California State University (CSU) Systemwide Student Exchange Program
Objectives

The objectives of this presentation is to:

• Share a brief history of student exchange
• Provide an overview of the CSU Systemwide Student Exchange Program and our 23 campuses
• Explain how students select campuses
J-1 Visa Exchange Visitor Program

National program was introduced in 1961.

Its purpose is to promote cultural exchange and understanding.

Exchange students serve as ambassadors from their home countries and their home universities.
California State University
Office of the Chancellor, Headquarters for the California State University System

- Created in 1960
- Nation’s largest four-year public university with 23 campuses
- Educates the most ethnically, economically and academically diverse student body in the nation

Click [here](#) to access the CSU Fact Book 2020
California State University

• Has eight northern, five central and ten southern campuses in California

• Stretches 800 miles from Humboldt in the north to San Diego in the south
CSU Systemwide Student Exchange Program

Exchange students study:

- Fall: August/September to December*
- Winter/Spring: January-May/June*
- One term up to one academic year
- At the undergraduate level

CSU offers subjects in many different academic disciplines.

*Cal Poly San Luis Obispo is CSU’s only quarter-based campus.
  - Fall quarter: September to December
  - Winter and Spring quarters: January to June
For more detailed information about campus costs, health insurance, grade requirements and English proficiency requirements, refer to [CSU Campus Cost and Requirements](#) found on our website.
CSU Campus Selection

Applicants can select campuses that:

• Fit within their budget; and

• Meet their academic, career and/or personal goals.
CSU Campus Selection

Applicants initially apply to the CSU. To select campuses:

1. Search for your subject area: Search CSU Degrees.
2. Use CSU Campus and Course Selection Guidelines to find out if subject area is open to exchange students.
3. Review CSU Campuses at a Glance to get familiar with campuses. Also visit CSU campus websites and explore subjects offered at the campuses.
4. Check campus requirements including English proficiency test scores and Campus Cost and Requirements.

Note: Information is subject to change.
CSU Campus Selection

Applicants:

• Select up to four campuses and must be prepared to attend any of the campus choices on their application.

• Refer to CSU Campus and Course Selection Guidelines and other documents to select campuses and subjects to complete their applications.

If applicants select one of the competitive campuses, they must also select additional campuses on their applications.
Subject/Course Selection

Applicants submit a list of eight subjects (called courses) on their CSU applications.

• Refer to “CSU Campus and Course Selection Guidelines” for subject areas that are restricted and limited (currently being updated for 2021-22).
• Refer to “CSU Subject/Course Information” webpage to find course descriptions and other information.
• Only select undergraduate courses.
• Meet any course prerequisites listed in the campus catalog for that campus.
Business

Applicants who wish to study business at the CSU through the CSU Systemwide Student Exchange Program 1) must have successfully completed the equivalent of one semester’s worth of business subjects based on full time studies, 2) must be enrolled in a business degree at their home institution, and 3) must meet prerequisites for subjects they wish to take at the CSU campuses listed on their applications.

Film Studies/Production

Applicants who wish to study film at the CSU through the CSU Systemwide Student Exchange Program 1) must have successfully completed the equivalent of one semester’s worth of film subjects (including production) based on full time studies, 2) must be enrolled in a film studies degree at their home institution, and 3) must meet prerequisites for subjects they wish to take at the CSU campuses listed on their applications.

Note: Not all campuses which offer business or film studies are available to exchange students.
CSU Campuses

CSU campuses offer:

• Support for international exchange students
• Health and counseling services
• Academic advising
• Career planning services

Several campuses offer buddy/friendship programs (e.g. Channel Islands, Chico, Fresno, and San Luis Obispo).
Housing and Transportation

Each campus has different housing options and a housing office to provide guidance.

Public transportation offers student fares. At some campuses, local bus transportation is free to students (e.g. Chico, Humboldt, Monterey Bay, and San Luis Obispo).

Visit campus websites for information.
Student Life

CSU campuses offer a wide variety of events and activities during the year such as concerts, live theatre, special lectures, fairs, socials, international events and sporting events.
Participate in sports and recreation activities such as fitness classes, weight training and team sports.

Some campuses have aquatic centers (e.g. Chico, Fresno, Fullerton, Long Beach, Northridge, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and San Jose).
Get Involved

• Join clubs and organizations
• Volunteer on campus or in the community through “service learning” or “community engagement” programs
Many campuses organize outdoor adventure activities at reasonable costs to students. Examples can include rock climbing, hiking, camping, surfing, horseback riding, zip-lining, skiing/snowboarding, kayaking, team activities, and more.
Celebrate Diversity

CSU campuses celebrate the cultural traditions, heritage and diversity of our students. We invite exchange students to join in the festivities.
Student Testimonials

“Going to class was amazing! I was able to create true relationships with my professors who were really dedicated and committed to help all of their students.”

Leslie from Université Paris Diderot VII, France

“One of the things I enjoyed most were the day trips organized by the university for international students. I loved how there was so much to do on campus, e.g. going to movie night every two weeks and participating in fitness courses.”

Student from the University of Tuebingen, Germany

By far the most rewarding part of my experience was meeting so many new people, from Americans from all over California to other exchange students from all over the globe, many of whom I keep in contact with.”

Sam from the UK

My campus “offered plenty of activities as well like sport events, scavenger hunts, hikes, etc. so it was impossible to get bored.”

Marcel from Ulm University of Applied Sciences, Germany
The “exchange program between my home university and my host university was an invaluable experience. There is not one single aspect that I enjoyed most about the experience! Instead there are a hundred! To name just a few:

I experienced a multifaceted educational system that furthered my knowledge, I grew in cultural competence by living in a diverse culture, I made great friends I will never let go of, I met professors committed to doing extraordinary research and I travelled around beautiful California.

In other words, I am filled with memories that will last a lifetime!”

Madeleine from University of Konstanz, Germany
Intakes

Fall intake:
• Information is made available by end November.
• Applications are accepted in February.

January intake:
• Information is made available by late June.
• Applications are accepted in August.

Refer to our website to more information.
Welcome to our Office!

Coming soon to our website at www.calstate.edu/csuechange (or csuip.calstate.edu)
Be Informed

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, CSU International Programs suspended exchange programs in 2020-21.

Websites about COVID-19 in California:

- COVID-19 in California
- California Department of Public Health
- California Travel Alerts

(Links also found on our Health and Safety webpage.)
Discover California

Discover California virtually! Go to the Visit California which highlights:
• California’s 12 regions
• Places to visit
• Things to do
• Travel tips
• California Responsible Travel Code

Due to COVID-19, California has not fully reopened. When we do, California and the CSU will be waiting for your arrival.

View the Dream California Video.
For more information visit our website: Study at the CSU
(calstate.edu/csu-exchange)

Exchange partners may contact us at csuexchange@calstate.edu. Interested students are advised to contact their exchange coordinator at their home university.
CSU International Programs looks forward to welcoming exchange students in 2021-22!

CSUIP.CALSTATE.EDU