

Global Exchange Frequently Asked Questions

General Information Before the Application

What is the Global Exchange Program?

The Global Exchange Program is an exchange program that allows students to study for one or two semesters at a partner institution of Özyeğin University within non-European countries. This program also includes the Swiss European Mobility Program (SEMP), which offers the opportunity to be an exchange student in Switzerland with a grant from the Swiss Government.

What is the difference between the Erasmus+ and the Global Exchange Program?

Erasmus+ is an exchange program that is carried out in the member or candidate countries of the European Union. Erasmus+ students can also receive grant support to help with their expenses. On the other hand, the Global Exchange Program is an exchange program that is mainly carried out in non-European countries such as the USA, Japan, South Korea, China, Mexico, etc. This program does not provide grant support. It is possible to benefit from the financial support only within the scope of the SEMP, which is provided by the Swiss Government.

Who can apply to the Global Exchange Program?

- Students who meet the conditions specified in the application announcement and have sufficient CGPA can apply to the program.
- Alumni, English Preparatory Program students, Scientific Preparatory Program students, special students and students who are not enrolled at Özyeğin University cannot apply to the program.
- It is not possible to apply to the Global Exchange program from a minor program.

How can I apply?

- Application is made by following the steps in the application announcement, which is usually posted in November on MyOzU.
- If quotas remain empty after the first application period in November, a second application call can be announced in April or May.
- Applications can only be made online, in the specified application period, and via the platforms posted in the announcement.

When and for how long can I participate in the Global exchange program?

- Applications are usually open in November every year and received for participation in the exchange during the following academic year. *For instance, if you apply in November 2023, you would be applying for either the Fall or the Spring semester of the 2024-2025 academic year. In other words, a student applying in their 2nd year applies to be an exchange student in their 3rd year.*

- Students who apply in the second call for applications, which usually opens around April-May, can only participate in the exchange program in the spring semester in the following academic year.

What is the language criteria for the application? Can I apply without a foreign language certificate?

- The required language criteria are published in the application announcement. If partner universities have specific conditions, they are also stated in the same list.
- An application can be submitted without a language proficiency document. Students who successfully complete their application are given additional time to submit a language certificate.
- However, in any case, only students who submit the required language certificate before the specified deadline are eligible to become Global Exchange students.

In which countries/universities can I participate in the program?

Ozyegin University's partner institutions in the Global Exchange program can be viewed on the [Partner Institutions](#) webpage. However, there may be institutions that are on our general list but cannot be selected in the relevant application period. Therefore, the detailed lists published in the application announcement will be valid.

Can I do my Global Exchange mobility in a university that is not a partner institution?

Within the scope of the Global Exchange program, attendance is possible only for Ozyegin University's partner institutions. It is not possible to participate in the Global Exchange program at non-partner universities (those do not have an agreement with Ozyegin University).

How many universities can I select?

Students may select up to three (3) institutions from the partners list during the application process.

How should I list my preferences?

It is recommended to check the conditions specified in the list of partner institutions published in the application announcement carefully. Our students are advised to choose according to their own personal priorities.

If I have failed courses at Ozyegin University, can I still participate in the Global Exchange Program?

Even if there are failed courses, the application can be submitted if the conditions specified in the application announcement and the minimum CGPA requirements are met.

Do I have to have a passport while I am applying?

There is no requirement to have a passport while applying. However, it is advised to apply for a passport as soon as possible after the placement results are announced.

Will I pay a tuition fee to the partner university if I participate to Global Exchange Program?

Students are exempted from paying a tuition fee at the host university. However, students are responsible for covering their own living and accommodation expenses during their exchange period.

Will I renew my registration at the OzU in my exchange semester?

Students participating in the Global Exchange program are required to renew their registration at OzU.

Will my cash/meal/dormitory scholarship be cancelled during the exchange semester?

It is advised for students who receive cash/meal/dormitory scholarships from OzU to discuss their scholarship status for their exchange semester with the Scholarships/Financials Unit in the Student Services.

If I participate in the Global Exchange program, will it affect my graduation date?

Before the start of your exchange period, your course selections are approved by the Faculty Program Coordinator through the Course Transfer and Adaptation Table. At the end of the exchange period, the adaptation process is initiated upon receiving the transcript in our office provided by the partner institution. Successfully completed courses are transferred to your OzU transcript with their credit and grade equivalents. Failed courses are not transferred; these courses are expected to be completed during the period of study at OzU.

