

DEPARTURE GUIDE IN PARTNER UNIVERSITIES

MASTER students - Selection 2025-2026
for a departure in 2026-2027



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Introduction

ICN Business School has an impressive network of exchange partnerships.

This guide will assist you with all of the administrative steps that need to be taken, as well as the ones that you should not forget, as soon as you have made the decision to participate in an international study exchange program.

Our academic partnerships are based on two types of agreements:

- **Classic exchange agreements**, based on tuition-free participation and the 1-for-1 rule (with spots renegotiated each year). Each student continues to pay tuition at their home institution. Depending on the partnership, the monitoring of this may be more or less strict, but maintaining balance remains essential.
- **Fee-paying agreements**, for which tuition fees are payable both to ICN and to the partner institution.

New partnership negotiations are conducted on a regular basis, allowing new destinations to be offered to students each year.

Before submitting your application for an exchange at a foreign university, we insist that you give careful thought to it beforehand. This translates into a **commitment** on your part.

We also count on your **responsible behavior at the host university** (you are representing ICN abroad), as well as towards the exchange students and international faculty present at ICN (openness, curiosity, sharing, common courtesy).

A student exchange implies a **large capacity for adaption, polite behavior, and respect for procedures and deadlines!** Together we will make your exchange an unforgettable experience, not only during your stay, but prior to your departure, and afterwards as well!

Please read this document very attentively, because the information that you are looking for can be found in it. For more information, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with a member of the international relations office. Please read the information sheets available on the MyICN intranet.

International relations office



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The international relations team is available for a personal meeting concerning your international plans during your entire education at ICN.

If you have any questions

<https://asq.icn-artem.com/hc/fr/requests/new>

CHAPTER I: APPLYING TO STUDY ABROAD IN A FOREIGN UNIVERSITY

1. AUTHORIZED STUDY ABROAD PERIODS

In accordance with ICN Master in Management regulations, you can study abroad at a partner university at different times during your education, depending on your international project.

A semester-long exchange in a partner university take place during your 1st year 2nd semester (PGE1), during your gap year before the 2nd year 1st & 2nd semester, during the 2nd year 1st & 2nd semester (M1– PGE2), during your gap year before the 3rd year 1st & 2nd semester or during your 3rd year 1st or 2nd semester (M2 – PGE3). During the Master 1 – PGE2, 1st semester is not open to new students, arriving directly at ICN in PGE2.

Double degree programs are held only during the 3rd year (M2). Each double degree program is subject to a different academic calendar. In fact, negotiations and agreements are specific to each university. The double degree program can be held instead of the 3rd year, or after the first semester of studies at ICN according to the partnership agreement (refer to the information sheets available on MyICN). For double degree programs beginning in January, the courses and credits obtained at ICN during the 1st semester (of the 3rd year – M1) are required in order to gain access to courses in certain MBA programs.

For students enrolled in the MSc DESSMI program, only a single exchange semester at a partner university is possible. It may be completed during the first year, in the second semester.

For a SINGLE EXCHANGE = duration of one semester	
PGE 1	Semester 2
Year of experience before PGE 2 – M1	Semester 1 or Semester 2
PGE 2 – M1	Semester 1 or Semester 2
Year of experience before PGE 3	Semester 1 or Semester 2
PGE 3	Semester 1 or Semester 2
DESSMI 1	Semester 2

PGE 3			
Country	University	Diploma	Departure Period
Germany	University of Münster	Double Diploma Master	Semester 1 and Semester 2
Brazil	Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná	Double Diploma Master	
Canada	HEC Montréal	Double Diploma Master (D.E.S.S)	
	Université Laval, Québec	Double Diploma MBA	
China	China University of Geosciences Wuhan	Double Diploma Master	
	SWUFE Chengdu	Double Diploma Master	
South Korea	Hanyang University Business School Séoul	Double Diploma Master	
Italy	Università Degli Studi di Bologna campus Forlì	Double Diploma Master	
Japan	Nagoya University of Business and Commerce	Double Diploma Master MSc	
Peru	Centrum PUPC	Double Diploma Master	
Russia	MGIMO suspended until further notice	Master/ Magistration	
Sweden	University of Umea	Double Diploma Master	
USA	Duquesne University Pittsburgh	Double Diploma Master "professional MBA"	
	Indiana University of Pennsylvania	Double Diploma Master MBA	
	Georgia Tech Atlanta	Double Diploma Master MSc	

2. SELECTION CRITERIA

We draw your attention to the fact that a study abroad experience is not just a linguistic experience in order to learn a foreign language. Our agreements are made with **Business Schools or Faculties for economic or management studies**. You must be able to follow courses in Marketing, Finance, Human Resources etc. and to take notes and exams successfully. The grades and credits obtained are transferred to ICN in order for you to graduate.

As a result, the selection of candidates is based on a number of criteria:

- **A strong academic record**

All the universities require that we send your official transcripts with your registration file. They will be translated and given letter grade equivalents (A, B, or C).

