

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

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### APPLYING

HOW AND WHEN CAN I APPLY?

The opening of applications is in the beginning of November each year. In the international master programmes are two application rounds. The deadline for the first round is in January and for the second round in March. For bachelor programmes the deadline is in March. For further details see: <https://www.lhi.is/en/do-you-want-be-a-part-iua>

HOW DO I APPLY FOR EARLY ADMISSION?

There are two application rounds for the international master programmes. The deadline for the first round is in January. There is no early admission for bachelor programmes. For further details see: <https://www.lhi.is/en/do-you-want-be-a-part-iua>

HOW MANY PROGRAMMES CAN I APPLY FOR?

You can apply for more than one programme if you want. You need to fill out application for each programme and pay application fee which is 5.000 ISK per programme.

DO MY DOCUMENTS OR TRANSFER OF RECORDS NEED TO BE TRANSLATED?

Submitted documents must be in either English or Icelandic. If your Transcript of Records and other requested documents are in other languages, it is necessary to have these translated into English.

WHERE CAN I FIND THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR?

The academic calendar can be found at the bottom of the IUA website, under *About IUA* - <https://www.lhi.is/en/academic-calendar-o>

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### ADMISSION

WHEN WILL I RECEIVE RESULTS OF MY APPLICATION?

You can find information about the admission process at the IUA website. You select HOW TO APPLY: <https://www.lhi.is/en/do-you-want-be-a-part-iua>  
After that you select the study programme where you will find further information.

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### LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEST SCORE, EG. , TOEFL?

The international programmes at IUA are conducted in English. Students must be proficient in spoken and written English in the academic context. If there is doubt concerning language skills, applicants may be required to submit evidence of English proficiency.

DO I HAVE TO LEARN ICELANDIC?

This is not required for the international programmes at IUA, which are conducted in English. We do however, offer Icelandic courses for free to our international students which they can select to take part in.

All bachelor programmes, except BA Contemporary Dance Practices, are conducted in Icelandic.

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## PRACTICAL INFORMATION

### WHAT IS THE COST OF LIVING IN ICELAND?

It is important to keep in mind that the cost of living in Iceland is high and you have to consider your budget for living expenses. The published minimum-support criterion of the Welfare Division of Reykjavík City is ISK 189,875 per month for an individual. However, this amount does not necessarily reflect actual living costs, which can vary greatly depending on your lifestyle and spending habits. More information: <https://www.lhi.is/en/node/6889>

### DO I NEED TO REGISTER IN ICELAND?

**Citizens from EU/EEA/EFTA countries** do not need to obtain a student residence permit to study in Iceland. Full-time students staying in Iceland for longer than six months, should register with the Registers Iceland. Through this application (A-262 (EU-nationals / A-257 Nordic nationals) you will receive an Icelandic ID number "kennitala". Exchange students staying for less than 6 months, are not required to register.

**Citizens of countries outside the EU/EEA/EFTA area** must apply for a residence permit in Iceland. This applies also to exchange students who do not hold an EU/EEA/EFTA passport. Please note that the process takes time and effort so we urge you to read the information and instructions on the website of the Directorate of Immigration carefully.

### DO I NEED TO APPLY FOR STUDENT RESIDENCE PERMIT?

**Citizens of countries outside the EU/EEA/EFTA area** must apply for a residence permit in Iceland. This applies also to exchange students who do not hold an EU/EEA/EFTA passport. Please note that the process takes time and effort so we urge you to read the information and instructions on the website of the Directorate of Immigration carefully.

### DO I NEED AN ID NUMBER?

**Citizens of countries outside the EU/EEA/EFTA** automatically receive an Icelandic ID number, "kennitala", when they obtain their residence permit.

**Citizens from EU/EEA/EFTA countries** who are full-time students staying in Iceland for longer than six months, should register with the Registers Iceland, thereby receiving an ID number. Exchange students staying for less than 6 months, are not required to register and do not receive an ID number.

### DO I NEED HEALTH INSURANCE?

Everyone who has been legally resident in Iceland for six months automatically becomes a member of the Icelandic social insurance system, regardless of nationality.

**Citizens of countries outside the EU/EEA/EFTA** are advised to buy private insurance during the time they are waiting to become health insured in the social insurance system.

**Citizens from EU/EEA/EFTA countries** are advised to apply for entering the social insurance system upon arrival. Further information here.

#### HOW IS THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT SYSTEM IN REYKJAVÍK?

To get around Reykjavík you can use the public transport system Strætó. If you are planning to use the bus on a daily basis you can purchase a student bus card. More information: <https://www.lhi.is/en/node/6889>

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### **ACCOMMODATION**

#### IS CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION AVAILABLE?

Student accommodation is not provided at the IUA.

#### HOW DO I FIND ACCOMMODATION?

Most students find rooms/apartments with private landlords in the city or through rental services. Upon admission students are invited to a closed Facebook group where advertisements are posted.

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### **TUITION**

#### WHAT IS THE TUITION FEE?

You can find information about tuition fees at the bottom of the IUA website under EDUCATION: <https://www.lhi.is/en/tuition-fees>

#### CAN I APPLY FOR A SCHOLARSHIP?

Scholarships are not available at the IUA.

The only support offered locally is from the Icelandic Student Loan Fund. To be eligible for that you would need to have had a permanent address in Iceland for some time prior to start of studies. See further: <https://www.lin.is/english/>

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### **SUPPORT**

#### WHAT KIND OF SUPPORT IS AVAILABLE?

Orientation days are held during the first week of every semester. It includes introductory meetings, campus tour, crash course in Icelandic and a reception.

In addition to the orientation days, we offer information, advice, support and guidance throughout the year. This includes courses in Icelandic, field trips to cultural institutions, general information on study progress, information and advice on making mobility abroad (for studying or training), as well as student and career counselling.