

Chazen MBA Exchange Program Info Session

February 10th, 2026

 **Columbia Business School**
Jerome A. Chazen Institute for
Global Business

1991-2026

YEARS

Chazen Institute Programs

For Credit by Application:

- Exchange Programs

For credit- sign up through course match:

- Global Immersion Programs (for credit)
- Bridging the American Divides class (for credit)
- Industry Immersion Programs (domestic climate class- for credit)
- Block week classes

Not For Credit:

- Chazen Global Study Tours (currently spots open for May Japan- [click here to learn more](#)- matching ends at 4pm today 2/10)

*email chazen@gsb.columbia.edu with any program questions.

Who is eligible?

- Students can participate during their 3rd or 4th semester only
- Dual-degree students are not eligible to participate in exchange programs
- For eligibility: all core requirements completed by the time you go on exchange with minimum gpa of 5.5 by the time of the exchange semester. (J term students can submit a screenshot of their Vergil.) GPAs will be confirmed with OSA ahead of exchange semester
- Students may not be considered if they are on probation for any reason
- Holds must be cleared by the exchange semester

Before you apply...

Please consider how an exchange semester could affect the following...

- **Your CBS academic career:** Please check in with your academic advisor about your MBA course plan, review any CBS academic questions you may have with them.
- **Your career and recruiting goals:** Is there a certain school or region that may enhance them? Please check in with your CMC advisor.
- **Your time at CBS:** Certain CBS programs may conflict with exchange, for example the value investing program, peer advisor program, etc. Please check to see whether there may be any conflicts and which semester might work best if you are interested in exchange.
- **Your Financial Aid:** If you are currently utilizing any sort of financial aid, please check to see how exchange semester dates and enrollment plans might affect this and also how financial aid can support you.
- **Research the partner schools-** through their websites and factsheets Chazen and the partner school coordinators can answer any questions.
- **Check for conflicts with other CBS leadership positions** (For example, Peer Advisors, CMC fellows, etc.)

Current Partner Schools

*Factsheets on Chazen Website

Argentina [Universidad de San Andrés SASS program](#) (January- dates TBD)

Australia [Melbourne Business School, University of Melbourne](#) (January DBiA dates TBD, and semester)

Austria [Wirtschaftsuniversität Wien, University of Vienna](#)

Brazil [Escola de Administração de Empresas de Sao Paulo/Fundação Getulio Vargas](#)

Finland [Aalto University](#)

France [The HEC MBA Program](#)

Germany [WHU, Otto Beisheim School of Management](#)

Hong Kong [Hong Kong University of Science and Technology](#)

Italy [Scuola di Direzione Aziendale, Bocconi](#)

Japan [Keio University, Graduate School of Business](#)

The Netherlands [Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam](#)

Singapore [National University of Singapore](#)

South Africa [University of Cape Town](#)

Spain [IESE—International Graduate School of Management, Universidad de Navarra](#)

Sweden [Stockholm School of Economics](#)

Switzerland [Ecole des Hautes Etudes Commerciales, Université de Lausanne](#)

University of St. Gallen for Business Administration, Economics, [Law and Social Sciences](#)

United Kingdom [London Business School](#) (ROUND 1 only)

United States (Fall only) [Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley](#)

Partial exchange programs:

- No formal partial exchange programs (except San Andres SASS and Melbourne Business School DbIA) for all schools, you are allowed to take classes at both schools as long as the classes and exams don't conflict. This is designed to be flexible but you must fulfill the requirements of the partner school (i.e. no exceptions made to end an exchange program early or start late.)
- Mainly for Spring programs, LBS possible for Fall.
- Check Factsheet: Some schools have flexibility on the minimum amount of classes you can take. Some have fixed programs you must take or require their equivalent of a full semester.
- For some spring programs and January San Andres Argentina program and DBiA Melbourne Business School programs- program dates have not been confirmed yet, you will not have to commit until they are confirmed.

Application Details

Application Requirements

- Application Form (online)
- Current CV
- Responses to essay question

For the exchange program you are applying to: Please state your reasons/goals for wanting to participate in the student exchange program with this particular school in this particular country. Please include how you determined your preferred semester (fall or spring) Feel free to add any other information that will aid in the selection process.