A transcript with weak grades risks being rejected by the partner.

A good academic file contains:

- Good grades
- Proof of language proficiency
- Presence in class
- Record of excellent behavior
- Strong motivation

The selection committee will be held during the middle of the year. Do not forget that it is a **pre-selection** and that your departure will only be guaranteed after you validate your current year and your file has been accepted by the partner university.

If, as a result of decisions by the examinations and assessment board, you are not allowed to proceed to the next year of the program, your application for study abroad is automatically cancelled. If you have outstanding academic 'debts', i.e. failed course modules, un-submitted work, etc., your application will be passed on to a further selection committee, working in cooperation with the academic office and the program Director, to make a final decision on whether or not you are allowed to leave for a partner university.

A ranking will be automatically established according to academic results. Placements in the partner universities will be assigned according to this ranking which is the first selection criteria.

- **Evidence of foreign language competence**

Obviously, it is important to have an appropriate level of competence in the language in which you will be studying. Language exams are mandatory in order to study abroad.

For all countries where courses are followed in **English**, **partner universities require an official English language exam**: TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, etc...

For all countries where courses are followed in **Spanish**:

- Cervantès nivel intermedio (*the Cervantès nivel basico test is not eligible*).
- Results from the Global Exam DELE test at B2 level, dated within the last year.
- Certificate from a certified teacher confirming language level B2, dated within the last year (*the certificate must be requested from a teacher who is already familiar with the candidate's level. Any related steps and potential fees are the responsibility of the candidate*).

For all countries where courses are followed in **German**:

- BULATS certificate at B2 level.
- Goethe-Zertifikat at B2 level (*the German ZD test is not eligible*).

- Results from the Global Exam WiDaF test at B2 level, dated within the last year.
- Certificate from a certified teacher confirming language level B2, dated within the last year *(the certificate must be requested from a teacher who is already familiar with the candidate's level. Any related steps and potential fees are the responsibility of the candidate).*

For all countries where courses are followed in **Portuguese**:

- Camoões certificate at B2 level.
- Certificate from a certified teacher confirming language level B2, dated within the last year *(the certificate must be requested from a teacher who is already familiar with the candidate's level. Any related steps and potential fees are the responsibility of the candidate).*

For all countries where courses are taught in **Italian**:

- CILS livello due-B2.
- Certificate from a certified teacher confirming language level B2, dated within the last year *(the certificate must be requested from a teacher who is already familiar with the candidate's level. Any related steps and potential fees are the responsibility of the candidate).*

For any and all necessary information on academic and language requirements (minimum required score etc.), please refer to the information sheets that are available on the MyICN intranet. Some schools recognize some language tests, and others not.

3. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LANGUAGE TESTS

TOEFL <https://www.ets.org/>

In order to study in an English-speaking country or in a university where courses are held in English, the **TOEFL IS MANDATORY** (for other language tests, please refer to the following paragraph). The TOEFL exam must be taken **as soon as possible before mid-November the year before you will leave to study abroad** because the TOEFL score will be a necessary part of your application (application deadline 15 December 2025 – 1st placement round – for a study abroad departure in 2026-2027). You must obtain **a minimum score of 80**. NOTE that some partner universities demand a higher score¹. It is strongly recommended that you follow the test preparation classes organized by the school.

Any application for a university where classes are in English, which does not contain a TOEFL score (or another required language score), will not be considered.

Registration for the TOEFL test is your personal responsibility. You will find in annex to this Guide a comparison of the new TOEFL scores.

NOTE: Register as early as possible, as the number of places available is limited.

TOEIC – Listening and Reading Public Programme www.ets.org

This test is accepted by quite a lot of partner universities but not all of them. The minimum score is 750 but be careful some partner require a higher score. Please refer to the information sheets for the partner universities on MyICN to find out about the requirements.

IELTS www.ielts.org

The IELTS test is also accepted by a number of partner universities. The minimum score required to apply for one of these universities is 6. Once again, some of our partner universities require a higher score, such as 6.5 or 7.

Duolingo English Test www.englishtest.duolingo.com

¹ Refer to the information sheets on the MyICN intranet

The Duolingo English Test is increasingly accepted by partner universities. The minimum score required is usually between 105 and 115. Please note that some partner universities may require a higher score.

GMAT <https://www.mba.com/exams/gmat/before-the-exam/register-for-the-gmat-exam>

This test is required **ONLY** for an MBA program in the United States as part of a double degree agreement with ICN. It does not replace the TOEFL, but has to be taken in addition to it. **The GMAT exam should also be taken early since it is mandatory to include the results in your application file.**

It is important that you consult the websites and partner universities information sheets in order to decide whether you are going to sit the TOEFL, TOEIC or IELTS exam.

CERVANTES

This is an official diploma issued by the Spanish Ministry of Education. The Cervantes Institute is the organization responsible for administering registrations for the examination. The contents, marking and final grading of the examination are carried out by the University of Salamanca in Spain. The examination consists of the following 5 exercises: written comprehension, written expression, oral comprehension, oral expression, and grammar and vocabulary.

