THE CALS INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PROGRAM - APPLYING AS AN OUTGOING STUDENT

Selection Criteria

We take great pride in our students selected to attend a CALS Exchange Program. The criteria for selection are based on a combination of 1) grades and academic preparation and 2) personal suitability as assessed by interview with exchange coordinator, personal essay, and academic references. While grades (especially for some partner universities) are a major factor, they are not the sole criterion for selection. Students who are concerned about their academic performance have the opportunity to improve their application by taking extra care with their essay and other application components.

Applicants must have no pending disciplinary action against them. Any past or current disciplinary actions must be disclosed during the application process and may be grounds for barring participation by CALS and/or the host institution. Students may not participate in semester exchange while on disciplinary or academic probation. Students may apply while on probation, but any conditional approval is contingent upon removal from probation before participation.

Successful applicants must:

- Demonstrate good interpersonal skills, the ability to study in an overseas environment, and enthusiasm to be an ambassador of Cornell University and CALS
- Be a current full-time CALS student (except for EPFL, which is also open to ENG students) with at least two full-time semesters of study before commencing exchange period
- Meet minimum requirements of host university (GPA, foreign language ability, prerequisites, study focus, etc.)
- Apply by CALS application deadlines

Required Application Materials

- CALS Exchange Online Application
- Proposed Course of Study (must be signed by you and your faculty advisor)
- One recommendation letter
- Statement of Purpose Write a one page essay describing why you want to participate in the CALS Exchange Program and attach it to your CALS application. Include personal characteristics, contributions you can make, personal benefits you anticipate, how you adapt to new situations or uncertainty, and how the program will fit into your curriculum and career plans. Also include reasons why you feel particularly qualified to represent Cornell and the United States on a CALS exchange program.
- Cornell Transcript
- Copy of Current Passport (should be valid for 6 months past anticipated return date)
- Foreign University Application