Universität Regensburg

International Office
Contact:
international.exchange-student@ur.de

Universität Regensburg (D REGENSB01)
Fact Sheet for Incoming Exchange Students and their Advisors
Academic Year 2025-2026

I. Dates

nomination deadline	**Winter semester 25/26: May 1, 2025 ***	**Summer semester 26: November 1, 2025**
Application deadline (for admission, housing and intensive language course):	**Winter semester 25/26: May 15, 2025 ***	**Summer semester 2026: November 15, 2025**
	Date of receipt by UR.	
sending of info package/letters of admission	Ca. June 15th - July 15th	Ca. December 15th
	Students who need a visa will be given preferential treatment.	
ILC		
arrival dates for intensive language course / check-in into student residences	September 2 and 3	March 3 and 4
orientation on campus and in town / placement test for language course / administrational matters	September 4 - 7	March 5 – 8
course dates intensive language course	September 8 – October 2	March 9 - April 2
Orientation Course		
arrival dates for orientation course *(attention: October 3rd is a bank holiday – the university will be closed!)*	October 6	April 7
course dates of orientation course including orientation on campus and in town	October 7- October 10	April 8 - April 10
Lecture period	October 13 – February 6	April 13 - July 17
Examination period	Last week of lecture period& following week	Last week of lecture period& following week
	Exceptions: Business and Economics students may have exams until late March (for WS) and late August (for SS) Essays can often be handed in until the end of the semester, cf. below.	
Official Semester Period	October 1 – March 31	April 1 – September 30

*** Nomination of Candidates – Please pay attention to our nomination deadline**
Students have to be nominated within the above mentioned deadlines by using our nomination sheet which you have received with the same email as this fact sheet.
Deadlines are May 1 for the winter semester, and November 1 for the summer semester.

II. Application documents – Online application form

After having received the official nomination, students will receive further information from us on the application process.
The online registration form and all other important information on the application process can be found on our websites:

German version:
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/international/incomings/austausch/bewerbung/index.html

English version:
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/incomings/exchange-programs/application/index.html

Please note that the online application form is only open within a certain time frame. It will be closed after our application deadlines. A late registration is therefore not possible unless we have made special individual arrangements.

This is what students have to do:

Fill in the online application form (either the German or the English version) and upload the following documents:

- Scan of passport/ ID Card
- Proof of Health Insurance (if available at the time of the application)
- Proof of German knowledge – for students who want to take courses taught in German
- Proof of English knowledge – for students who want to take courses taught in English
- Transcript of Records
- Preliminary Learning Agreement (if it is not possible to get the coordinator's signature at this time, students can send it without)

Only complete applications will be accepted. Please do not wait until the last minute to fill in the online application, as it takes some time to get all documents collected.

III. Admission Requirements /Language Pre-requisites

Admission requirements:
All exchange students have to be in good academic standing and need to be officially nominated by their home university.

With their application, students have to hand in proof of their language skills:
In general, all official tests such as Goethe-Certificates, Test-DaF, TOEFL, IELTS etc. are accepted, as well as confirmations by a language teacher or the International Office of the partner university, or the ERASMUS language test. Students should have language skills on level B2 in order to follow academic courses in the respective language. This proof of language skills should not be older than two years at the time of application.

German language skills:
In order to follow academic courses **taught in German,** students should have a sound level of **B2 in German**. Please note that the Medical Faculty regards a German level of end of B2/beginning of C1 at the time of their application as the minimum language requirement for their students, especially if they have

patient contact. This also applies to the Department of German (NOT *German as a Foreign Language* but *German Language and Literature*).

Therefore:

Students with German knowledge of **B2** (according to CEFR) **or higher** can choose courses from both the German and the English-taught course program during the semester (for language pre-requisites in English, please see below) and are advised to arrive in Regensburg for the regular orientation course.

Students with **no German knowledge or German knowledge between A1 and C1** (according to CEFR) at the time of arrival:

- These students may apply for the pre-semester intensive language course (ILC) that takes place in September/October and March/April. The course will take place on at least six different levels (A1.1-B2.2) as long as we have enough participants for each language level.

  ILC course costs: 395 Euros for ERASMUS students, 475 Euros for all other exchange students (costs may be subject to change).

  As the course is quite popular with exchange students, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to offer a place to all applicants, especially if too many students apply for the same course level. Applicants will be informed by the beginning of December/June whether they have been selected.

  Students who are officially accepted into the ILC will have to participate in a mandatory placement test after arrival in Regensburg. Absolute beginners do not need to submit any language certificates or take any of the placement tests.

- Even after the ILC, most students will probably lack the necessary pre-requisites to successfully follow courses in German. They should therefore take courses from the English-taught program and/or further classes in German as a Foreign Language. We recommend that students have a sound level B2 before they attend German-taught courses.