You will find detailed information on the following site:

<http://diplomas.cervantes.es/index.jsp>.

Cervantes examinations are only organized a few times per year. It is important to think ahead and plan as quickly as possible in order to register for this examination with the Cervantes Institute. You will be asked to fill in and send a registration form to the examination center of your choice.

The international relations office does its best to regularly update the information sheets for the partner universities that are on the MyICN intranet, for both minimum required language scores as well as any other information.

4. DATES AND DEADLINES FOR APPLICATION

You have to submit your application the year before the departure abroad.

There are two selection committee per year:

1st selection committee
15 December 2025

2nd selection committee
23 March 2026

3rd selection committee
Beginning of September

NO APPLICATIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED AFTER THESE DATES

Applications must be submitted online. The link to the online application, the procedure and the list of available placements will be sent to you at the beginning of the application period.

BE SURE TO ALWAYS FOLLOW THE CORRECT PROCEDURES AND RESPECT THE GIVEN DEADLINES. OTHERWISE, YOU WILL NOT BE ELIGIBLE

CHAPTER II: YOUR SELECTION AND OFFICIAL REGISTRATION IN THE PARTNER UNIVERSITY

1. THE DIFFERENT STAGES OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

Selection requires strict observation of the successive stages of application.

1st stage: Submission of application files

The student makes an official application by handing in to the international relations office a **complete** file. An incomplete file will not be considered. If you wish to study abroad during semester 1 of year N+1, you should imperatively apply to this first committee. The international relations office is required to send the complete applications to the partner university by a precise date, WHICH IS NOT NEGOTIABLE, e.g. March 1st for UCF, March 15th for UQAM, etc. ...

All applications are definitive.

Applying to study abroad is not a “back-up plan, while waiting for an answer for an internship”. This application is a commitment that must be respected. No cancellations will be accepted (except in cases of exceptional external circumstances beyond the control of the student).

2nd stage: 1st selection committee

Deadline for application 15 December 2025. This committee meets early January 2026. Places are allocated to candidates according to the criteria outlined in the previous paragraph.

3rd stage: Placement

Placement results will be launched in January 2026.

4th stage: Official registration with the foreign partner university

Following your confirmation, and depending on the partner university's calendar, the international relations office will send you an Email with all the instructions to complete the official registration for your exchange. **YOU MUST STRICTLY FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN TO YOU BY THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE OF ICN AND RESPECT THE DEADLINE THAT WILL BE GIVEN TO YOU.**

5th stage: 2nd selection committee

Deadline for application 23 March 2026. A second selection committee will meet to decide on the allocation of remaining university places. Note that most available vacant places will be for a 2nd semester departure. The committee meets mid-April 2026.

6th stage: Placement

Placement results will be launched in April 2026.

7th stage: Official registration with the foreign partner university

Cf. § 4th stage.

8th stage: 3rd selection committee

Deadline for application beginning of September 2026. A third selection committee will meet to decide on the allocation of remaining university places for a 2nd semester departure.

This selection committee is open only to students who meet the following criteria:

- admitted into PGE 1, PGE 2 or DESSMI 1 during the Summer (parallel admissions)
- enrolled in PGE 1 in 2025-2026, for a departure in PGE 2 or for a gap year between PGE 1 and PGE 2
- enrolled in PGE 2 in 2025-2026, for a departure during the gap year exclusively

9th stage: Placement

Placement results will be launched mid-September 2026.

10th stage: Official registration with the foreign partner university

Cf. § 4th stage.

ATTENTION

he partnership agreements require ICN to select candidates for studying abroad. We place students in partner universities according to the admission criteria set by our partners, but the partner universities have the right to review all the applications which are sent to them. This is why we only send them the applications which already meet their criteria. A **refusal by the partner university is always possible** even at this stage.

A final point is that a student with a 'weak' academic profile and application file will find it difficult to be selected, because his/her application will be rejected by the majority of partner universities. So it is essential to remind students that their academic record is a very important criterion. ICN Business School, in order to safeguard its reputation with its partners abroad, cannot afford to send out applications of poor quality.

All students pre-selected by the selection committee are chosen on the condition that they have successfully completed their 1st and 2nd year.

We take great care to check that each student has passed his/her examinations and has no outstanding re-sit examinations when he/she is abroad. **We will cancel all departures abroad for any students who have been pre-selected but who have not validated their latest year of study, even if the registration at the foreign university has already been done.**

The indispensable and unavoidable condition for being accepted for study leave abroad is: **You must pass your examinations and be allowed by the examinations board to proceed to your next year of study.**

You should always wait to receive confirmation of your acceptance (admission letter) as well as the results of the examination board before:

- booking a plane ticket
- cancelling a phone line
- breaking a lease
- etc...

Whatever the case may be, rest assured that ICN manages the selection process with a full understanding of each partner university's requirements.

