

STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK PLATTSBURGH

STUDY ABROAD & EXCHANGES

Fact Sheet 2024/2025

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About

Since its founding in 1889 as a teaching college, SUNY Plattsburgh has had a strong history of meeting regional and statewide needs for higher education. It is also a major driver of the economic and cultural well-being of the community. Set in a small city on the shore of Lake Champlain, between the Adirondacks and Green Mountains, Plattsburgh is rich in regional interests. The residential campus is clean, safe and easy to walk. Montreal is just an hour's drive away, as is the Olympic Village of Lake Placid and Burlington, Vermont.

The curriculum spans diverse majors that prepare students to stand out as scholars, professionals and citizens. Internships offer students valuable career experiences. The campus itself is about 300 acres and has just over 5,000 students.

Mission & Vision

SUNY Plattsburgh is a public, comprehensive college that prepares students for academic, professional, and personal success. SUNY Plattsburgh will be a model comprehensive college for a student-centered approach to higher education. The "Plattsburgh Experience" will be recognized as one that matches student talents and abilities with pathways to academic, professional, and personal success.

Important Dates 2024/2025	
Fall Semester	Spring Semester
Arrival: August 19 - 20 Orientation: August 21 -23 Teaching: August 26 – December 6 Exams: December 7 - December 13 Departure: December 14/15	Arrival: January 20 - 21 Orientation: January 22 - 25 Teaching: January 27 - May 9 Exams: May 10 - 16 Departure: May 18/19
Nomination Deadline: March 15 th , 2024 Application Deadline: May 15 th , 2024	Nomination Deadline: October 1 st , 2024 Application Deadline: November 1 st , 2024
<p><i>*Arrival and Departure Dates are subject to change so stay in tune to email from our office for most updated information.</i></p> <p><i>This is our international orientation website, https://www.plattsburgh.edu/admissions/international/accepted-students/orientation-schedules.html.</i></p> <p><i>This is information on our academic calendar, https://www.plattsburgh.edu/about/offices-divisions/registrar/academic-calendar.html</i></p>	



Academics
Language of Instruction – English
<p>SUNY Plattsburgh offers more than 60-degree programs within three academic schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts and Science • School of Business and Economics (AACSB accredited) • Education, Health, and Human Services <p>For more information about our Programs: https://www.plattsburgh.edu/programs/index.html</p> <p>For course descriptions (please note that even if a course is listed, it does not mean it is offered, check in schedule link below to see if it has been offered in a recent semester): https://catalog.plattsburgh.edu/content.php?catoid=14&navoid=2248</p> <p>For previous course schedules: https://banner.plattsburgh.edu/pls/prod/psu_genweb.master_sched_search</p>
Course-load Requirements
<p>Students are required to carry a full course load to meet US visa requirements. A full course load is usually made up of four (4) 3-credit classes or 12 US credits per semester. At minimum, 9 of these credits need to be in a face-to-face teaching environment.</p>
Course Registration Information
<p>As Exchange students, you will not have priority registration. You will be asked in your online application to fill out a course preference form. Some of the courses may have time conflicts and you may need to choose alternative courses. Your courses are finalized during international orientation. You will have the opportunity during the first week of class to switch courses, if needed.</p>



College Grading System

At Plattsburgh, your program or major is divided into courses. The following formula is used to calculate a cumulative grade: for every class, quality points are multiplied by credit hours. The products are added together, and the sum is divided by the total number of credit hours.

Quality Points	Letter Grade
4.0	A
3.7	A-
3.3	B+
3.0	B
2.7	B-
2.3	C+
2.0	C
1.7	C-
1.3	D+
1.0	D
0	E

The majority of students receive marks in the B range. A grade below D for an individual course is a fail and no credits are awarded for the course.

Accommodation & Meal Plans

Housing at SUNY Plattsburgh offers a safe, secure, well-maintained environment. In our 12 residence halls, we address the academic, personal and social needs of our students. Our residence halls provide opportunities for students to engage in leadership roles, interact with other students by attending activities, seek academic support services such as advising and tutoring, or just hang out with friends in lounges equipped with TVs, pool tables, ping-pong tables, and a variety of other fun stuff! Living on campus is fun, exciting and challenging! We have a strong sense of community, which values understanding and respect, and students play a central role in creating it.