- **Unofficial transcript/screenshot of grades/classes**

(Vergil can provide this; you may scan or capture the screen using the print screen function-J termers please provide a screenshot of your current course schedule)

Application Details Cont'd

- Please select your **first choice school** and your **first choice semester**. These are the options you are most interested in. You also have the option to select a **second choice school** and **second choice semester**.
- If you do not have a second choice, it is perfectly fine to leave this section blank

Important Notes:

- **Selecting the same school for both semesters does not increase your chances of being selected.** Each school and semester choice is considered separately.
- If you are only interested in one school and semester, you may select just that option. There is no need to select a second choice if you do not have one.
- Be sure to only select schools and semesters that you are genuinely willing to attend. This will help us ensure a smoother review and placement process.
- If there are other school options (beyond two) you are considering, please write these in your essay.

*We recommend that you carefully research each school and semester option before making your selections.

After you apply:

- **After the Round 1 application deadline:** The Chazen team will review your online application
- **You will then be invited to complete an online assessment:** This has replaced our in person interviews, as it can be completed on your own and your responses will be independently evaluated by multiple reviewers who will assess your strengths using competency-based criteria and structured rubrics. (*10-15 min. mix of verbal and written questions.*)
- Nomination spots will be given out, you will either receive a spot or be placed on a waitlist (waitlist often move.)
- With your nomination email you will be sent a student agreement, once you accept your nomination and send back your student agreement you will be confirmed for your exchange program.
- Once you sign your student agreement, you will be nominated to the partner school.
- Partner School will process you into their systems.
- Attend pre- departure meeting.

Application timeline: For Fall 2026 programs

Timeline	For Fall 2026 Exchange Programs
Applications Round 1: Due (Fall & Spring (winter included in Spring semester exchange options)	2/18
assessment	Late Feb
Nominations offered	Early March
Student decisions due	3/16 (for Haas) Tentatively 4/1 (for all other schools)
Nominated to partner school for processing	Dependent on school
Outgoing fall pre departure mtg	End of April

Application
timeline:
For Spring
2027
programs
(Jan
programs as
well)

Timeline	For Spring 2027 Exchange Programs
Applications Round 1: Due (Fall & Spring (winter included in Spring semester exchange options)	2/18
assessment	Late Feb
Nominations offered	Early March
Student decisions due	August 1st
Nominated to partner school for processing	Dependent on school
Outgoing pre departure mtg	Fall TBD

Application timeline: Round 2

Timeline	For Spring 2027 Exchange Programs
Applications Round 2: Due (Fall & Spring (winter included in Spring semester exchange options)	Open summer date TBD *Round 2 is for remaining exchange program spots that did not fill in Round 1. *Haas is not offered in spring and LBS is only offered in Round 1 (as LBS requires Spring exchange nominations by July)
assessment	Late Feb
Nominations offered	Early March
Student decisions due	Dependent on School
Nominated to partner school for processing	Dependent on school
Outgoing spring pre departure mtg	Mid- fall

Academics while on exchange (covered in pre-departure meeting)

- The maximum amount of CBS credits you can receive for completing an exchange program is typically 15 credits
- Credit equivalencies are determined by contact hours and approved by OSA. Chazern will work with you to make sure you know how many credits you will get for your exchange course load so there is no confusion when you return.
- No pass/fail courses permitted, you must receive a grade for each exchange class.
- Your grades do not transfer back, only the credits you complete. There will be an exchange marker of “12 credits” on your Vergil, then this will be updated once we receive your transcript and confirm the courses you complete- the credit conversions will then be adjusted
- Exchange programs may affect financial aid depending on the number of credits and enrollment dates.
- Talk to your OSA academic advisor to make sure your exchange program goals fit into your graduation plan
- Since you will be participating in your host school’s course selection, your CBS Course Match budgets & target credits will be adjusted for the semester you will be out on exchange, based on the following formula:
80% budget reduction AND 12.0 target credit reduction
Leaving you the ability to select up to 6 CBS credits of non-conflicting classes if you wish
*if you then withdraw, this will still be applied.

