

Chung Chi College Exchange Programmes 2026/27
The Chinese University of Hong Kong
General Information

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A. Introduction

Chung Chi College Exchange Programmes provide invaluable experience about studying in other institutions. You can immerse yourself in a foreign culture, meet new people from all around the world and learn to be more independent. Through the Programmes, you can broaden your horizons, learn to observe matters in different angles and rediscover yourself.

Before the application of the Exchange Programmes, it is highly recommended to read the following document to familiarize yourself with essential information.

B. Preparation and Planning

1. Careful Planning

Planning to go on exchange should begin as early as possible. To qualify for admission to the exchange programmes and to make full advantage of the experience, you need to achieve certain academic standards and if necessary, build a good foundation in a foreign language. Careful planning will prepare you well for your exchange. Please also note that final-year students (with an expected graduation date on or before 31 July of the current academic year) are NOT eligible to apply for the Programme.

2. Observing the Requirements of CUHK

According to the Regulations Governing Full-time Undergraduate Studies, CUHK students who have satisfied all graduation requirements shall graduate (Regulation 12.1). Students are strongly recommended to plan in advance for their academic studies to go on exchange before earning all credit units required for CUHK graduation.

3. Reading the Programme Requirements Carefully

Students should read the Programme Requirements (the Requirements) thoroughly and carefully, of which the most recent version is available **HERE**. Please note that the finalized list of the programmes and quota may not be available until early-January 2026 so the Requirements available before that time are for your reference only.

During application the students can list at most 10 preferred exchange destinations in the form. You will have a chance to review your choices according to the finalized list in around early January 2026 (exact date to be announced separately).

C. Factors to Consider the Programmes

1. Destinations and Disciplines Available

Students should read carefully and thoroughly the (a) remarks and (b) available discipline(s) on the Requirements, as some programmes are NOT open to / ONLY open to students of certain disciplines. In addition, students should also pay special attention to the language(s) used in the courses.

2. Duration of College Exchange Programmes

To enable students to have comprehensive experience in host institutions, the duration of the College Exchange Programmes is usually one academic year, i.e., two (2) academic terms. For programmes in China, the Term 2-only option is also available.

Please also note that the terms of host institutions may be different from CUHK. You should browse the respective websites for details before making decision.

3. Maximum Cumulative Duration

Throughout the study period at CUHK, each student can go on exchange for a maximum of one academic year, i.e. exchange(s) in two (2) academic terms offered by any CUHK unit(s) plus one (1) university-wide summer exchange offered by the Office of Academic Links (OAL). Therefore, all students who have /will be participated in term-time exchange programmes can only apply for Term 2-only programmes in China.

4. GPA Requirements

Most exchange programmes have set the minimum GPA requirement for students. For most programmes in Europe and the United States, they require students to have at least 3.00 GPA on a 4.00 GPA scale, while the GPA requirements for institutions in Japan and Korea are usually lower.

Therefore, you should ensure that your cumulative GPA after Term 1 of 2025/26 (with NO ROUNDING) fulfills the required cumulative GPA of the specific programmes you are interested in according to the Requirements.

5. Language Proficiency

The partner institutions often require you to submit an official document, usually the result of language test, to certify your language proficiency when you apply for their programmes. While English is the major language in most programmes, you are reminded to check if the programme you are interested in has any non-English language requirements, which can be also checked from the Requirements.

i. English Language

A number of exchange programmes require students to provide a valid TOEFL/IELTS score by a specific deadline. You may check the test(s) accepted and the minimum requirement of TOEFL (internet-based) and/or IELTS scores on the document. If you are interested in any of these programmes, you are strongly advised to take the test as early as possible. For those programmes with TOEFL or IELTS requirements not mandatory, students are usually still required to provide a valid TOEFL or IELTS score when they submit their application to the host institution after being nominated.

Students should submit the test report of TOEFL or IELTS **which is issued on or after 1 September 2024** by the submission of revised choices. TOEFL MyBest Scores and the result from IELTS One Skill Retake are not acceptable. Otherwise, students will NOT be considered as eligible applicants for the exchange programmes. Some host institutions set the valid period of TOEFL/IELTS scores at 24 months prior to the commencement of exchange period. It is students' responsibility to ensure their TOEFL/IELTS scores meet the requirements set by the host institution and sit for a TOEFL or IELTS test again to meet their host institution's requirement if needed.

If the TOEFL/IELTS score report (if any) is no longer valid, students are still required to submit the report for the exchange application for reference purposes. If needed, please arrange to retake the TOEFL or IELTS test to fulfil the host institution requirements. In view of the limited available timeslots for IELTS or TOEFL tests, students should schedule to take/re-take a test as soon as possible.

