

BGSU FACT SHEET

2026 - 2027

INSTITUTION NAME

Bowling Green State University is a large public university in a rural setting. BGSU provides a rich traditional college experience with more than 200 academic programs and nearly 300 clubs. [Explore the campus here.](#)

ADDRESS

Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43403

EMAIL

edabroad@bgsu.edu

OFFICE ADDRESS

International Programs and Partnerships
301 University Hall, Bowling Green, OH 43403

CONTACT PERSON

Michelle Ploeger, Assistant Director for Education Abroad

CONTACT INFORMATION

mploege@bgsu.edu or 419-372-7680

EXCHANGE SEMESTERS

Fall and/or Spring semester(s)

ONLINE APPLICATION

<https://bgsu.studioabroad.com/index.cfm?FuseAction=Programs.ViewProgramAngular&id=11129>

APPLICATION DEADLINES

Fall Semester/Academic Year: April 1st
Spring Semester: October 1st

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must be nominated by their home university before the application deadline. Nominations can be sent to: edabroad@bgsu.edu. Please include student's first name(s), last name, e-mail address, exchange semester(s), level, and field of study. Requirements include a guest application, official transcript, passport copy, English scores, financial statement, and course selection form.

PROOF OF SUFFICIENT MEANS

International exchange students must obtain a "Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor Status" (Form DS-2019), which is provided by the office, to enter and/or remain in the U.S. as a J-1 student to show you have the necessary funding to cover the costs of room and board, books, insurance, food, reasonable clothing, recreational, and incidental expenses.

The estimated expenses of an exchange student for one academic year (9 months) are approximately \$15,500 USD and for one semester (4 months) are approximately \$7,750 USD.

Required for Document Funds include: an official dated bank statement, all accounts must be easily accessible, all documents must be in English or accompanied by English translation, and all documents must be dated with the last six months. Find more information [here](#).

ARRIVAL DATES

Fall 2026 Semester: The week before the start of classes.
 Spring 2027 Semester: The week before the start of classes.
 *Please review the information provided in DS2019 Communication.

NEAREST AIRPORTS

Detroit International Airport (DTW) located in Detroit, Michigan or Toledo Express Airport (TOL) located in Toledo, Ohio. Airport pick up is provided at DTW only.

ORIENTATION

Orientation is mandatory for all new students and takes place one week prior to the start of classes each semester.
 *BGSU requires new international students who may have an increased risk for tuberculosis infection be screened during their orientation. It is important the screening which consists of a tuberculosis blood draw and questionnaire be completed by the posted deadline to avoid disciplinary action. BGSU does not accept the results of any screening(s) conducted outside the U.S.

VISA

J-1 Student Visa is required for all international exchange students.

ACADEMIC CALENDAR AND BREAKS

Fall Semester: August 24th- December 11th, 2026
 *Thanksgiving Break: November 25th - 27th, 2026
 *Winter Break: December 12th - January 10th, 2027
 Spring Semester: January 11th - April 30, 2027
 *Martin Luther King Jr. Day: January 18, 2027
 *Spring Break: March 1st - 5th, 2027
Break Housing & Costs

ACCOMMODATION AND ESTIMATED COST

BGSU offers a variety residence halls. Global Village is recommended for exchange students. This is a Learning Community which connects international and domestic students and requires a one credit course.
 Costs vary between each option from \$3,380 and \$4,300 per semester (double rooms).
 *Additional fees for Learning Communities.
 *Please note that if you are living off-campus and will be looking for temporary accommodations, we encourage you to ask the hotels in the Bowling Green Area, like Falcon Plaza, if they offer discounted rates to international students. Students living on campus will be permitted to move onto campus as long as they have registered and paid the housing fee. Temporary housing is not available for students arriving early and students will be responsible for making their own overnight accommodations off-campus.

MEALS AND ESTIMATED COST

There are several dining halls and places to buy food on campus. Meal plans range from \$2,167 and \$2,920 per semester and include a number of set meals as well as money to buy food a la carte.

OTHER EXPENSES

Student Health Insurance - Annual plan \$2,546, Fall plan \$970, and Spring plan \$1,054; Student ID Card \$25; International Student Orientation Fee \$100; International Student Fee \$50 per semester. *Optional fees include: Parking Permit (annual) \$135; Student Media Fee \$9; Green Fee \$5; and Legal Fee \$13.

ARE ALL COURSES OPEN TO EXCHANGE STUDENTS?

Yes, but must meet any pre-requisites.

WHERE ARE COURSES LISTED?

BGSU's course catalog can be found here. ESOL courses are available for international exchange students which can be found here.

GRADING SYSTEM

The United States grading system runs from 0-100, where 0 is the lowest and 100 is the highest grade and use a Grade Point Average (GPA) system out of 4.0.

| Letter Grade | Assessment | Percentage | GPA |
|--------------|------------------|------------|-----|
| A | Excellent | 100% - 90% | 4.0 |
| B | Good | 89% - 80% | 3.0 |
| C | Acceptable | 79% - 70% | 2.0 |
| D | Poor but Passing | 69% - 60% | 1.0 |
| F | Failure | 59% - 0% | 0.0 |

TRANSCRIPTS OF RECORD

Students are responsible for requesting transcripts to be sent to their home University from the Office of Registration & Records.