



Call for Applications

Student Exchanges 2026

Closing Date: 31 March 2026 at 23h59

Student Exchange Programmes aim to provide students with an enriching international academic experience that enhances global awareness, intercultural competence, and academic development through study at partner institutions. Participation in the programme strengthens students' academic profiles, improves employability, broadens professional networks, and equips them with the adaptability, confidence, and global perspective needed to succeed in an increasingly interconnected world.

Host Institution	Eligible UFS Departments	Study Level
1. <u>Technical University of Crete, Greece</u>	Department of Engineering Sciences	Undergraduate / Honours / Master's / PhD
2. <u>VSB- Technical University of Ostrava, Czech Republic</u>	Department of Engineering Sciences, Department of Geology, Department of Computer Sciences and Informatics, and Department of Finance and Economics	Master's / PhD
3. <u>Riga Technical University, Latvia</u>	Department of Architecture and the Department of Computer Sciences and Informatics	All study levels
4. <u>University of Applied Sciences Salzburg, Austria</u>	Department of Business Management	Undergraduate

Table 1: Host information table

Eligibility requirements 2026 student exchanges

To be considered for the 2026 mobility programme, applicants must meet the following general requirements:

- **Registration Status:** Applicants must be registered as full-time students at the University of the Free State (UFS) at the time of application and for the full duration of the mobility period.
- **Level of Study:** Senior UFS students (from second year of undergraduate study) registered for **Bachelor's, Honours, Master's, or PhD** qualifications may apply. *Applicants are required to consult Table 1 above carefully to confirm which host institution accepts their specific study level and course before submitting an application.*
- **Academic Performance:** Applicants must have achieved a **minimum average of 65%** in the previous academic year. An official academic transcript will be required as part of the application. *Applicants must not be repeating a module during this semester and must not have failed a module in the previous semester.*
- **Availability for Mobility:** Applicants must be available to participate in the mobility during the designated semester (with exact mobility dates subject to confirmation by the host institution). Students must ensure that their academic commitments at UFS allow for participation during this period.

NB: Meeting the above criteria does not guarantee selection, as placements remain competitive and subject to nomination and host institution approval.

General conditions and fees

- **First-Year Students:** No first-year undergraduate applications will be considered. Applicants must be senior students (from second year onwards) at the time of application.
- **Funding (Erasmus+):** These mobilities are **fully funded under the Erasmus+ Programme**. The grant covers approved mobility expenses in line with Erasmus+ guidelines, including the purchase of flight tickets arranged through the programme.



Students who are funded by **NSFAS** are **not required to cancel or forfeit their NSFAS funding** upon successful selection for the mobility programme.

- **Reporting and Communication:** Selected participants are required to submit a formal report upon completion of their exchange and may be requested to participate in promotional or feedback activities. Students are expected to respond promptly and professionally to all communication from the Office for International Affairs and the host institution.
- **Academic Responsibilities:** It remains the student's responsibility to submit all relevant UFS test and examination dates to the Office for International Affairs well in advance to ensure proper coordination with host institutions and academic departments.
- **Logistical Arrangements:** While the mobility is funded, students are responsible for arranging their **visa applications, insurance cover, and accommodation**, in accordance with the requirements of the host country and institution. The Office for International Affairs will provide guidance, but final responsibility rests with the student.
- Failure to comply with the above conditions may result in withdrawal of the mobility opportunity.

Application Process

All applications must be submitted to studyabroad@ufs.ac.za before the stated deadline. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.

- **Applicants are required to upload the following supporting documents:**
- Completed Application Form
***NB:** Ensure that all sections of the form are fully completed and accurate. Incorrect or missing information may result in disqualification.*
- Motivational Letter (Maximum 1–2 pages) **outlining: Mobility Objectives: *Clearly state your academic and professional goals for participating in the exchange.***

Benefit to Your Studies: Explain how the proposed mobility aligns with your current qualification and how it will contribute to your academic progression at UFS.

Personal Growth: Reflect on how the international experience will contribute to your personal development, intercultural competence, and future career aspirations.

- Abridged Curriculum Vitae (CV)

The CV should highlight your academic achievements, leadership roles, community engagement, research experience (if applicable), and any other relevant accomplishments.

- Proof of Registration

An official confirmation of your current full-time registration at UFS.

- Letter of Support (Master's and PhD Applicants Only)

Postgraduate applicants must submit a formal letter of support from their supervisor confirming academic approval for participation in the mobility and endorsement of the proposed study or research plan.

Contact

For queries or support with your application, contact:

studyabroad@ufs.ac.za

Subject line: *Student Exchange 2026 Application Query*



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