Days take place. Participation is free, except for certain weekend activities and food. We strongly advise students to participate.

HOUSING

Due to a shortage on the housing market it is strongly recommended to secure accommodation before coming to Leuven! Check this website for the latest information!

<https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/housing/find-housing/students/student-housing-in-leuven/>

University Residence Halls:

The KU Leuven has reserved about 1200 of its 2400 non-subsidized university residence rooms to house international students. These rooms are randomly located amongst rooms for Flemish students and they are spread over 14 residences across the City of Leuven.

The offer of rooms in university residences is limited.

More information and application form: <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/housing/find-housing/students/residences/central-services/>

Private market:

Most exchange students stay in individual rooms with shared facilities in houses on the local private housing market.

- Single room: furnished, kitchen and bathroom to share with other students in the house, in some cases the room has a private bathroom and/or kitchen. Blankets, sheets and pillows are usually NOT provided!
- Studio: furnished, private kitchen and bathroom. Blankets, sheets and pillows are NOT provided!

Beware of internet fraud. If you find housing via other websites or social media, please check with KU Leuven Stuvo first to see whether we have a cooperation with the landlord in order to avoid fraud.

MORE PRACTICAL INFORMATION:

- **Life at KU Leuven:** <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven> and <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/stuvo/pangaea/orientation-days/pdf/living-in-leuven-brochure>
- **Residence and visa:** EEA nationals and Swiss nationals do not need a visa to enter Belgium. Non-EEA nationals will need to follow different procedures depending on the length of stay. Upon arrival in Belgium, it is mandatory for EEA and non-EEA students, staff members and visitors to register at the town or city hall of their place of residence in Belgium, as soon as possible. <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/immigration-residence>
- **Health insurance:** All residents in Belgium, Belgian nationals or otherwise, are required by law to have an insurance which covers their health care. <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/insurance-social-security/health-insurance/health-insurance-for-students>
- **Diversity and Inclusion:** KU Leuven wants to help students with diverse backgrounds achieve their full potential. More information on Studying or working with a disability, LGBTQ!, Inclusion, ... through <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven>
- **Living expenses:** To cover your living expenses in Belgium you will need around €1,000 to €1,350 per month. This estimate includes study materials, housing costs (rent, heating, water, electricity, etc.), food, clothing, laundry, medical & insurance costs, and other expenses — e.g. leisure, groceries, transport, etc. <https://www.kuleuven.be/english/life-at-ku-leuven/money-matters/cost-of-living-in-belgium>
- **Transport:** most students use a bike but you can also walk or take the bus. <https://www.kuleuven.be/transportation>

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Email: exchange.science@kuleuven.be

Postal address: Faculty of Science, Quadrivium building, Celestijnenlaan 200H – box 2100, 3001 Leuven (Heverlee)

Website:

- [Faculty of Science](#)
- [Exchange & internships — Faculty of Science](#)