2. YOUR REGISTRATION AND ADMISSION AT THE PARTNER UNIVERSITY

You will find below important information and the steps to follow once the pre-selection process has been successfully completed. An academic stay at a partner university must be well-prepared, and well in advance, always respecting the deadlines set by the foreign university, the consulates, and any other administrative service (your insurance cover for example).

2.1 THE REGISTRATION FORM

As mentioned above, the international relations office will contact you about your registration with the partner university. The registration form is sent to us by the partner university and must be filled in, either on-line or as a paper version. It must be filled in by you yourself, and not by your parents.

You will be asked to include with your registration forms a number of other documents in addition to your registration file. These documents (bank references, medical certificates, etc.) will vary from university to university. To help you to complete these forms, we ask you to consult the website of the university concerned, as well as contacting a member of the international relations office at ICN.

Take great care when reading the documents sent to you, and prepare your application file carefully. Some documents will be asked for in the language of the host country (a bank statement prepared by your bank in English, for example).

Your registration file will be considered carefully by the partner university, who, if you are accepted, will send you a letter confirming your admission. It is this letter which authorizes you, if necessary, to apply for a visa from the relevant consulate or embassy. Your passport must be valid, including for the dates of your stay in the host country. **Think ahead and prepare well in advance all the steps necessary to obtain or to renew your passport.**

The ICN international relations office cannot be held responsible for any delays or lack of information which should be provided by the foreign university. We do everything to ensure that such inconveniences do not happen, but in the final analysis we too are subject to the functioning and administrative procedures of our partner universities.

We do insist on the fact that dealing with a registration document is an important and sometimes complex procedure in a university's daily activities. The international relations office receives and deals with the registration of the exchange student, then sends it on to the central administration unit of the partner university. Then it goes to the Accounts Department (so that the student is given the status of a non-fee-paying student), then to the computerized administration services, then to the accommodation office (if one exists), etc. ...

A large number of people are involved in managing and welcoming an international exchange student. You are therefore asked to fill in your forms very carefully, to respect all deadlines, to not cancel your application, to show respect to all people concerned, etc...

2.2. COURSE SELECTION

Students should submit a list of courses that they wish to follow in their registration application.

To obtain the maximum number of credits allocated for a semester of study at a partner university (cf. the assessment and examination regulations of your diploma), you must obtain 30 ECTS credits or, in a non-European university, an equivalent number of 'local' credits (e.g. 12 to 18 credits in the United States/or 5 subjects to be validated / or 18 – 20 credits in Japan, etc.).

... and 'obtaining' means passing all examinations and assignments!

Most of the time, the partner university will send you directly all the information on course content and on choosing your courses, as soon as your admission to the university is confirmed. Take care to read carefully the information contained in all the e-mails you receive. Your choice of classes must be made **BEFORE** you leave. Catalogues or lists of classes are often posted online, or sent directly to you, the exchange student. Course listings are not permanent, programs evolve every year. By consequence, the

list of classes open to ICN students may vary too. Again, read carefully the documents sent to you by the host university abroad and search directly for the information on the partner university's website.

Double degree students must follow a specific program set forth by the host university. If you have any questions or doubts, do not hesitate to contact the international relations office. We are here to help you.

The learning agreement (list of courses) absolutely must be completed and approved **before your departure and signed by 3 parties: student, ICN, partner university**. It is possible that this list must be modified upon arrival at the partner university. In this case, you must send us, within 2 weeks of your arrival, the modified learning agreement duly completed and signed. **Failure to do so means that your academic study abroad will not be validated, in agreement with the Direction of the ICN Master in Management or DESSMI program**. Even if you had chosen your courses before leaving and obtained the approval of the international relations office at ICN, you are still required to send the learning agreement within 2 weeks of your arrival.

Obligations



- Choose courses, complete and obtain approval of the learning agreement from ICN before departure
- If your learning agreement is modified upon arrival, send the modified and signed learning agreement to ICN within 2 weeks of arrival

2.3. REGISTRATION FEES

Any student studying abroad as part of an exchange program keeps the status of **a full-time student registered at ICN** during the period of residence abroad. Because of this, the usual registration fees must be paid at ICN before departure for the partner university.

=> You have to pay the tuition fees for current year

=> For double degree students, you may have to add an 'extended Year 3' registration and will have to pay the corresponding additional tuition fees.

=> Tuition fees for paid academic stays must be paid before departure, either directly to the partner school or to ICN (deposit required).

To be awarded the ICN Master in Management or DESSMI degree and have the benefits of exchange agreements, you must be fully registered at the ICN Business School.

You will be exempt from paying tuition fees while abroad, with some exceptions (Fashion Institute of Technology in the United States, MBA Laval, Certificate at the University of Washington, MBA at IUP etc....) Partnership agreements can change too, as they depend on the principle of reciprocity between incoming and outgoing students. If the imbalance becomes too big, the partner university may ask for tuition fees to be paid.

You must also, of course, separate tuition fees from the administrative costs of being a student living on a foreign campus (general fees, bus tickets, Health Center, access to the university library, sports center, etc.). In these areas, the foreign university is within its rights to ask for payment of extra fees.