For students who wish to go to **Australia** and **United Kingdom** for exchange, there are additional language requirements for visa application. You may refer to the official websites or the Application Manual by OAL regarding the requirements.

ii. Other Languages (e.g. French, German and Japanese)

Some institutions offer only a limited number of courses taught in English; so it is necessary for the students to have adequate foreign language proficiency.

If you would like to select an exchange programme that requires proficiency in other languages, you must indicate in the application webform that you at least possess the level of proficiency that is one level lower than the requirement. For example, if the requirement is an intermediate level of French, you need to indicate that you possess at least an elementary level of French. Otherwise, you will NOT be considered for that particular exchange programme.

Your level of language proficiency is likely related to the number of hours you have spent learning the language and it is usually not related to the course titles. For example, the immediate level courses at CUHK are NOT equivalent to CEFR B1 or B2. Students are advised to consult the language teacher for further assessment and guidance. For more information about European languages, please refer to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR).

6. Accommodation

Most partner institutions provide on-campus accommodation to exchange students. Depending on the programme structure, you will need to pay housing fees to the host institutions, or sometimes, to the College. On the other hand, some programs only offer off-campus accommodation only and the host institutions will usually assist students in finding them. For details, you may refer to the Requirements.

If students are living on-campus, please note that the hostels may close during the term break and they are responsible for arranging their accommodation during that period.

Students are expected to contact the host institution or other relevant agencies for accommodation. When necessary, you may need to arrive one or two weeks earlier at the destination to settle this matter.

D. Course Load Requirement and Credit Transfer

1. Course Load Requirement

Students are required to enroll in a minimum of nine (9) units and to obtain passing grades in at least six (6) units of courses per term or equivalent for term time exchange programmes. Failure to do so may lead to complications in graduation and/or claiming repayment of financial support provided through OAL and the College.

2. Credit Transfer

Students are strongly encouraged to visit the host institution website, gather relevant courses information and approach relevant CUHK academic departments which have full autonomy to determine which credits of courses taken abroad could be transferred to CUHK. They are also recommended to approach the department(s) for assessment of transferability about credits gained from particular courses, especially for students intended to meet the graduation requirements with the transferred credit units.

For administration, students should contact the Registration and Examinations Section (RES) at CUHK for instructions on transferring credits. Final approval for courses and unit exemption will only be given after the official transcript is received from the host institution with acceptable grade(s) for the course(s) concerned. In general, it takes at least two (2) months for the host institution to issue the official transcripts after the exchange programme ends.

3. Notes to Students Planning to Go on Exchange in Final Academic Year/Term

If students are planning to go on exchange in their final academic year/term, they should note and take into consideration that their graduation may possibly be affected if the official transcript not reaching RES by the specific deadline for record and seeking approval for course and unit exemption (if applicable) to meet the degree conferment date. The table below shows the degree conferment dates after 2026-27 and the deadlines for the official transcript reaching RES for record and to seek approval for course and unit exemption.

Expected Graduation Date	Degree Conferment Date	Deadline for official transcript reaching RES and/or completion of course and unit exemption procedures *
Summer, 2025-26	15 October 2026	Early September 2026
Term 1, 2026-27	31 March 2027	Mid-February 2027
Term 2, 2026-27	31 July 2027	Mid-June 2027
Summer, 2026-27	15 October 2027	Early September 2027
Term 1, 2027-28	31 March 2028	Mid-February 2028

* Actual deadlines will be released by RES in due course.

E. Financial Considerations

1. Cost

The fees for a typical exchange programme include CUHK tuition, CUHK and College Student Union fees (if applicable), accommodation (CUHK, host institution or private rental depending on the programme structure), health and travel insurance, meal plan, student visa, books and stationery, personal expenses, cultural activities, transportation, warm clothing (for some destinations), and airfare.

Before your departure for the exchange programme, you will need to pay the CUHK tuition fee and student union membership fees (if applicable). Depending on the structure of programmes, you may also be required to settle other fees before your departure and the College will contact you when this is the case. If you are unable to pay for these fees, you may face disqualification from the exchange programme.

2. Scholarship and Financial Assistance

The College provides various subsidies, such as scholarships and reimbursement of airfare for students. Travel loans and grants are also available to students who face financial difficulties.

The College reserves the right to terminate and claim repayment of the subsidy, scholarship or any financial aid to students if the students withdraw from the exchange programme at any time before the original completion date.

Students may also apply for financial support under CUHK Student Exchange Financial Aid and Scholarship Scheme (FASS) and EDB Subsidy Schemes. For details, please visit OAL website at <https://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/scholarshipsandfinancialaid>.

F. Useful Websites

Office of Academic Links (OAL): <https://www.oal.cuhk.edu.hk/gettingstarted/>

College Student Exchange Programme: <https://www.ccc.cuhk.edu.hk/en/content.php?wid=139>

G. Enquiries

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