

EXCHANGE PARTNER INFORMATION



EXCHANGE STUDENT PROGRAM (2016)

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná

Office of International Relations

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Web Page	www.pucpr.br or en.pucpr.br for information in English.

APPLICATION

Application Procedures	http://www.pucpr.br/intercambio/applying.php
Deadline	For February entry - (1st academic semester: February – July) July 1st through October 30th. For July entry (2nd academic semester: July – December) February 1st through April 30th.
Total number of exchange places available	If the number of students is not previously stated in our institutional agreement, PUCPR can accept as many qualified students as you can select.

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Courses information

Academic Level(s) offered to Exchange Students	Undergraduate ✓	Graduate ✓
Areas of study	<p>PUCPR is a comprehensive research university. For a list of available undergraduate programs go to: http://www.pucpr.br/graduacao/ For a list of available graduate programs go to: http://www.pucpr.br/pesquisacientifica/</p>	
Language of Instruction	<p>Portuguese and English For information on available courses in English, please go to: http://www.pucpr.br/intercambio/englishsemester.php</p>	
Language Requirements for Exchange Students	<p>PUC does not have a language proficiency requirement. We recommend that students attend at least one semester of Portuguese classes before starting their exchange program.</p>	
Portuguese Classes (Mandatory)	<p>It is offered during the semester in three different levels: beginners, basic and intermediate, concurrently with academic courses (total of 72 hours). Students are placed on the most appropriate level after a placement test taken during Orientation.</p>	
Course Load and Required student workload per semester (credits)	<p>PUCPR has its own credit system and it is important to note that this system only takes into consideration the in-class hours, differently from the ECT system that will also count into the subject workload, the students' individual hours of study. So, generally:</p> <p>Theoretical classes – 20 contact hours = 1 PUC credit Practical classes – 40 contact hours = 1 PUC credit</p> <p>Our theory subjects can vary from 40 contact hrs (2 hrs per week) to 80 contact hrs (4 hrs per week) and our practical classes can vary from 40 to 144 hrs per semester.</p> <p>Therefore, a full-time student attends around 360 – 420 hours per semester and would get roughly 20 PUC credits, which is equivalent to around 25 ECTS. This would be what we consider a full-time student. International students also need to take Portuguese as a Second Language, which is worth 5 ECTS, so altogether a semester at PUCPR is equivalent to around 29 ECTS.</p> <p>1 PUCPR credit is equivalent to approximately 1.35 ECTS</p> <p>As most our partners universities require their students to take 30 ECTS we motivate the international students at PUCPR to adequate their study plans to meet that requirement.</p>	
Course Selection	<p>Students pre-select the courses in the application form (study plan). During the orientation week, all students will meet the academic course coordinator to finalize the study plan. They should be prepared to select new courses if their initial requests are not available and may make course changes during the first two weeks of class.</p>	
Grading System	<p>Range: 0,0 – 10,0 Passing Grade: 7,0 Minimum passing grade after final exam: 5,0 Mandatory class attendance: 75%</p>	

In case of failing, students can take the final exam	Final exams are only applicable if the students have only missed 25% of their classes and have their final grade higher than 4,0 (in a scale of 0,0 to 10). Students whose final grades are less than 4,0 won't be able to take the final exam and will have failed the course regardless of their attendance.
When will the transcript be released?	At the end of the academic semester, as soon as our office receive the grades from the Registrar's office.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS INFORMATION

Academic Calendar	<u>Semester 1</u> Mid February through June 30	<u>Semester 2</u> Last week of July through first week of December
	2016 Academic Calendar: http://www.pucpr.br/siga/calendario.php	
Orientation Dates	Normally our Orientation happens 1 week before the beginning of the academic semester. Students are notified beforehand about the exact dates and location. Our orientation sessions offer students the opportunity to learn about our universities' processes, meet with the course coordinator and learn about all the support services we have. Therefore, attendance is MANDATORY.	
Student Visa - VITEM IV (MANDATORY)	All international students need get a student visa (VITEM IV) to study at PUCPR. Students should check in the Brazilian Consulate/Embassy website of their country of origin the list of documents that are required for the visa application, one of the required documents is the Acceptance Letter, which will be provided by PUCPR after his/her application has been analyzed and accepted. For the visa to be granted, all students must have a valid passport. Note that if the students are studying outside their home countries, the procedures might be different from for students applying from their countries. Once the students receive their student visa, they must send us a copy by email. PUCPR will only pre-enroll the students upon the presentation of a copy of their student visa.	
Health Insurance Requirements (MANDATORY)	All international students must purchase a health insurance coverage during their stay in Brazil. As PUCPR does not have health insurance plans available, international students must contract a health insurance plan (with coverage in Brazil) before they leave their home countries. The health insurance costs varies according to the country of origin, the company and the extent of the coverage. In some countries, visas are only issued after the proof of health insurance coverage is presented.	
Medical Assistance	PUCPR does not have medical services on campus but we can easily refer the students to doctors, clinics and hospitals.	
Accommodation	There is no on-campus housing available at PUCPR. Our international office provides students with a list of off-campus options/suggestions and gives them appropriate guidance regarding local leasing procedures and policies. Such housing list is available for students as soon as they are admitted at PUCPR and start their travel arrangements.	
Estimated cost for accommodation per semester	Accommodation: BRL 700,00 – 1.500,00 (monthly)	
How can students apply for accommodation	Directly with real estate companies, homestay providers, boarding houses or leasing offices.	

Cost of Living (per month)	An international student will need approximately BRL 2,200 to live in Brazil (approx. USD 600,00) Food: BRL 800,00 – 1,000 Transportation (public bus lines): BRL 200,00 – 280,00 *1 USD = 4.0684 BRL (January 2016)
Other expenses	ADMINISTRATIVE FEE: BRL150,00 (approx. US\$ 40) to be paid upon arrival at PUCPR.
Airport pick-up service	We do not have an airport pick-up service available but we make efforts to put new international students in contact with PUCPR student to make ride arrangements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

Pre-arrival materials	Students receive information through email as well as their Offer Letters by mail, sent directly to the international office of their home institutions.
Sports Center	International students have free access to one of the available sports activities: fitness center or swimming pool. Students who wish to do both should pay for only one of them. A health check by the gym's doctor is compulsory.
Extracurricular activities	We promote welcome and farewell receptions and cultural activities.
Buddy Program - Iexchange	Iexchange is PUCPR's Buddy Program and it is composed by a group of around 80 local students, most of them who have already participated in an exchange program, and are willing to assist international students to settle into their new lives in Brazil. The group is very active and organizes parties, trips and outings with the students. They also provide support and information regarding academic and systems of PUCPR. Their email address is: i.exchange.brasil@gmail.com and their Facebook is Time IExchange Brasil
Students can get help for internships	Students will receive support from our International Office in case they decide to undertake any internship.