

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

International Exchange Students

An Exchange Student is defined as a visiting student who is coming to NMSU for one semester to one Academic Year but is not seeking a degree. An Exchange Student typically comes to NMSU from one of NMSU's partner universities or one of NMSU's partner consortiums.

All international exchange students are required to be enrolled in NMSU-approved health insurance. Office of Education Abroad will enroll the students and bill the insurance amount to the student's account.

Exchange Students are required to attend a mandatory Orientation before courses begin. Orientation will be scheduled and facilitated by the Office of Education Abroad, abiding by guidelines set forth by the US government per J-1 visa requirements.

Exchange students are subject to the same English Language Proficiency policies outlined in the section on University Procedures for International Students.

Application Process for International Exchange Students

Prior to admission to NMSU, a prospective international exchange student must be nominated from their home university, complete an application with the Office of Education Abroad (OEA) and submit their required documents. The process is as follows:

1. Nomination for exchange must be submitted by the Home University to the Incoming Exchange Coordinator by March 15 for Fall semester and September 15 for Spring semester. Please see your home university exchange coordinator for more information and to complete the nomination process.
2. Once a nomination is received, students will be directed to make an account at the OEA website: <https://iss.nmsu.edu/>
3. The student is then required to complete the Exchange Student Nomination Form Questionnaire and upload the following documents:
 - a. Passport
 - b. Transcripts (in English)
 - c. Financial document showing proof of \$5,000 per semester attended. **ISEP students do not have to provide the financial documents**
 - d. Current TOEFL scores (2 years or less). See below for acceptable scores.
4. All international students, regardless of status, must apply for Admissions to NMSU <https://iss.nmsu.edu/future-students/undergraduate-admissions/step-1.html>. Once the Student's OEA application has been approved, **OEA Staff will submit the documents listed above to Admissions on behalf of the student.**

Academic Restrictions

The majority of the NMSU catalog applies to Exchange Students, with the following exceptions:

- Exchange students must take the English Language Placement Test.
- Courses must be taken at Main Campus only. Community college courses, including DACC, are not available to Exchange Students.
- The Nursing Department is the only department strictly off limits to exchange students, with case-by-case exception by the department

and this would have to be approved well in advance of the student being nominated.

- Exchange students are required to abide by all pre-requisite requirements and class size restrictions (i.e., if a course is closed when the student goes to register, an exception cannot be made).
- Online courses are restricted due to visa requirements (no more than three credits can be taken online. Additional fees will apply).