- Students who cannot or do not want to attend the ILC can take German language courses during the semester. The International Office offers orientation programs for these students in English and German about a week before the start of the lecture period.

English language skills:
Students wishing to take courses from the English-taught course program should have English knowledge at **level B2** (according to CEFR) or better.
Please note:
Students wishing to take courses from the English-taught course program in the Faculty of **Business**, **Economics** and **Management Information Systems** should have English knowledge at **level B2/C1** (according to CEFR) or better.

IV. Visa and Residence Permit

1. Visa

Students with passports from the following countries **currently do not need a visa** to enter Germany: All EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Switzerland.

Students from e.g. Australia, Brazil, Canada, Israel, Japan, New Zealand, South Korea, United Kingdom, and the USA also do not need a visa to enter Germany and can apply for a residence permit after they have arrived in Regensburg (see below).

Students from all other countries need to apply for a visa ("Visum zu Studienzwecken", "Nationales Visum") at the German embassy/consulate, responsible for their place of residence.

Exception: **ERASMUS- exchange students who already have a residence permit *for study purposes* issued by another *full member* of the "Schengen area "**(because they study at a university within the "Schengen area") may enter Germany under the new EU Directive (2016/801) for Researchers and Students (called REST). In that case they neither need to apply for a visa nor for a residence permit in Germany. However, this applies only if the students can present the following documents to the International Office of UR beforehand:

- A valid residence permit issued by the other EU-member country covering also the study period of their time in Regensburg.
- A valid passport copy
- A valid proof of health insurance covering the entire duration of their study period in Germany
- A proof that you have sufficient financial means for your exchange stay in Regensburg (currently 992€ per month)

Students applying for a visa usually need to prove acceptance by a German university (via the "Zulassungsbescheid", letter of acceptance), valid health insurance, and funding of their stay.

Detailed information on the visa process is provided by your local German embassy/consulate:
https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/visa-service
The visa process takes at least 6 weeks or longer. Therefore, students should inform themselves of all visa requirements and **start preparing their documents as soon as they are selected** as exchange students, so that once they receive their letter of acceptance, they can immediately start the application process.

2. Residence permit /Registration of address

Once in Regensburg, all students have to register with the local Foreigners' Registration Office, a part of the Regensburg City Administration.

1) EU citizens: students only need to register their new address and do not have to pay any fees
2) Non-EU citizens: students who do not have a long-term visa (= covering the whole exchange period in Regensburg) need to apply for a German residence permit. The fee for issuing the residence permit is currently EUR 100 per person. Additionally, students also need to register their new address.

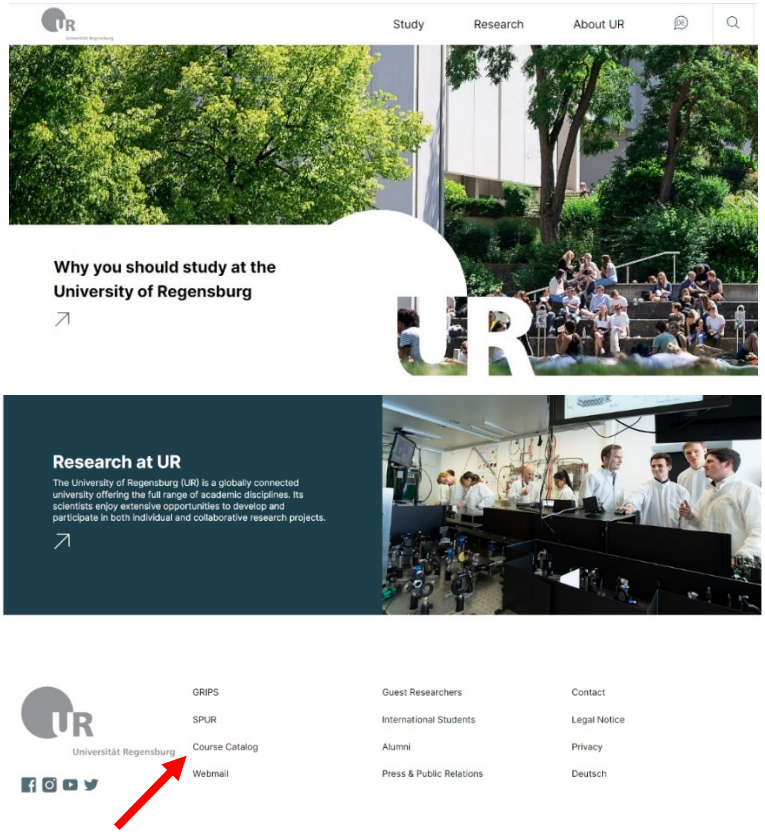
UR International guides all students through the entire application process.

