BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

FACT SHEET 2027-2028

ABOUT BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

Located on the traditional territory of the Abenaki people and Founded in 1843, Bishop's University is quite unique amongst other public, government-funded Canadian Universities. Our primary mandate is to offer students a quality education in the fine arts, humanities, social sciences, natural sciences, business and education. With 2,800 full-time students (more than 25% of which are international students), we offer the ideal climate to engage in our community. Our intimate class settings provide a very warm and friendly experience for international exchange students to learn and explore. We promote exceptional cooperation between students and professors, and conduct frequent seminars, laboratories and tutorials.

Although located in the province of Québec, we are an English-speaking university, and all courses are taught in English. However, when students leave campus to go shopping or sightseeing, they will hear both French and English; a most advantageous and rich learning experience.

Bishop's is situated in the bilingual community of Lennoxville, a suburb of the city of Sherbrooke, Quebec, located about 1.5 hours southeast of Montreal. The U.S.A. border with Vermont is a 45-minute drive away from campus. The Eastern Townships region is known for offering a safe and welcoming atmosphere, exceptional nature and outdoor recreational opportunities, and a great quality of life.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND REQUIREMENTS

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: GENERAL

- Strong academic standing at your home institution
- Support from your home institution for your proposed exchange

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS: PROGRAM-SPECIFIC

The proposed exchange program must correspond with the field of study followed at your home institution, unless specified by an agreement between your institution and Bishop's University. Your course selection at Bishop's University must be approved by your home institution. Please note that some courses may not be accessible to incoming exchange students, and since course offerings are posted only a few months before the following semester, we cannot predict in advance which courses will be available.

LIST OF PROGRAMS

- Bishop's University offers a variety of **Academic Programs**.
- For a description of the courses we may offer, view our **Academic Calendar**.
- For a general idea of our course offerings, see our current and previous **Timetables**.

LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROFICIENCY

When applying to Bishop's University, **a proof of English language fluency** is required if you currently study at an institution where the language of instruction is neither English nor French. The proof can take the form of:

- IELTS test score of 6.5
- TOEFL test score of 90
- A letter from your home institution attesting to your equivalency in proficiency in written and spoken English

LANGUAGE SUPPORT

- If you meet the proficiency requirements but still wish to improve your English, our **English Language Studies program** offers English as a Second Language (ESL) classes that you could take as electives in any program.
- You will also have access to the **Writing Centre** where you can receive assistance in perfecting your writing style and proofreading your written assignments.

FRENCH COURSES

Bishop's University is an English-speaking institution, and all services on campus are offered in English. However, you can take **French language courses** and use your French on campus if you so desire since most faculty and staff are bilingual. You will also meet students from across Canada and around the world with whom you can practice. An English university in a French speaking city: The opportunities are endless!

Oui experience

OUI Experience is our new campus-wide initiative that aims to make learning French as a Second and Additional Language more accessible to its student community, and to enable students to discover Quebec culture. This immersive experience will offer our non-francophone student population a wide range of linguistic and cultural opportunities.

IMPORTANT DATES

FALL SEMESTER

Nomination deadline*	March 15th
Application deadline	April 1st
Residence application date	Mid-June
Semester dates	Early September - End of December
International Welcome	Few days before classes start
SRC Orientation week	First week of classes
Reading week (no classes)	A week in late October
Exam period	Mid-December
Holiday break	End of December - Early January

**We also accept nominations for winter semester exchange during the fall nomination period*

WINTER SEMESTER

Nomination deadline	September 15th
Application deadline	October 1st
Residence application date	Beginning of November
Semester dates	Early January - End of April
International Welcome Session	Few days before classes start
SRC Orientation week	First week of classes
Reading week (no classes)	A week in early March
Exam period	Mid-April

You can also find more accurate dates in the **Sessional Dates page** and the **Residence life page**.

IMMIGRATION PROCESS AND INSURANCE

IMMIGRATION PROCEDURES

In order to study at Bishop's University as an exchange student, you must apply for immigration documents. You may be required to apply for a Quebec Acceptance Certificate (CAQ), a Study Permit or a Temporary Resident Visa (TRV) / Electronic Travel Authorization (eTA).

1- Term Exchange Student (Less than 6 months):

- TRV or eTA

For more information, see our **Immigration Procedures web page**

2- Term Exchange Student (More than 6 months):

- CAQ
- Study permit
- TRV or eTA

For more information, see our **Immigration Procedures web page**

Please stay up to date with **travel restrictions and the immigration process**.

Is it possible to do an internship during the exchange program at Bishop's?

No. Since an internship is not mandatory in the program of study in Canada, exchange students cannot apply for a co-op or intern work permit.

If you would like to do an internship after your exchange at Bishop's University, you will need to apply for a work permit through the International Experience Canada (**IEC**) program. The University is not responsible for the internship.

MANDATORY HEALTH INSURANCE

The Quebec Government regulations require all international and exchange students to purchase the mandatory Cowan Insurance Plan to study at Bishop's University.

If you are a citizen and a resident of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Greece, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Romania Serbia or Sweden, you may qualify for the Quebec Health Insurance Plan - Régie de l'assurance maladie du Québec (RAMQ).

For more information on health insurance, visit the **Health Insurance page** on our website.

