

FACT SHEET FOR VISITING STUDENTS 2027

CONTACT INFORMATION	
University of Costa Rica Official Website	www.ucr.ac.cr
Student Mobility Website	https://oaiice.ucr.ac.cr/informacion-para-estudiantes-internacionales
Student Mobility Coordinator	Mg. Rita Jiménez Aguilar Email: rita.jimenez@ucr.ac.cr; seme.oai@ucr.ac.cr Phone: (506) 2511-1098 / (506) 2511-1099/ (506) 2511-1136 Address: Oficina de Asuntos Internacionales y Cooperación Externa, 5º Nivel, Edificio Administrativo A., Ciudad Universitaria Rodrigo Facio, San Pedro de Montes de Oca, San José, Costa Rica P.O. Box: 11501-2060, San Pedro de Montes de Oca, San José, Costa Rica
ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS FOR VISITING STUDENTS	
Minimum GPA	8.0/10 equivalent to 3.2/4.0. GPA (USA).
Language Requirements	Proficiency in written and oral Spanish: You must send proof of having obtained B2 level.
Admission Form	Admission Form 2027: download it from UCR's Student Mobility website.
Period to submit admission documents	First academic semester 2027 (March-July): from October 12th to October 31st, 2027 Second academic semester 2027 (August-December): from March 15th to March 31st, 2027 No prior nomination is required, as the documentation must be sent by the student exchange coordination office of the home university.
Exchange Duration	Visiting Students can stay at the University of Costa Rica for one or two semesters, maximum.
ACADEMIC INFORMATION	
I Semester	Suggested date of arrival in Costa Rica: March 3 rd , 2027. Optional integration activity: March 4 th , 2027. Mandatory In-Person Orientation Session: March 5 th , 2027.
	Beginning of classes: March 8 th , 2027.
	End of classes: July 3 rd , 2027– tentative date. Final Examinations: from July 5 th to July 10 th , 2027.
II Semester	Suggested date of arrival in Costa Rica: August 4 th , 2027. Optional integration activity: August 5 th , 2027. Mandatory In-Person Orientation Session: August 6 th , 2027.
	Beginning of classes: August 9 th , 2027.
	End of classes: November 27 th , 2027. Final Examinations: from November 29 th to December 4 th , 2027.
Language of Instruction	Spanish.
Course load	12 credits minimum /18 credits maximum. For local students, full-time academic workload is 16 credits per semester. Passing grade: 7.0/10.00
Course Catalogues	https://feriavocacional.ucr.ac.cr/carreras-de-la-ucr/

