Exchange Scheme with the University of Rochester

Where is Rochester? – Founded in 1850—the University of Rochester is one of the country’s top-tier research universities. The university has a student population of just over 11,000 and ranks 58 in the US college rankings. Rochester is located in the state of New York, not too far from the Canadian border with Toronto.

Who can go?
- One place will be made available to York undergraduate student in 2017/18.
- This will replace your 2nd year of study at York for integrated programmes (or the 2nd/3rd year of study if you’re on a 4 year programme). Please speak to your department about the availability of extended degrees that allow you to take an additional year to study abroad.
- Please consult the opportunities by department webpage to see if your subject is eligible for exchange. https://www.york.ac.uk/students/study-abroad/opportunities/

Courses
- Students will be expected to take at least 32 credits during their year at Rochester (i.e. 16 credits per semester, to a maximum of 19). All 32 credits should be taken in the student’s degree subject in order to achieve the equivalent of 120 York credits.
- The course catalogue serves as a general guide to the courses available. However, not all courses may be available in each semester and some may be restricted.
- The course catalogue can be accessed via https://cdcs.ur.rochester.edu/
- Please note that there is a compulsory module, US Life: Customs and Practices for all international students.

How will my marks be assessed/converted?
- Grade Conversion Tables for each institution will be made available to successful applicants.
- Please ensure that you are fully aware of how your grades will be converted on your return to York. Students on additional years will have different arrangements to those on integrated study.

Costs
1) Tuitions Fees: Students will pay no tuition fees to Rochester and in 2016/17 their University of York fees were reduced to 15% of the full academic fee.
2) Visas: There are two fees associated with the visa application. The application fee itself is approximately $160. There will also be a $180 (J-1 and F-1 student’s) SEVIS fee payable in advance of the visa application. SEVIS is the US immigration system that tracks foreign and exchange students.
3) Medical insurance and waiver: All exchange students are required to be covered under the Student Health Plan, which includes the mandatory health fee and health insurance. Students can enrol in the University-sponsored insurance plan or waive the insurance if their plan meets the University insurance criteria. All students must also complete the Health History Form. The university-sponsored Aetna Student Health insurance for 2016/17 for an individual student is $2460.
4) Mandatory Health Fee – This fee, which is paid by all full-time students, covers visits to the University Health Service and the University Counseling Center. The mandatory health fee for 2016/17 is $564.
5) Additional costs to consider: flights, accommodation, travel insurance, living costs (food, books, money for additional travel/activities)
Visa
- Rochester will ask you to complete an application form for the Certificate of Eligibility (Form I-20 or DS-2019) which, together with your passport and other supporting documentation including the letter from Rochester offering you a place and a photocopy of your completed financial resources form, will enable you to obtain a visa from the United States Embassy in London (or the United States Consulate General in Belfast).
- You will be required to go to the US embassy in London (or your home country) in order to process your visa application, which you are responsible for organising.
- International students going on exchange are advised to apply for a US visa in their home country and not in the UK.
- In order to receive a visa you must show that you have sufficient funds available in your bank account, or are able to supply details of a third person who will support you.

Where will I live?
- Most Rochester students live in on-campus accommodation, however a place cannot be guaranteed.
- For more information on student residence halls on campus visit: http://www.rochester.edu/studentlife/housing/
- If you would prefer to live off campus, the Office for Off Campus Living can assist you. To contact the Coordinator for Off Campus Living email: offcampus@reslife.rochester.edu

Contact details at Rochester
Your principal source of general advice at Rochester will be Assistant Directors – Theodore Pagano or Heidi Kozireski. Address: Center for Education Abroad, Dewey 2-147A P O Box 270376, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627-0376
Email tpagano@admin.rochester.edu or hkoz@admin.rochester.edu

Useful web links
Main University of Rochester site - http://www.rochester.edu/
Rochester International Services Office - http://www.iso.rochester.edu/
Rochester International Orientation page - http://www.rochester.edu/college/orientation/international/
Visa application - http://j1visa.state.gov/participants/how-to-apply/
Third Year Abroad - http://www.thirdyearabroad.com/
Foreign Commonwealth Office advice - https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/usa

All information included in these guidelines correct at time of printing, October 2016.