

Exchange Student Guide

Course Registration

For your first semester, you should fill out the online study plan form. We ask that you discuss course options with your home university advisor to make sure your selected BSU courses will be transferrable. Your Ball State academic advisor will use your study plan to help you register for your first semester of courses. If you are staying for a second semester, your Ball State academic advisor can help you select courses as registration time opens up (typically in October/November).

Billing

Per our exchange agreements, you are not responsible for the following items: non-resident tuition, student services fee, recreation fee, technology fee, transportation fee, or program fees. If you see any of those items on your bill, please contact the Rinker Center.

It is also important that you monitor your Ball State bill to make sure you are paying any course fees, housing fees, and other charges. If you have questions about your bill, please contact the Rinker Center.

Engaging on campus

There are many ways to get involved on campus. We've outlined a few of those opportunities below.

Weeks of Welcome

At Ball State, we know how important it is for your transition to include a variety of experiences that help you connect to the people, places, and traditions that will help you be successful.



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Cultural Programming

The Rinker Center for Global Affairs offers programs and events where students from all over the world can share their cultures. We offer culture exchanges where students present their home country/culture to the campus community, cooking nights, and international hangouts. If you are interested in presenting about your home country, contact [intlstsucccess@bsu.edu](mailto:intlstsuccess@bsu.edu).



Benny Buddies

Benny Buddies is an excellent way to get connected with other BSU students. Students who sign up for this program are paired with another BSU student. We pair international students and domestic students together; the students then find times to meet throughout the semester/academic year. There are also exclusive Benny Buddies events for students who have signed up.



Ball State Events

Our university almost always has something going on. You can attend various performances, musicals, plays, musical artists, guest lecturers and more!



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Student Organizations

Ball State students have access to hundreds of student groups. These groups are formed around student interests and identities, and any BSU student is welcome to start their own group as well.



End of Program

At the end of your program, you will want to do the following:

1. **Walking at graduation.** We have had some exchange students who want to experience a US graduation ceremony. You will need to complete an application for that. If you are interested, please contact the Rinker Center for more information. It is better to reach out earlier in the semester as there is usually a deadline to apply, and you will also need to purchase graduation gowns, caps, etc.
2. **Get any necessary documents signed in the Rinker Center.** This can include scholarship letters that your home university or government may require.
3. **Order transcripts.** You are able to order free transcripts at the end of your program. Your home university will likely need these to award your transfer credit. You will receive an email from the Rinker Center with directions toward the end of your program.
4. **Check your bill.** It is possible that there were charges added to your Ball State bill prior to your departure and even after your departure. This can include any BSU Library late fees, housing damages, and more. It will be important to pay that off as soon as you can. Reach out to the Rinker Center if you have questions.
5. **Keep in touch!** We remain available for support as you need it even after your program. If you find that you need transcripts again in the future and need help figuring that out or would like to just give an update, feel free to reach out!



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