V. Courses

1. Course Information / Course Registration / Course Load

Information on all courses can be accessed via the course catalogue.

The online course system is called SPUR: Go to the English version of our homepage (https://www.uni-regensburg.de/en) and scroll down to the very bottom where you will find the link to the course catalogue:



Direct link to course catalogue: https://campusportal.uni-regensburg.de/qisserver/pages/cm/exa/coursecatalog/showCourseCatalog.xhtml?_flowId=showCourseCatalog-flow&_flowExecutionKey=e1s1

As the course catalogue is always published very late, students will have to work with former semesters for preparing their learning agreements.

Registration for courses usually takes place after arrival in Regensburg during the Intensive Language Course and/or the Orientation Program. The normal **course load** is 30 ECTS credits per semester. However, this may vary according to the guidelines by the home institution. Courses can take place in the time frame of Mon-Sat between 8:00 and 20:00. (However, courses on Saturdays are a rare exception.)

2. Courses offered in English

Many of UR's faculties offer several English-taught courses to cater to the needs of those exchange students that have no or only basic knowledge of German. These are not special exchange student courses but regular degree courses taught in English and it most cases targeted at **3rd year Bachelor** or **1st year Master students** (Especially in Business and Economics!).

You can find information in the course catalogue as well as on our websites.

3. Learning German:

Students can improve their German before the lecture period starts by participating in the pre-semester intensive language course (ILC, also see above). Students will receive 12 ECTS for regular attendance and successful participation. Possible course levels are A1, A2, B1, and B2 (all levels according to CEFR).

During the lecture period, UR's Language Center offers an extensive program of German courses, free of charge. A detailed program can be found here:
http://www.uni-regensburg.de/zentrum-sprache-kommunikation/daf/kurse/studienbegleitende-deutschkurse/index.html
The levels are A1, A2, B1, B2, C1 and C2 (according to CEFR).
Students can obtain credits for all of these courses.

The **German as a Foreign Language Unit** also offers the following official language certificates:
For the levels C1 and C2: Students can obtain a UNIcert certificate (additional fees apply).

4. Learning other languages

Besides learning German, exchange students are also welcome to take courses from the Languages Unit ("SFA"), which teaches all kinds of languages from Arabic to Russian on a credit basis. Unfortunately, these courses are not free of charge. The fee will be 12.50 EUR per weekly contact hour (1 contact hour being 45min.). I.e. a course that takes place every Monday from 9.00- 10.30 am during the whole of the lecture period will be EUR 25.
The courses offered are listed in the course catalogue (link see above under IV.1, then follow "Courses open to students of all faculties -- Courses from the Center of Language and Communication (ZSK) -- "Studienbegleitende Fremdsprachenausbildung (SFA)").

5. Grading System

Grading System I (all faculties except Law Faculty):

Regensburg Grades in words	Regensburg Grades	Definition
1 = sehr gut	1,0 1,3	excellent: outstanding performance with only minor errors
2 = gut	1,7 2,0 2,3	very good: above the average standard but with some errors
3 = befriedigend	2,7 3,0 3,3	good: generally sound work with a number of notable errors
4 = ausreichend	3,7	satisfactory: fair but with significant shortcomings
4 = ausreichend	4,0	sufficient: performance meets the minimum criteria
5 = nicht genügend	4,3	fail: some more work required before the credit can be awarded
5 = nicht genügend	4,7 5,0	fail: considerable further work is required

Grading System II (Law Faculty):

Law Grade	Definition (according to exam regulations for German law students)
18 - 16 = sehr gut	a particularly outstanding achievement
15- 14 = gut	an achievement that lies significantly above the average standard
12 - 10 = vollbefriedigend	an achievement that surpasses the average standard
9 - 7 = befriedigend	an achievement that in every regard fulfils the average standard
6 - 5 = ausreichend	an achievement that fulfils the average standard despite deficiencies
4 = ausreichend	
3 - 1 = mangelhaft	an achievement that suffers considerably from deficiencies, as a whole no longer useful
0 = ungenügend	a wholly poor performance

Please note that UR is not using the ECTS grading scheme.

The winter semester consists of 15 weeks of instruction.

The summer semester consists of 14 weeks of instruction.

VI. Student Life

1. Housing

All exchange students should apply for student housing in one of the dormitories through the online application portal. The International Office will do its best to reserve rooms for all exchange students provided that

- they apply and send their documents within the deadline and
- they come for full semester(s).

Short term stays can only be accommodated subject to availability.

Please note: We will only make a room reservation for students for the duration of their stay (one or two semesters) **as indicated on the housing form and according to their nomination.**

UR does not have on-campus accommodation. The dormitories are located throughout Regensburg but all have good bus connections to campus (a bus ticket is included in the student ID).