Programs available to Exchange Students	Liberal and Fine Arts: Faculty of Letters, Faculty of Arts Social Sciences: Faculty of Social Sciences, Faculty of Economics, Faculty of Law, Faculty of Education Sciences: Faculty of Sciences Food and Agriculture Sciences: Faculty of Agri-food Sciences Engineering: Faculty of Engineering Health: Faculty of Medicine, Faculty of Dentistry, Faculty of Microbiology Programs offered in regional campuses and its corresponding branches.
Restricted Programs	The School of Medicine is not open for exchange students, but other schools from the Faculty of Medicine are. Applications from Dentistry students will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis.
ACCOMMODATION	
Housing	UCR does not have student residences for exchange students. However, students can look for housing by their own means, or through websites that will be sent to them by email, prior to the expected date of arrival, for them to rent the place of their choice.
FINANCIAL INFORMATION	
Tuition and Fees	Students from a university that has a specific student mobility agreement with the University of Costa Rica do not have to pay for tuition fees. However, there is a mandatory fee of approximately USD\$35 per semester. International students from universities that do not have an exchange agreement with the UCR must pay approximately USD\$1,400 per semester, depending on the exchange rate.
Financial Aid	UCR does not offer financial aid to visiting students.
INFORMATION ABOUT THE COSTA RICAN ENTRY VISA AND THE PROCESS TO OBTAIN THE SPECIAL STUDENT CATEGORY	
Entry Visa and Special Student Category Application.	Costa Rican Dirección General de Migración y Extranjería (General Directorate of Migration and Foreigners Office), divides the countries into 4 groups, see the following: https://migracion.go.cr/visas/ First Group of Countries: Nationals of countries from this group do not need to apply for the Special Student Category as long as their academic activities do not exceed 180 days. If students wish to study in Costa Rica for two academic cycles, they must apply for the Special Student Category. Note: If exchange students you enter the country without a Provisional Student Visa, they must pay the Government of Costa Rica USD\$200 penalty (it is an admissibility fee). If exchange students you enter with the Provisional Student Visa, which they must apply for at the Costa Rica Consulate in their country of origin or residence, they should not make this payment. Second, Third and Fourth Group of Countries: Nationals of countries from these groups of countries, must apply for the Special Student Category. In the case of students who must carry out immigration procedures, they will receive instructions and support from our Office.
INSURANCE	
Medical Insurance	Students must have an international insurance that covers their own needs, and that includes at least: hospitalization, pandemics such as COVID-19, considering the guidelines of the Costa Rican Ministry of Health, as well as surgery, dental emergencies, medical expenses, and repatriation of remains. This insurance must have coverage during the entire stay in Costa Rica. Students can get basic medical assistance at the UCR Health Office.
Vaccines	Students who come from South America must verify what the local vaccination requirements are (for example, yellow fever vaccine) for their departure and entry to Costa Rica.



DATES FOR VISITING STUDENTS ACADEMIC YEAR 2027

FIRST SEMESTER 2027 (March to July)	
DATE	ACTIVITIES
Only from October 12 th to October 31 st , 2026, no exception.	Period to submit admission documentation for the first semester 2027. A previous nomination process is not necessary.
From December 1 st to December 4 th , 2026	Acceptance and non-acceptance letters will be sent via e-mail.
From December 21 st , 2026, to January 1 st , 2027	Institutional break 2026 (UCR will be closed).
January, 2027	Beginning of the pre-enrollment and enrollment process for the first 2027 academic cycle. Students will receive instructions via email.
March 3 rd , 2027	Suggested date for arrival in Costa Rica.
March 4 th , 2027	Optional assistance integration activity.
March 5 th , 2027	Mandatory in-person orientation session.
March 8 th , 2027	Beginning of classes.
From March 22 nd to March 28 th , 2027	Easter Week (UCR will be closed).
May 1 st , 2027	National Holiday: International Labor Day (UCR will be closed).
May 7 th , 2027	Activity for visiting students.
July 1 st , 2027	Farewell activity.
July 3 rd , 2027	End of classes.
From July 5 th to July 10 th , 2027	Final exams. Dates vary, depending on each faculty.
SECOND SEMESTER 2027 (August to December)	
DATE	ACTIVITIES
Only from March 15 th to March 31 st , 2027, no exception	Period to submit admission documentation for the second semester 2027. A previous nomination process is not necessary.
From May 3 rd to May 7 th , 2027	Acceptance and non-acceptance letters will be sent, via e-mail.
July, 2027	Beginning of the pre-enrollment and enrollment process for the second 2027 academic cycle. Students will receive instructions via email.
August 4 th , 2027	Suggested date for arrival in Costa Rica.
August 5 th , 2027	Optional assistance integration activity.
August 6 th , 2027	Mandatory in-person orientation session.
August 9 th , 2027	Beginning of classes
August 15 th , 2027	National Holiday: Mother's Day (UCR will be closed).
September 15 th , 2027	National Holiday: Independence Day (UCR will be closed).
October 14 th , 2027	Activity for visiting students.
November 15 th , 2027	Farewell activity.
November 27 th , 2027	End of classes.
December 1 st , 2027	National Holiday: Army Abolition Day (UCR will be closed).
From November 29 th to December 4 th , December 2027	Final exams. Dates vary, depending on each faculty.