

# ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND

## EXCHANGE PROGRAM



### **OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION**

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## LIFE AT SMCM



St. Mary's College of Maryland (SMCM) is a national public honors college, quietly located on the banks of the St. Mary's River in very rural Southern Maryland. The College is small and dedicated to giving each student personal support and a challenging curriculum, while the Office of International Education works hard to welcome international students and foster intercultural exchange on campus.

SMCM is the ideal setting in which to immerse yourself in a diverse American small liberal arts college experience, based in the 17th century capital of Maryland in a waterfront setting in the heart of the Chesapeake Bay Region. SMCM is located 68 miles southeast of Washington DC, and 95 miles south of Baltimore, MD.



Courses are challenging at this Honors College; please come prepared to apply yourself to rigorous English-taught coursework! Furthermore, COVID-19 vaccination is required. Check out our website's International Students Page for more information and the answers to Frequently Asked Questions, at [www.smcm.edu/ie](http://www.smcm.edu/ie)!

## PROGRAM DETAILS

### DATES

*International Student Welcome Orientation is mandatory and held a few days prior to the New Student Orientation Dates. Dates are TBD. Do not buy tickets before notified of dates.*

Fall Semester: Approximately August 23 - December 17 with Virtual Pre-Departure Sessions

Spring Semester: Approximately January 16th - May 7 with Virtual Pre-Departure Sessions

Application Deadline: March 22 for Fall Semester or AY, October 22 for Spring Semester

School Breaks: See [academic calendar](#) for winter term, spring break, and holiday dates.

SMCM will coordinate a free, initial arrival shuttle from certain airports (DCA, IAD, BWI) to campus.

### PROGRAM DETAILS

Courses are taught in English. Students can choose from almost any [available courses](#) at SMCM as long as they meet pre-requisite requirements, will be placed in on-campus housing with SMCM students, and will be encouraged to participate in any and all SMCM school clubs and International Education Office activities.

## APPLICATION

### APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- Nomination from home school office
- English Language: All classes will be taught in English. Students must have advanced proficiency in English with a TOEFL score of 90 or higher (with at least the following scores, Reading: 20, Listening: 22, Speaking: 20, Writing: 24), or IELTS scores of 6.5 with no bands below 6.5.
- Transcript (original, and translated into English)
- 2 Academic Recommendations (in English)
- Proof of financial support (from bank in English)

This information is necessary for acceptance and J-1 Exchange Visa issuance, and will be requested through the application portal. Apply at: [www.smcm.via-trm.com](http://www.smcm.via-trm.com), through the "Inbound Exchange Student Application."

### INTERNATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE

Students will be enrolled in international student insurance and billed accordingly (price varies, approximately \$850 USD per semester). If you already have insurance that is comparable to SMCM's requirements listed online, you may be able to submit a waiver. Medical expenses in the US are extremely high, and so it is required to have specific insurance coverage; see our website for more details (<http://www.smcm.edu/ie/incoming-internationalexchange-students/required-health-insurance/>).

### COSTS

Please see your program coordinator at your home institution to discuss the details of cost for this program, and to inquire about any possible financial assistance.

Beyond program costs, students should provide proof of sufficient funds for personal expenses (books, food, travel) during their time on campus.

### QUESTIONS?



Check out our web page at [www.smcm.edu/ie](http://www.smcm.edu/ie) in the "[International Students](#)" section for details about life at SMCM and the application process. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at [ie@smcm.edu](mailto:ie@smcm.edu).