2.4. HOUSING

It is **important for you to think carefully about your accommodation when you register at the partner university**. There are no general rules, as some universities offer you housing, others do not. Depending on the country, the town or the campus, you may have access to housing in a university hall of residence. If this is not the case, it is up to you to find appropriate accommodation. We advise you to contact the ICN students already in residence at the university you are going to, to get information about housing, as well as the international students here at ICN. They will be pleased to help you settle in to their country and will be the best means of finding an apartment to rent or share, etc.

It is very often the case that you will be required to register online to have a room or an apartment in the campus residences. Read carefully the documents sent to you by the university, as the university registration and your request for accommodation may require contact with different administrative services.

Once you are settled in your new university, find all the information you can on the legislation governing rental agreements, property and contents insurance, guarantees, etc.
You must show due respect for local by-laws, and police laws.

2.5. HEALTH INSURANCE

Your student social security covers your medical costs in France. If you are leaving for a study period abroad, you must **ask the CPAM for an extension to your social security cover while abroad**. You must also take similar steps with your complementary insurance (mutuelle). Do not forget to subscribe to an insurance for emergency repatriation.

The responsibility for medical costs while abroad will vary, depending on your status in the country of residence (work intern or student abroad, your age, the length of your stay, etc.). If you travel to Europe and want to benefit from coverage for medical care, it is necessary to obtain a European Health Insurance Card (CEAM). The CEAM is individual. The card is free of charge, but the application must be made at least 20 days before departure through the ameli account.

The formalities to be followed also vary, depending on whether you are studying in a member state of the European Union, in Quebec, or elsewhere. Some American universities may require that students take out a separate insurance, leaving you no choice in the matter.

If you will be studying in Québec, a France-Quebec memorandum of understanding allows you to benefit from care of your medical expenses. You must ask to the ICN ASQ office for the SE 401-Q-106 form, complete it, and send it to your health insurance company. Warning: this insurance covers you only in the territory of Quebec. When traveling, you must take out additional insurance.

3. OTHER IMPORTANT FORMALITIES

As soon as you know that your application is being treated by your foreign university, it is important for you to start organizing your stay abroad:

- Obtain a **PASSPORT** if necessary, or check the validity of your existing passport if you have one.
- Obtain a **VISA**, if necessary for your country of destination.

You are the only person who can complete these formalities. The letter confirming your admission to the foreign university is THE document which will enable you to begin the process. Without this letter it is no use going to the Embassy. Consequently, consult the website of the appropriate Embassy and prepare a list of the documents required for obtaining a visa.

NOTE: the **delays** for appointments at the Embassy may be long.

- Depending on your country of destination, make sure you are up to date with your **VACCINATIONS** (Asia, Africa, South America, etc.).
- Take out **insurance for emergency repatriation** in case you have to deal with an emergency situation at home or situations outside your control, (illness, epidemic, accident, hospitalization, floods, earthquakes, etc.).
- Register yourself on **the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website** <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr>).

Read the informations available in the advice to travellers: **«Conseils aux voyageurs»**.

You will find answers to all your questions: a guide to your first visit abroad, list of French Embassies and Consulates, *Maison des Français à l'étranger*, European Sickness Insurance Card, Medical Information Committee, etc...

- The international relations office will help you with any application you make for a study grant as part of the Erasmus program, or for destinations sponsored by the Grand Est Regional Council.

The Grand Est Regional Council offers specific financial help for academic stays abroad. Please ask to the Grand Est Regional Council or the international office for more information.

For other destinations, all requests for grants, information, and administrative procedures must be personally taken on board by the student.

4. EXPENSES ASSOCIATED TO STUDYING ABROAD

You must give a **serious thought** to your budget and the costs of studying in a foreign country.

The stay in a partner university will incur costs. These are costs incurred in both your studies and your daily life in the country: rent, electricity bills, food, transport (train and/or airfare), visa if necessary, purchase of books and lecture notes, accommodation and health insurance, general fees, subscriptions to campus facilities, sports, library, computer labs, « technology fees », « media fees », « activity fees », « bus fees » (public transportation) etc... This list is not exhaustive. In some countries books can be very expensive (more than US\$ 100). All this must be taken into account when thinking about your budget.

All these costs are entirely your responsibility and may change from one year to the next.



In conclusion, organise your departure sufficiently enough in advance to enable you to be up to date with the administrative procedures, and to move to and live in your new country in the best possible conditions. It is only in this way that you will derive the maximum benefit and enjoyment from your stay in a foreign university.

There are no tuition fees to be paid except for certain exceptions. Refer to the partner university information sheets available on the MyICN intranet and to paragraph 2.3 of this document.

CHAPTER III: VALIDATION YOUR ACADEMIC STAY ABROAD

1. ONE-SEMESTER EXCHANGE

When you apply for a study visit to a partner university, and you have been selected and registered for the university abroad, you are required to validate this period of study by obtaining 30 ECTS credits or the local equivalent. This validation is obtained via the grades and credits awarded in each subject of study.