Rooms are single rooms with shared kitchen and bathroom. A limited number of rooms with own kitchen and bathroom are available. If students want/or need such a room, they should please provide this information in their housing application. A very limited number of double rooms are available. This is not one room shared by two people, but a flat with two individual rooms, bathroom, and kitchen.

Students can inform the Accommodation Office about special needs in the application form. The Accommodation Office will do its best to fulfill all needs, although it is not always possible.

The deposit for the room is currently € 350. However, the deposit will probably be increased within the next few months. We will inform nominated students of the exact amount as soon as we get the information from the dormitories.
The reservation fee is €175 (costs may be subject to changes).
Rent is paid via direct debit from a German bank account at the beginning of each month. Monthly rents can vary between €300 and € 450 (depending on the size, location and amenities of the room).

For further information on accommodation please see our website:
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/incomings/exchange-programs/accommodation/index.html .

2. Health Insurance

All students need to prove adequate health insurance to UR (once in Regensburg).
Additionally, non-EU citizens need to prove adequate insurance to the embassy/consulate when applying for a visa and to the Foreigners' Registration Office in Regensburg.

Students from EU-countries who have a **European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)** do not need to obtain any additional health insurance or proof of health insurance.

Students from Turkey should bring an "AT-11" confirmation and are urgently advised to take out additional Turkish private insurance to top up what is covered via the "AT-11".

All other students need to buy either the German statutory health insurance for students (approx. 130€ per month) or a private German health insurance, or they need to bring health insurance that is accepted by the local Foreigners' Registration Office.

In order to be accepted, there must not be any maximum on the coverage. Co-payments are acceptable but the rest has to be covered by the insurance to 100%. Insurances also need to cover medical and dental treatment, prescription medication, bandages and other materials necessary in aiding recovery, treatment in a hospital, medical treatment with regard to rehabilitation (physical therapy), and treatment for pregnancy and birth.

Please note: Some private health insurances that may be accepted by the embassy or consulate for a 90-day period, do not necessarily have to be accepted by the Foreigners' Registration Office in Regensburg for a semester or year-long stay. Students who are in doubt, should contact International.exchange-student@ur.de and attach details of the insurance plan (in English or German), **before** taking out private health insurance.

Living Costs/ Fees

The **minimum living costs** are approx. 1000 EUR per month. This includes rent and health insurance.

Meals: a meal at the university restaurant ("Mensa") costs ca. 5 EUR.

Student Service Fee: Although exchange students are exempt from paying tuition, every student enrolled at UR needs to pay the so-called "semester fee" or "student services fee".
This fee will be approx. 200 Euro (subject to change). This fee includes a semester ticket for public transport in Regensburg.

German Broadcasting License Fee:
The broadcasting license fee is a fee that **all residents** of Germany who have their own room **have to pay**, regardless of whether they use their TV/radio/internet or not. The amount is currently EUR 18.36 per month. This fee is mandatory.

Participants of the ILC should know that they might have to buy bus tickets for public transportation for September/March, as the UR card which includes public transportation is not valid until the start of the semester (October 1st for the winter semester; April 1st for the summer semester).

3. Student Account:

All exchange students receive their own UR student account and login information upon arrival. The internet can be accessed via WiFi throughout our campus after a quick registration of the student's device (smartphone/tablet/notebook/laptop). The up- and download volume on campus is unlimited.
Most student residences provide internet access.

4. Public Transport

The campus, all dormitories and the city center are connected by bus. During rush-hours buses run every ten minutes, some stops are even served every five minutes. The UR student ID card serves as a bus ticket for local buses (see above, no. 3). ILC participants should know that their UR card is not valid during the ILC but only from the official start of the semester (October 1 or April1) onwards.

5. Airport Pickup

UR does not offer an airport-pickup. Students arriving at Munich Airport can either take a commercial shuttle or the train to get to Regensburg. There is a direct train from Munich Airport to Regensburg, running every hour. Details can be found on our website:
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/incomings/exchange-programs/arrival/index.html

Important links and contacts

MAIN CONTACT FOR ALL INCOMING EXCHANGE STUDENTS AND THEIR COORDINATORS:

Christine Betzner and Katharina Schmaus, UR International Office
International.exchange-student@ur.de
Phone: +49 -941 943 2306
Fax: +49 -941 943 2349 or 3882

UR general homepage: https://www.ur.de
UR International homepage: https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/orientation-page/index.html (English version)

UR International Exchange Students Information:
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/incomings/exchange-programs/index.html (English version)

Information for Partner Universities:
https://www.uni-regensburg.de/ur-international/partner-institutions/index.html (English version)