For our guide to on-campus housing: <https://www.plattsburgh.edu/plattslife/housing/living-on-campus.html>

For FAQs and what to bring: <https://www.plattsburgh.edu/plattslife/housing/housing-faqs.html>

If you live on campus, you will be required to have a meal plan. This may be different than your home institution. If you live off campus, there are “off-campus” meal plans that you can purchase, if you’d like but they are not required.

Meal Plan Information and Cost: <https://www.plattsburgh.edu/cost-aid/tuition/housing-meal-fees.html>



Every effort has been made to ensure that the information contained in this brochure is accurate and up to date at the time of print. Details in this brochure relate to the 2024/25 academic year and may not be applicable to the academic year 2025/26 or beyond, which may be due to external factors beyond our control.

Arrival and Orientation

Immigration Requirement

The U.S. Department of State requires that you have a student visa to enter the USA.

Effective Spring 2022:

A change from SUNY Plattsburgh is that we will begin defaulting our exchange and visiting students to a F1 non-degree program versus the J1 program. This will allow us to process immigration documents in our office and not have to outsource to SUNY. Our immigration team in the office will be able to keep students in compliance and it will be a more seamless transition. This will not change many things for students, but here are a few things to consider:

- Students will have a 60 day grace period to leave the US after their program end date on a F visa, with a J visa their grace period is 30 days
- Students can work on campus with either visa type up to 20 hours/week while classes are in session
- Students can work off campus on either visa type as long as the work is **directly** related to their program/course of study and they've alerted our office to do the necessary paperwork
- If student wants to work or intern in the US *after* their program end date, they would need to be on a J visa and complete necessary paperwork with our office.

The GEO needs to know **PRIOR** to accepting students that they would like to come on the J visa program to ensure that their acceptance packet has the proper documentation. Most students travel within the US after completing their program and return home, where they do not need to be on the J visa.

If needing a J-1 visa, there is an expectation of reciprocity with the Exchange Visitor Program. The SUNY Office of Global Affairs (OGA), an administrative unit within SUNY System Administration, has been designated by the Department of State as an exchange visitor sponsor on behalf of the SUNY J-1 Exchange Visitor Program Consortium. This designation authorizes SUNY OGA to issue the DS-2019 Certificate of Eligibility forms on behalf of consortium member campuses to invite exchange visitors to the U.S. for educational and cultural exchange.

This requires that you will need to submit materials to our office for your Exchange Visitor. It is important to submit these materials on time as documentation must be submitted **3 months before the anticipated program start** date. While not all requests will take the three months to process, it is essential to plan in advance to allow the best possible preparation for your Exchange Visitor's arrival. Please submit all materials together. Your Exchange Visitor Advisor (EVA) will also be able to explain any costs associated with requesting a DS-2019. This is the Coordinator in the Global Education Office.

After obtaining their J-1 visa and making travel plans, the Exchange Visitor will enter the U.S. using their valid passport, J-1 visa, and DS-2019.

J-1 and F-1 visa holders **are not allowed to enter the U.S. more than 30 days before their program start date.**

Arriving in the US

International Student Services operates our new student international orientation. We arrange for airport and bus station pick up on specific dates before orientation starts. Our pickups are from Burlington International Airport (BTV) or Plattsburgh International Airport (PBG).

On these days, our friendly student Orientation Staff will welcome you to the US and ensure you are safely transported to the Plattsburgh campus.

Information on Arrival:

<https://www.plattsburgh.edu/admissions/international/accepted-students/traveling-to-us.html>

Orientation

There will be a **mandatory** orientation program for all exchange students in August and January. You will join other full-time degree-seeking international students and some domestic exchange students. During orientation, there will also be some individual sessions just for exchange and study abroad students.

More Information on International Student Orientation:

<https://www.plattsburgh.edu/admissions/international/accepted-students/orientation-schedules.html>