If you fail one or more subjects or modules, you must take the **re-sit examinations organised abroad** by your host university. At the beginning of the semester, find out the dates of the 1st and 2nd session examinations. An early return to ICN for personal reasons before the second session of examinations will mean that you will not validate your semester abroad.

NOTE: certain education systems do not have a re-sit or second examination session (United States, Canada, China, etc.). So in these countries you must pass the first time!

Your semester will be validated by ICN after receiving your official transcript. Sometimes this will be sent automatically to ICN from your university abroad. However in most cases, the partner university requires the student to make a formal request for the transcript to be sent to ICN. If it is not possible for ICN to receive a copy directly, be extremely careful as to the internal rules and procedures of your host university.

The ICN examinations and assessment board can only approve your status for either progression to the next academic year or graduation from ICN after receiving your transcript.

If a student does not obtain the ECTS credits or the equivalent local credits required, the academic semester abroad will not be validated and you will have to repeat the academic year.

We remind you that studying abroad is not tourism.

It is important for us to remind you of these rules in order to avoid any problems, confusion or misunderstandings. **An academic stay abroad is an integral part of your study program, and an important component in earning your ICN Master in Management or DESSMI degree.**

2. DOUBLE DEGREE PROGRAM (MASTER, MBA, ...)

The situation is simple in the sense that **you are completely subjected to the conditions and rules set by the university for being awarded the foreign degree.**

At the end of your year of study, you should send your official transcript to ICN, a copy of the foreign degree obtained or an attestation that you have been awarded the degree, and a copy of the «Master Thesis».

At the end of the study abroad period, the student should also validate the **thesis + defense + written experience report** (except MGIMO) of the 3rd year (Master 2) according to the program regulations. The written experience report must be turned into Frédérique BOUTIN 2 weeks before the presentation, as well as a copy of the thesis. The report should detail your experience in the Master program (presentation of the partner school, the Master program, life in the foreign country, courses, differences in the different education systems, extracurricular activities, your discoveries, feedback, professional project, etc...). If you carried out any studies or research during your courses, you should also include this information.

Formal requirement for the written report:

- 15 pages minimum with the following breakdown: 1 cover page, 1 introduction page, 1 conclusion page, 12 pages for the content
- The typeface shall be 12 point (times) with 1.5 line spacing for the text
- A bibliography if concerned
- A declaration of non-plagiarism

Do not forget that this “oral defense” is more a feedback than a thesis. For this feedback, you are free to prepare a PowerPoint presentation (not mandatory).

If, as part of the academic program abroad, a « Master Thesis » has to be submitted to the partner university, a copy of this thesis must be sent to Frédérique BOUTIN. The thesis subject and research must be supervised by a tutor at the partner university.

It is highly possible that the double degree program will exceed the academic registration period of the 3rd year of the ICN Master program (Master 2). You must then register for an extension year in order to obtain the ICN Master in Management degree and benefit from the exchange agreement. The assessment board cannot grant graduation to a student unless he or she is properly enrolled at ICN. No registration means no benefit of the exchange agreement and that no diplomas will be awarded.

In conclusion, if all of the above mentioned conditions are fulfilled (award of foreign degree + validation of all the examination regulations for the award of the ICN Master degree) the student will be awarded the ICN Master degree.

CHAPTER IV. « ICN GREEN MOBILITY »

Before you leave, we would like to inform you that ICN is committed to making the necessary social and environmental transitions across our 3 campuses to contribute to a more sustainable world, respectful of the planet and people, as stated in the "ICN impact" 2022-2026 strategic action plan.

Mobility is a strategic challenge for reducing greenhouse gas emissions. For this reason, ICN has set up a 5-stage action plan to build a comprehensive environmental awareness policy.

Step 1 - Before mobility

You must take part in the mandatory conference on sustainable development. Details will be provided by the International Relations Department.

Step 2 - During your stay

Here's a little advice: we encourage you to get in touch with your host university and find out what they are doing to contribute to sustainable development, and take part in various events to compensate for your carbon footprint (tree planting, sorting and recycling, plogging, etc.). You can also join a volunteer organization.

Step 3 - Checklist for outgoing students

Bring the "eco-responsible" checklist (see appendix) with you and try to follow the recommendations as much as you can.

Step 4 - Contest

You will need to send ICN's international office a photo/video to showcase an eco-responsible initiative you've taken abroad.

Step 5 - After the mobility

At the end of the semester, you will receive a "feedback and carbon footprint" questionnaire. We invite you to send us your feedback on your exchange so that we can share it on MyICN and/or on social networks to promote our partner universities to ICN students. The second aim of the questionnaire is simply to assess the overall carbon footprint of your mobility, and no penalty will be applied to students with a high carbon footprint. The school will therefore be able to participate in carbon offset programs based on our overall carbon footprint. That's why we strongly encourage you to answer the end-of-semester survey as truthfully as possible, so that we can give you the most realistic estimation of your 2026-2027 carbon emissions.

