

2024/25 EXCHANGE STUDENT FACT SHEET

Application Procedure and Deadlines

Exchange students must be nominated via email notification to MCAD's International and Exchange Advisor by their home institution. Nominated students will be contacted directly with instructions on how to submit an online application by the dates outlined below. Application fees are waived for nominated exchange students.

+ Fall Semester (August - December)

Nomination by March 1st

Application by March 15th

Student Visa

All international students studying at a US college or university require a student visa. MCAD will issue a Form I-20, also called a Certificate of Eligibility, to show that a student has been admitted to a program of study in the United States. With an I-20, students are eligible to apply for an F-1 Student Visa at their local US Embassy or Consulate. The [US Department of State website](#) lists US Embassies and wait times for F-1 visa appointments. Students should make an appointment as soon as they receive their I-20.

In order for MCAD to process an I-20, students will need to complete an MCAD Financial Certification Form and provide proof of sufficient funding to cover the cost of living in the US for the duration of their program. Upon nomination, students will receive this form and instructions to gather any additional documentation required.

Housing

On campus housing is highly likely to be available for exchange students, however, it is not guaranteed. After receipt of their Financial Certification Form, students will receive a link to the MCAD on campus housing application. The application deadline is April 15th for the Fall semester. Housing assignment notifications are typically sent out in late June. The approximate cost of on campus housing for one semester is \$4650.

Meal Plan

MCAD has an on-campus café serving breakfast, lunch, dinner, and snacks. All MCAD students who reside on campus are required to purchase a food plan to be used in the MCAD Cafe. The plan will be automatically charged to each student's bill along with MCAD housing. During the first week of classes, students will receive via email a virtual MCAD Cafe card which operates much like an electronic gift card and can be used to make cafe purchases in person or via mobile phone.



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Health Insurance

Students are required to have comprehensive health insurance coverage during their time studying in the United States. MCAD recommends **iNext Insurance** for exchange students. Students may also choose to purchase the **MCAD health insurance**, offered through United Health. Before their arrival in the United States, students will be asked to provide proof of their health insurance coverage to the Student Affairs office.

Course Registration

Upon receipt of a student's completed Financial Certification Form, the International and Exchange Advisor will provide a course catalog from which students can select their classes. Students should work with their home school academic advisor to determine which classes are best for their degree progress. There are no restrictions regarding class registration for exchange students - students may register for any class offered as long as there is availability and they meet class prerequisites. A list of MCAD majors can be found **here**.

Students are required to enroll in at least 4 classes (equivalent to 12 credits) in order to comply with US immigration law, but may choose to enroll in up to 5 classes (15 credits).

Arrival and Departure

Students may arrive in the United States up to 30 days before their **program start date of August 19, 2024**, and must depart the United States no later than 60 days after their **program end date of December 13, 2024**. The program start and end dates will be listed on the student's I-20, Certificate of Eligibility.

All exchange students are required to attend an International Student Orientation during the first week of their program. Information about arrival and orientation schedule will be communicated by the International and Exchange Advisor upon receipt of the student's Financial Certification Form.

View the **MCAD Academic Calendar**

Transportation

MCAD is an urban campus within walking distance of restaurants, shopping, groceries, health clinics, pharmacies, and banks. We enjoy easy access to the local public transportation bus system, **MetroTransit**. Student transit passes may be purchased at the MCAD Art Cellar, our campus art supply store.

Our campus is about a 20-minute drive from Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport. We recommend that students download the Lyft or Uber applications for transportation to and from the airport. The average price of the trip is \$25 - \$35 US dollars.