Can I participate in the Global Exchange program in my final year of study?

It is possible to participate in the Global Exchange program in your final year of study if you meet the condition of having at least 24 ECTS credits left for the graduation requirements and other specified standard conditions. However, it should be taken into consideration that graduation may be delayed in case of failed courses at the host university.

Can I participate in both the Erasmus+ Study Mobility and the Global Exchange Program?

It is possible to participate in both programs. However, it is necessary to plan participation in both programs by taking into account the requirements for a sufficient credit load, how this process will be financed, the possibility of overlapping semester start and end dates at the host universities, and how the visa procedure, accommodation, transportation etc. processes will be organized.

I am doing a double major/minor, can I participate in the Global Exchange program?

Double-major students can only apply through one of the major programs they are studying. Global Exchange application cannot be made through the minor program.

If my studies have already been extended, can I still participate in the Global Exchange program?

You can participate in the program as long as you meet the criteria specified in the application announcement and on the "active student" status at OzU.

The 1st and 2nd semester dates of the university I want to do my exchange semester are different from OzU, how do I know which semester I can participate in the Global Exchange?

Different from our university; especially in Asia region, the first months of the year can be defined as the first semester and the last months of the year can be defined as the second semester. Therefore,

the first semester at the partner university may correspond with the spring semester at OzU and the second semester with the fall semester at OzU. It is important to check the dates you will plan to be at the partner university rather than the semester name. Based on this information, if you want to participate in the program during your Spring semester at OzU, the period corresponding to this period at the partner university will be your exchange period.

Will applying to the Global Exchange program affect my Erasmus+ study/traineeship mobility application?

Applying for the Global Exchange program does not affect Erasmus+ study/traineeship mobility applications. Only students who wish to participate in both programs in the same academic year should plan their timeline accordingly and make sure that both programs do not overlap with the study period at OzU or their study/traineeship period abroad.

I applied for Global Exchange before but I have cancelled, can I apply again?

Yes, but students who have not applied before are prioritized in scoring/ranking.

Information Before the Start of the Exchange Semester

I have been accepted to the Global Exchange program. What is the next step?

- Pre-departure orientation meetings are organized for the eligible students about all the steps. In these meetings, detailed information about all processes such as documentation, course selection, visas, insurance, etc. are provided.
- In the first step, all students are nominated to the institution where they are initially placed. After the nomination process, the placed students apply to the partner university.
- Then, the placed students apply to the partner university to become an exchange student.

I am eligible to participate in the program. Why do I need to make a separate application to the university I am placed to?

Ozyegin University is responsible for selecting and nominating exchange students based on minimum criteria. However, being placed/nominated at a partner university does not automatically mean that you have been accepted by the partner university. Partner universities receive many nominations from their own partners every year for exchange. Universities evaluate each candidate separately based on their own criteria and determine the number of exchange students they will accept per semester. For this reason, it is not enough to complete the process and be placed at Ozyegin University; each student must make an individual application to the partner university receive an acceptance letter.

Can I change the university I have been placed to?

Once you have been placed to a partner university during the evaluation process, it is not possible to change it. For this reason, it is recommended to consider your preferences and priorities when choosing

a partner university and only choose universities you can consider attending. Preferred universities and the order of preference cannot be changed after the applications are closed.

However, if there is a force majeure situation in the host country, our office will be able to exceptionally evaluate your situation.

Is support provided for accommodation/visa/insurance/transportation etc.?

Students are responsible for all of these processes. However, some official support letters that need to be submitted during the visa application are prepared by our office.

It is recommended for students to receive support from the host university for insurance requirements and accommodation options in the host country.

I have been accepted to participate in the Global Exchange program. Can I cancel my application?

Yes, you can cancel your application. In that case, you need to inform our office about your request for cancellation. Taking no action will not result in cancellation automatically. The cancellation process is done according to the student's written request.

Can I change the semester I will participate in the Global Exchange program?

When applying, it is important to clarify which semester you want to participate in the program and make a clear decision. If you wish to change your semester, you must notify our office in written form.

Courses Taken in the Exchange Semester, Transfer of Grades and Credit Adaptation Process

Which courses will I take in my exchange semester?

You are expected to select courses according to the course catalogue of your host university and with the approval of your [Faculty Program Coordinator](#). The relevant approvals must be obtained by completing the Course Transfer and Adaptation Table document.