If possible, we encourage you to use the least polluting means of transport, and to avoid making multiple return trips from your main residence to your host country, so that you can get the most out of your immersion and discover all the region has to offer.

This last step is mandatory. You will have to complete the form using the tool we'll be sending you; a simple, fun and educational tool 😊

CHAPTER V: THE « CHECKLIST »

Here is a checklist which covers all the different stages of your application, your departure, and your life on the campus abroad.

Before applying

- ➔ Have you registered for the appropriate Language test (TOEFL, TOEIC, IELTS, GMAT, Cervantes Intermedio, ZMP, ZDFB, B2, etc)?

- ➔ Have you consulted the information and documentation on ICN's university partners abroad on MyICN intranet?
- ➔ Have you read the academic stay abroad infographic on MyICN?
- ➔ Have you been to the international relations office to ask for information from the SRI staff and/or made an appointment for an individual meeting?
- ➔ Have you contacted international students currently at ICN? (A list is available on MyICN, International) ?
- ➔ Did you attend the international forum?
- ➔ Did you volunteer to be a godmother/godfather to an international student?
- ➔ Did you attend the many different informational meetings organized by the international relations office and/or by the School's international partners present at ICN?
- ➔ Have you prepared a budget for this project?

Preparing your application file

- ➔ Have you completed your MoveOn application?
- ➔ Is your application file complete?

After your pre-selection, before your departure

- ➔ Have you completed the learning agreement and have you had it approved by ICN and by the partner university?
- ➔ Do you have a valid passport?
- ➔ Have you correctly filled in the registration form for the host university?
- ➔ Have you chosen your courses? Have you read the information on the classes sent by your host university, and the procedure for registering for classes? Have you respected the instructions from ICN about validating your studies abroad (30 ECTS credits, etc...)?
- ➔ Have you contacted previous ICN students who have already been to your host university? (list available on MyICN intranet)
- ➔ Have you registered yourself on the Ministry of Foreign Affairs website <http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr> (ARIANE)?
- ➔ Are you eligible for an Erasmus scholarship? Or a grant from the Grand Est Regional Council?
- ➔ Have you booked your housing?
- ➔ Have you obtained your visa, if one is necessary?
- ➔ Have you prepared your budget?
- ➔ Have you organized your health insurance (CPAM/MGEL/LMDE) for while you will be studying abroad?
- ➔ Have you taken out an additional insurance policy?
- ➔ Have you informed the partner institution of your arrival date? Have you taken note of the dates and times of opening of the student residences? If not, book a room in a hotel, if necessary.
- ➔ Don't forget to register at ICN before you leave. You can only enjoy the advantages of the partnership agreements and be awarded your ICN degree if you are officially registered at the ICN.
- ➔ Have you printed this guide in order to bring it with you and therefore not forget any of the procedures?

Upon arrival and during your stay at a foreign university

- ➔ Inquire at the international relations office at the partner university about the procedure for obtaining your official transcript
- ➔ Inquire about the conditions of retake exams (if they exist).
- ➔ In case of any changes in your courses, have you sent your modified Learning Agreement to the ICN international relations office within 2 weeks of arriving at the partner university?
- ➔ Have you sent your Erasmus confirmation (for students concerned)?
- ➔ Have you inquired, upon arrival at the university abroad, the dates of the examination sessions, the procedures and conditions of the retake examinations?
- ➔ Don't forget to respect the procedures for sending your official transcript to the international relations office (note, in most cases a specific request MUST be made by the student).

- ➔ Don't forget to send a postcard, your feedback and impressions by e-mail, and especially a few photographs to the ICN international relations office 😊
- ➔ Always stay in contact with ICN and the international relations office. We are here to help you should you need us.

CHAPTER VI: ETHICAL BEHAVIOR AND APTITUDES

1. ETHICAL BEHAVIOR

Basic principles

Etymology: from the Greek *ethikos*, moral, from *ethos*, customs.

*« Ethics can be defined as a reflexion on the behavior to adopt, to make the world a more human place to live in.
In this sense, ethics is the search for a societal ideal, for an ideal way of existing».*

By ethical behavior, we mean a code of good conduct. It is important for individuals to respect the rules of life and of living. In the main, it means using a common sense approach, where 'knowing how to be', 'knowing how to live one's life', and respect, are the foundations of living in a harmonious community.

The principles apply in your relations with the ICN Business School, with its staff and with staff in the administrative services of your university abroad. You must respect the customs and traditions of the country in which you will find yourself, and observe the rules of law.

2. SKILLS & APTITUDES

A study visit at a foreign university requires a certain number of qualities and personal skills. It will be a unique experience for you, and it will enrich your life, both personally and professionally. You must be prepared to have your traditional behavior and thought patterns shaken somewhat, and therefore demonstrate your flexibility and adaptability.