Classes taken while on exchange programs must meet the following criteria to be eligible for CBS credit:

- In English (no credit for language classes either- some schools may offer these)
- Graduate level
- Business electives
- In person
- Not pass/fail- you must receive a grade for your courses

Exchange Programs and Career Management



- Meet CMC advisor to discuss best exchange semester considering job search targets and recruiting timelines
- Get reciprocal recruiting and career education privileges at exchange campus and CBS
 - Book appointments with CBS CMC advisor, coaches, fellows while on Exchange
 - Full access to CBS campus recruiting, COIN job portal, Canvas Careers course content
- Leverage proximity to target geography for recruiting and on-the-ground networking...Haas and West Coast Tech vs. LBS and English language money center vs. Bocconi and key Retail/Luxury Goods hub
- Secure CPT or AT work authorization as a foreign national for in-semester internships of maximum 20 hrs/wk while on exchange in the US. Apply via CBS OARR after internship offer.
- International Exchange Considerations:
 - Receive no work authorization privileges during any international exchange, unless already a citizen or permanent resident of that country
 - **To apply for F-1 Optional Practical Training (OPT) in spring 2025, you MUST physically be in the US. If on Exchange abroad, plan to ideally return to US to apply late February - mid March.**
- The opportunity to become a 2nd year CMC Fellow may not be compatible with exchange programs; disclose possible exchange semester plan and location in your CMC Fellow application this spring (MBA-Sept only)



Things to know...

- While on exchange, CBS remains your home institution and all CBS tuition and fees remain the same (for partial & full semester exchange)
- Some partner schools may have additional fees required- please check their factsheets
- International students who have a Columbia sponsored visa keep their same visa status while on exchange
- Chazen Travel Grant Funds can be used for exchange (application for grants will be publicized end of spring)
- Submitting your application is not binding
- CBS handles applications and selection for outgoing exchange students. Our partner schools accept our nominated students, there is no application process after you complete the Chazen application process.

Any Questions?

Email chazen@gsb.columbia.edu

FAQ

How competitive is selection?

- You can put up to 2 choices on your application. Demand for each school changes each year/semester so it is not possible to predict how competitive each program is. We try to keep a 1-1 ratio with partner schools and can often offer many spots but it depends on the school and how many people apply.

Spots:

~20 LBS

~10 Haas

~1-5 all other programs

Exchange Testimonials

“My exchange at *IESE* was professionally pivotal. After ten years in finance, the Personal Finance course fundamentally shifted my perspective, contrasting institutional strategy with the highly practical, long-term process of personal wealth creation. The course was immensely practical, focusing on accessible, free tools that anyone can leverage. Separately, the Managing Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises course, featuring a dynamic lineup of successful founders, immediately energized my entrepreneurial spirit. The exchange was a powerful complement to my CBS training, offering both strategic clarity and a hands-on, actionable toolkit for my future.”

“Exchanging at *London Business School* was an outstanding experience. The academic rigor, practical focus of the courses, and open classroom discussions pushed my thinking and broadened my perspective. I particularly valued the diverse cohort, which made collaboration both challenging and rewarding, and the supportive, professional environment created by faculty and staff. Overall, the exchange was enriching both academically and personally, and it exceeded my expectations.”

“The exchange semester at *HEC Paris* was a highly enriching academic and cultural experience. The program offered exceptional international exposure and a valuable European perspective on business strategy and regulation that complemented my CBS education. I would strongly recommend this exchange to students seeking a globally immersive MBA experience.”

“My one-semester exchange at *UC Berkeley Haas* was a transformative experience that merged rigorous academics with real-world application—perfect for a finance student like me. Haas’s hands-on curriculum, which paired us with startup founders and industry leaders for customer discovery and VC interviews, sharpened my adaptability and communication skills while deepening my grasp of global business. The diverse student community and campus resources made every moment purposeful, equipping me with invaluable skills, connections and confidence. I highly recommend this program to students seeking academic and professional growth.”