How many credits do I need to take in my exchange semester?

You are expected to take courses corresponding to 30 ECTS credits per semester. The document that determines how these credits will be transferred within the scope of your graduation obligations at OzU is the Course Transfer and Adaptation Table.

Should I select courses at OzU before starting my exchange semester?

You are expected to complete the course selection process in your host university with their guidance. You do not need to select courses during OzU's course selection period before you start your exchange semester.

Will the courses I take on my exchange semester affect my GPA?

All the courses that you have taken and successfully completed (with a passing grade) at the host university are transferred to your OzU transcript with their credits and grades and will affect your

CGPA. Failed courses (courses with the grade “F” or equivalent) are not transferred. You are required to retake the courses at OzU which are considered equivalent to those failed courses in the Course Transfer and Adaptation Table.

You can check the [webpage including grade conversation tables](#) to view how the grades received at the host university will be transferred to the OzU transcript.

The Period After the Exchange Semester Starts

Do I have to attend the orientation program that my host university will organize at the beginning of the semester?

The orientation program organized by the partner university is an event to help you adjust to the city/country by sharing important information and materials you may need during the exchange period. Additionally, this is an opportunity to meet other exchange students before the semester starts. Therefore, it is important to attend the partner university’s orientation program for a successful exchange semester. Additionally, attending the orientation program is mandatory for completing the course selection and registration processes at some partner universities.

I have to arrive at the partner university after the semester has started due to my extended visa procedures/finals at OzU etc., what should I do?

- In this case, it is crucial to inform both our office and partner university about the situation. By explaining the reason for your delayed arrival after the semester has already started and providing the earliest possible date of your arrival, it is critical to discuss how this might affect your exchange semester.
- If the visa process extends and causes a delay in your arrival to the partner university, it is advised to notify the official visa application agency/consulate about your situation. You may also request support from your partner university regarding the process.
- If your finals overlap with the start of your exchange period, discussing options with your faculty, such as early exam participation or taking exams at the host institution is important. Upon faculty approval, necessary arrangements will be made for the completion of the final exams and to arrive at your host university on time.

Can I request to cancel my exchange semester after it has already started?

If a cancellation request is submitted after the start of the exchange period, you may not be able to register for courses at OzU for the same semester. Therefore, this request must be submitted to our office before travelling and before the start of the course registration period at OzU.

My exchange semester has started, but I want to change my courses. What should I do?

If you wish to make changes to the courses you have taken (or to the courses you have matched to transfer at OzU) during your exchange period, you must inform your Program Coordinator. After obtaining their approval, a new Course Transfer & Adaptation Table must be completed and submitted to our office. Course changes that are not approved by the Program Coordinator within the specified period and not forwarded to the International Exchange Programs Office for eligibility are considered invalid.

I have been accepted to the Global Exchange program, can I participate in the program for one more semester?

- Only those who are Global Exchange students during the Fall semester can extend their exchange semester to the Spring semester. In this regard, the requests of students who are on exchange in the Fall semester should be submitted to our office first. At the same time, it should be discussed whether there are enough offered courses at the partner university during the extended semester and course equivalencies with the OzU Program Coordinator. If approved, the partner university will be informed about your request. Once the partner university approves your extension request, the required documents for the second semester (including the Course Transfer and Equivalency Table) should be prepared and necessary applications must be submitted.
- Students who had participated in the Global Exchange program for one semester and returned after completing this semester must re-apply if they wish to participate again.

As the Exchange Semester Ends

Do I have something I need to do before my Global Exchange semester ends?

- Students must ensure that course changes made during the exchange semester have been approved by the Program Coordinator. Courses that have not been approved will not be transferred.
- The certificate of attendance from the partner university must be completed before your return.
- It is important for your grade conversion process to learn when and to whom your transcript will be sent (to our office or to you) before the end of the semester. If you receive your transcript, you must check the accuracy of the information and send it to our office.

After the Exchange Semester

What if I fail a course/courses in the exchange semester?

Failed courses are not transferred to your OzU transcript. If the relevant course is matched to a course at Özyeğin University in the Course Transfer and Adaptation Table, you must take this course during your studies at Özyeğin University as if it had never been taken. For the graduation requirements, fewer credits than expected at the beginning of the semester will be completed.

Which documents should I send when I finish my exchange semester?

At the end of the exchange period, an official Transcript of Records must be received by our office for the courses completed and successfully passed at the partner university.