Experience of living abroad is synonymous with:

- Embracing change
- Open-mindedness
- Tolerance
- Patience
- Capacity to adapt
- Tenacity
- Flexibility
- Respect
- Knowing how to behave

CONCLUSION

The international relations office wishes to remain in contact with you during your stay abroad. So please send us an e-mail, during the first month of your stay, to inform us that you have arrived safely at your destination, and that you have made contact with the international relations team of your host university.

Remember that the international relations office wants to have your impressions and feedback on your experience at a foreign university. Indeed, who better than you can give us precise and up to date information on the courses, on teaching methods, on sporting activities and off-campus events at your host university? So please do not hesitate to visit the international relations office or to send us an e-mail, simply to tell us about your experience abroad.

Should you have any difficulties during your academic stay abroad, contact us immediately. Do not let yourself be overwhelmed by events. Your experience abroad is an important part of your curriculum. It should be lived with enthusiasm and serenity.

To conclude, we wish you much success in your studies in the international environment. **Be the best ambassadors of ICN Business School** and, above all, have an excellent study abroad experience!

APPENDIX

1. SAVE THE DATE	P. 21
2. Comparison TOEIC and TOEFL	P. 22
3. Health insurance abroad	P. 23
4. Check list “ICN green mobility”	P. 23

SAVE THE DATE

International Forum - Academic & Professional Opportunities Abroad - October 27 – 31, 2025

Organized by the International Relations Office and the Careers & Internships Service

On-site Stands – across the three campuses

- Monday, October 27 | 12:00 – 14:00

Online Info-Sessions – partner universities & external speakers

- Tuesday to Friday | 12:00 – 14:00
- Monday to Thursday | 18:30 – 20:30

INFORMATION SESSIONS 1st semester - 12:30-1:30pm –Zoom – Prepare your questions!

Thursday 02 October 2025

Thursday 16 October 2025

Thursday 13 November 2025

Thursday 27 November 2025

Thursday 11 December 2025

Information sessions from January 2025 will be communicated later.

International office on call - Campus in Paris

23 September 2025

07 October 2025

21 October 2025

04 November 2025

18 November 2025

02 December 2025

16 December 2025

Dates from January 2026 will be communicated later.

15 December 2025 – Application Deadline 1st placement round

COMPLETE application files must be turned in to the international relations office

23 March 2026 – Application Deadline 2nd placement round

COMPLETE application files must be turned in to the international relations office

Beginning of September 2026 – Application Deadline 3rd placement round

COMPLETE application files must be turned in to the international relations office

COMPARISON TOEIC AND TOEFL

SCORES			
TOEFL			TOEIC
CBT* (computer)	PBT* (paper)	iBT (internet)	
63	350	20	130
97	400	32	285
133	450	46	435
173	500	61	590
213	550	80	740
250	600	100	900
300	677	120	990 et +

HEALTH INSURANCE ABROAD

Please consult the French social security website: www.ameli.fr

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CHECK LIST « ICN GREEN MOBILITY »

PURCHASES

- Upload the app Too Good To Go to help reduce food waste
- Prefer second-hand shopping
- Do your shopping at local markets

TRANSPORT

- Choose public transportation
- Favour soft mobility (bicycle, scooter, walking) for short journeys; the UBER is practical but walking is always good for your health
- Opt for carpooling
- Whenever possible, use eco-friendly transportation options
- If you are receiving an Erasmus grant, by using an eco-friendly transportation mode, you will receive additional funding

LEISURE & ECO-GESTURES

- Is there a shared garden near your home? On campus?
- Rethinking consumption also means being inventive
 - Is your purchase resource efficient, repairable and recyclable?
 - Is the product from the local economy or part of a social integration programme?
 - Do I really need it?
 - Are the social and environmental impacts communicated transparently?
- Sort and reduce waste
- Buy reusable plates, utensils and straws: Paper and plastic may seem easy to use, but there's nothing environmentally friendly about them. Get yourself a few sets of eco-friendly dishes, utensils and straws that you can reuse over and over again.
- Carry a reusable water bottle or coffee mug: You may need water, coffee or tea during the day, but you don't need plastic bottles or disposable cups. Take a reusable bottle or mug with you to class and to study.
- Eat less meat: Reduce greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation and soil degradation. Reducing meat consumption will also save huge amounts of land and water and increase biodiversity.

Save energy - switch on, switch off, put on standby, one degree more, one degree less? Here are some simple things you can do to save energy and money at the same time.

1. I choose natural daylight for lighting. Otherwise, I use low-energy light bulbs, which consume 5 times less than conventional bulbs and last 8 times longer. Above all, I take away halogen lights and remember to turn off the light when I leave a room.
 2. I don't keep any appliance on standby. I always switch off the television, DVD player, computer, etc. when I'm not using them. On standby, an appliance can still consume up to 30% of energy.
 3. In the kitchen, I place a lid on my saucepans. Boiling 1.5 liters of water requires 4 times less energy if you place a lid on the saucepan. In the bathroom, I turn off the tap while I brush my teeth.
- ⇒ As soon as you arrive at the partner university, don't forget to ask about good practice (activities, services and good addresses).