HOW TO APPLY

NOMINATION BY HOME INSTITUTION

Bishop's has two nomination dates and two application deadlines per year. Nomination by the home institution should be done before March 15th for the following fall semester, winter semester or full academic year. Nominations for the winter semester should be done by September 15th for the following winter (Spring). You can find more information by visiting the **Exchange Students** webpage.

STEP 1

Exchange students apply online using the International Exchange Student application form, which will be sent by email after the nomination.

STEP 2

All exchange students are required to upload the following supporting documents through their myBU portal, or send scans to **admissions@ubishops.ca**.

- Copy of the ID page of your valid passport
- Official transcript from home institution
- Proof of English language fluency, if you study at a university where the language of instruction is neither English nor French.

STEP 3

Exchange students staying for 2 semesters or more must upload the following supporting documents through their myBU portal, or send scans to **admissions@ubishops.ca** upon arrival to Bishop's University.

- Copy of CAQ
- Copy of Study Permit

STEP 4

Register for the International Student Orientation Session. Further information will follow by email after your acceptance. This Orientation will be before the start of the Semester. There may be a registration fee.

FEES AND LIVING EXPENSES

YEARLY TUITION AND FEES

For more up-to-date information you can visit our **Tuition and Fees** page or our **Academic Calendar**.

	1-Term Exchange	2-Term Exchange
Tuition	$0*	$0*
Compulsory Fees	$0*	$0*
Mandatory Health Insurance	$443 (Fall)/ $530 (Winter)	$711
Accommodation	$2,950	$5,900
Meals	$3,266	$6,532
Books and Supplies	$700	$1,400
****ESTIMATED TOTAL**	**$7,416**	**$8,017**

**Exchange students pay tuition to their home institution, however, some courses may have extra fees.*

***Please note that these fees are estimates based on costs for the 2025-2026 academic year. Costs may fluctuate based on the academic program, style of residence, and chosen meal plan. All costs are shown in Canadian dollars (CAD).*

Note: An extra fee will be charged for Orientation Week participation, but optional.

HOUSING

RECOMMENDED ARRIVAL

We recommend that you arrive a few days prior to the start of the semester to have time to get settled in. For students who will live on campus, you can move into your room the Saturday before the beginning of the semester or according to the International Welcome schedule.

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING

Living on campus is more than just a choice of where you are going to live while studying at Bishop's; it is a bridge to our community and everything it has to offer. Our residence buildings are at the heart of campus, located in the center of it all. Our students come from across Canada and from countries around the world. There is no better way to become a Gaiter, than by joining our diverse community right here on campus. Exchange students are welcome to apply for on-campus housing.

Apply for residence

OFF-CAMPUS HOUSING

Some students choose to live off-campus. Visit the off-campus housing section on our website to help you find accommodations.

Look for off-campus housing

SERVICES ON CAMPUS

STUDENT SERVICES

Student Services at Bishop's University provides many opportunities for individual growth in a community of learning, where the student is the center of our educational mission. We commit ourselves to improving the quality of student life so that each student can achieve success.

CAREER AND TRANSITION SERVICES

We offer professional and specialized services focusing on **career development** and **leadership**. At Bishop's, we provide resources to aid you in the next steps following your graduation.

INDIGENOUS STUDENT SUPPORT

The **Indigenous Student Support Center (ISSC)**, located in a new dedicated space Kwigw8mna, provides a safe and welcoming environment and academic support to First Nations, Inuit and Métis students as well as Indigenous international students.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

We provide confidential, on-campus services to support your **physical** and **mental** health. The **Campus Security** team also ensures the safety and security of everyone 24/7.

SPIRITUAL CARE

Bishop's University encourages the **spiritual well-being** of the entire campus community, including those of diverse faiths, those with no faith tradition, and those who are curious about religion and spirituality.

ACCESSIBILITY AND ACCOMMODATIONS

Bishop's welcomes and supports a diverse student body and strives to ensure that students have equal opportunities and equitable treatment to take full advantage of their education. Explore the services available to you with **Student Accessibility Services (SAS)** during your BU journey.

RECREATION AND FITNESS

With sports facilities, services, activities and sports clubs to match a multitude of tastes and needs, we offer tons of options to get you moving and having fun.

Bishop's International

BISHOP'S INTERNATIONAL

Bishop's International provides support and services to incoming degree-seeking and exchange international students, as well as to all Bishop's students interested in an international and/or intercultural experiential learning opportunity abroad or on campus.
It is main point of contact with partner institutions around the world and works closely with other administrative services, faculties and schools in developing new international strategic partnerships and campus internationalization.

Bishop's employs Regulated International Student Immigration Advisors (RISIA) whose scope of practice is restricted to our international students' status as temporary residents in Canada, and that of their accompanying family members. We advise international students admitted to Bishop's up through their graduation; we cannot advise students on permanent residency.

INTERNATIONAL WELCOME

International Welcome is Bishop's International's comprehensive welcome experience designed to assist new students in their transition to university life on our campus whether they are exchange students or degree-seeking students, activities are intended to support and equip international students for a successful start to their academic journey. International Welcome is a 1-day program before the start of the fall semester and a Personalized Welcome period during the first two weeks of the term. International Welcome complements **Orientation Week (O-Week)** by ensuring international students are well prepared and supported before joining the wider campus community for university-wide orientation activities.

CONTACT

BISHOP'S UNIVERSITY

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